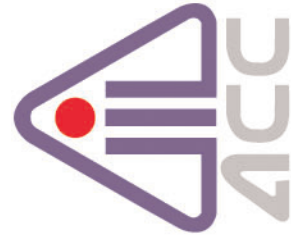




ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

**ANNUAL REPORT
& ACCOUNTS
2006 - 2007**





ACC ANNUAL REPORT

April 2006-March 2007

The Asian Cricket Council:
Advancing Cricket Across Asia



Asian Cricket Council

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President's Report

Jayantha Dharmadasa



Jayantha Dharmadasa

Being the President of the Asian Cricket Council is an honour which I take very seriously. The council's ideals as stated in the original constitution: "organising, developing and promoting the game of cricket in Asia" are ideals to which I and all former Presidents have steadfastly endorsed.

The Asian Cricket Council is a body dedicated to expending all its resources on the above ideals. When my associates in Sri Lanka ask what the Asian Cricket Council is, I can say with justifiable pride that 'The ACC is the hub for Cricket in Asia'. Which means to say that we are a body that is dedicated to making our member nations' cricket safe, secure and free from harm as well as to take every opportunity to raise it to levels possibly not even conceived back when the ACC was formed in 1983.

Brotherhood among member nations has become stronger. Understanding, appreciation and sensitivity to each other's needs have increased. We are far more in control of our cricketing destinies, in fact, we have learned that as with any successful organization – proper planning prevents poor performance. The ACC Development team's Strategic Development Plan, formulated at the start of 2007 for our non-Test playing members is a significant step forward in targetting our resources towards achieving our ideal results.

Planning however, is but 5% of the equation. Execution is the remainder and I sincerely hope that the understanding of what needs to be done to take us from where we are, to where we wish to be is comprehensive and develops quickly.

That next year we will have four-age group tournaments, a new Twenty20 Cup to replace the Premier League and the inaugural Women's Tournament and the Asia Cup, demonstrates the continued vitality of the ACC. That our Development Officers are now in a position to conduct their own courses is too a matter for great satisfaction.

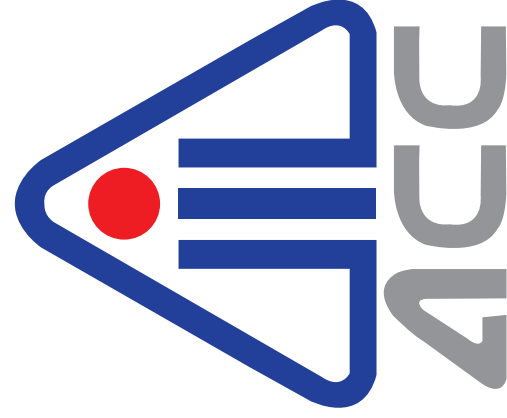
Greater member participation in the 2011 World Cup remains the goal and significant gains on that journey from here on in will come only if we are able to make major and strategically sound advances. If anything I would urge the Secretariat as I do to every cricketer, young or old that I meet, to consider time's winged chariot drawing ever near.



We're building an institution but it is also a race against time, for others in the world are also chasing the same goal. We have the foundations of success because we have enabled member countries to stand up proud where before they were just searching for support. The Test-playing nations - and how much earlier would Bangladesh and Sri Lanka have broken through if there was an ACC twenty-five years previous to 1983 - will continue to offer their support to our fellow Asians, our fellow brothers as they seek to emulate our success. The ACC will itself develop because it enables its members to themselves develop.

There is no better formula for continued success.

Jayantha Dharmadasa



ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL



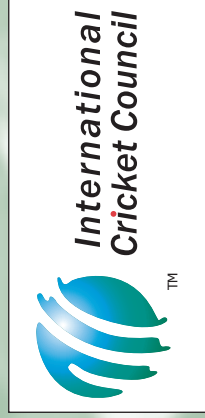
Asia is awarded the ICC World Cup 2011, April 2006

President, International Cricket Council

Percy Sonn



When I think back over the past 12 months or so, it is remarkable just how much has taken place in the world of cricket. And as ever, Asia has played a central part.



Following on from the successful staging of the ICC U/19 World Cup in Sri Lanka in February 2006, the eyes of the cricket-loving world were back on Asia before the end of the year when the ICC Champions Trophy took place in India. In that tournament, we saw some excellent cricket in Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Jaipur and Mohali with Australia eventually coming out on top, beating the West Indies by eight wickets in the final at Brabourne Stadium. The tournament was dedicated to the Spirit of Cricket and it was very encouraging for us and, I think, all cricket-lovers to experience the wonderful feeling of goodwill that was in evidence throughout the tournament.

The ICC's 2005 move to Dubai has proven to be a great success. The move has brought us much closer to many of our members, particularly those in Asia. The facilities we develop over the coming years in Dubai - especially the ICC Global Cricket Academy - will bring exciting new opportunities to players, coaches, umpires and administrators.

Since the last Asian Cricket Council annual report I am glad to say that the region can now boast another member of the ICC. At our annual conference in June, Myanmar was voted in as an Affiliate Member of the ICC and the 97th member in total. In all now we have 10 Full Members, 32 Associates and 55 Affiliates. It is very encouraging for us whenever we get another member as we seek to develop this great game all around the world.

The ICC Cricket World Cup 2007 was a mixed bag for Asian countries. The high-profile early exits of the India and Pakistan teams were hugely disappointing for their passionate supporters but the success of Bangladesh and Sri Lanka meant that followers of the game in Asia still had plenty to cheer about. For us it was great to bring the event to the Caribbean, which has contributed so much to cricket over the years.

It's great to see how women's cricket is continuing to develop and improve in Asia. The introduction of a domestic women's tournament in Bangladesh is clearly good for the game, as was the holding of the Women's Asia Cup in Pakistan late last year, which was attended by teams from India and Sri Lanka.

President, International Cricket Council



Looking ahead, the Asia region is set to have a huge influence as it prepares to host a number of ICC events. Pakistan will host the ICC Champions Trophy in 2008 while the ICC Cricket World Cup 2011 will be hosted jointly by India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. In 2012 and 2014 Sri Lanka and Bangladesh will respectively host the ICC Champions Trophy or the ICC Twenty20 World Championships while there will also be events staged in Malaysia (U/19 World Cup 2008), UAE (ICC World Cup Qualifier 2009 and U-19 World Cup 2014) and India (ICC Women's World Cup 2013). That's a lot of cricket coming your way!

I have no doubt that these tournaments will be run with all the passion and expertise that has gone into previous events held in the region.

Percy Sonn
April 2007

Subsequent to his contribution of this piece, Mr. Sonn passed away in Capetown on May 27, 2007 at the age of 57.

"I never had the chance to see Mr. Sonn play cricket but I imagine he performed on the field just as he acted in the arena of cricket administration. He played positively and if he might concede defeat on a particular day, he'd come back the next with a smile and a greater determination to win.

"He was intelligent, shrewd and a passionate upholder of the principles he believed in. He was the architect of the body Afro-Asian Cricket Co-operation and the Afro-Asia Cup series. We will all strive to carry forward his vision in the years ahead.

"His tenure as ICC President was all too brief. He was a friend to Asia and a friend to all of us in the world of cricket who aspire to a life free from prejudice, infused with the highest of ideals. He will be very much missed. Heartfelt condolences are extended to his family and colleagues by the President of the Asian Cricket Council and our Executive Board. "

Syed Ashraf ul Huq

ACC PRESIDENT 2005-2006

Sharad Pawar



It has been an honour and privilege to have been President of the Asian Cricket Council and to continue my involvement through the Executive Board and my chairmanship of Afro-Asia Cricket Cooperation.

We in India are very fortunate to have so many cricketing assets and the rise in their value in recent years has meant that we are at liberty to extend our scope of operations. India, together with Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka are at the heart of the ACC and together we have much to offer all our brothers and sisters in Asia, let alone the rest of the world.

You only have to look at the cricketers representing other countries to see how far the hand of the subcontinent extends. In many cases a direct link to India can be traced. Now that the Asian Cricket Council is on a more secure footing and has a platform upon which to build I believe that in the years ahead many cricketers will be able to trace the roots of their success to the coaching and support the ACC is giving to their countries.

The facilities and resources of the Test-playing countries are always open to our fellow ACC members and I encourage them to be pro-active in seeking our support. We can and we will help. We are all together in the cause of developing cricket.

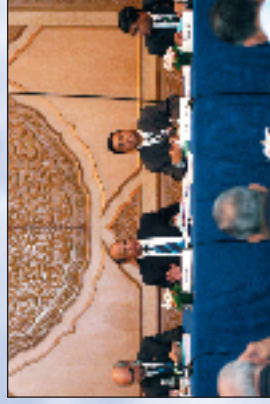
Nothing would give me greater pleasure than to see at the start of the World Cup in 2011, ACC non-Test playing member countries line up alongside the world's best teams. We have seen what determination and desire can do in the case of Bangladesh and Sri Lanka on their path to cricketing seniority, we are a continent that has produced World Champions in cricket. Whenever an Asian team wins on this stage all of Asia is the winner.

The Afro-Asia Cup is a special example of development in action and it is good to see Asia's and Africa's best cricketers gather to raise funds for development. The women and men of the Afro-Asia series demonstrate a spirit of unity amidst and across our continents which shows that no matter who we may play for at other times, we are actually all on the same side. My predecessor as President said it best, "Singly we are strong. Together we are even stronger."



We all have cricket at our heart. I sincerely believe that the world of cricket is a major beneficiary thanks to the support of the Test-playing countries for the ACC. It now remains for my successors and the Executive Board to determine the scale and significance of those benefits. There is no limit to our ambition in India, there should likewise be no limit to the ambition of Asia.

Sharad Pawar



Chief Executive's Review

Syed Ashrafal Huq

Another successful year for the Asian Cricket Council has seen us move forward in our campaign to strengthen, deepen and expand cricket across our member countries.

We conduct courses for coaches, umpires and curators, fund facilities development, invest in the future of the game but the ultimate test has to be the standards of play which our continent's cricketers display on the field. I'm thrilled to say that in the four tournaments we've hosted, including the sixth edition of the ACC Trophy, I have seen players come forward whose skills would not be out of place in the Test-playing countries.



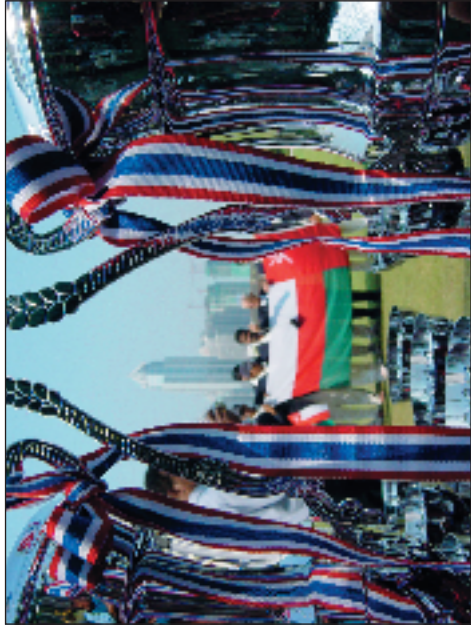
UAE Captain Arshad Ali accepts the 2006 ACC Trophy from the ACC President

A few of the senior players of Afghanistan really are that good. One Bahraini teenager is particularly outstanding. We saw last year in the U-19 World Cup what Nepal could do, well this year we saw some of the U-15 Nepalis have tremendous ability too. The native Thai and Bhutanese teenagers demonstrate every basic attribute of success, most importantly an attitude for learning which means that they will go further than many of those cricketers more privileged in them. For this their associations, coaches - and parents - are to be lauded.



2006 ACC U-15 Elite Player of the Tournament, Nepal's Subhandu Pandey

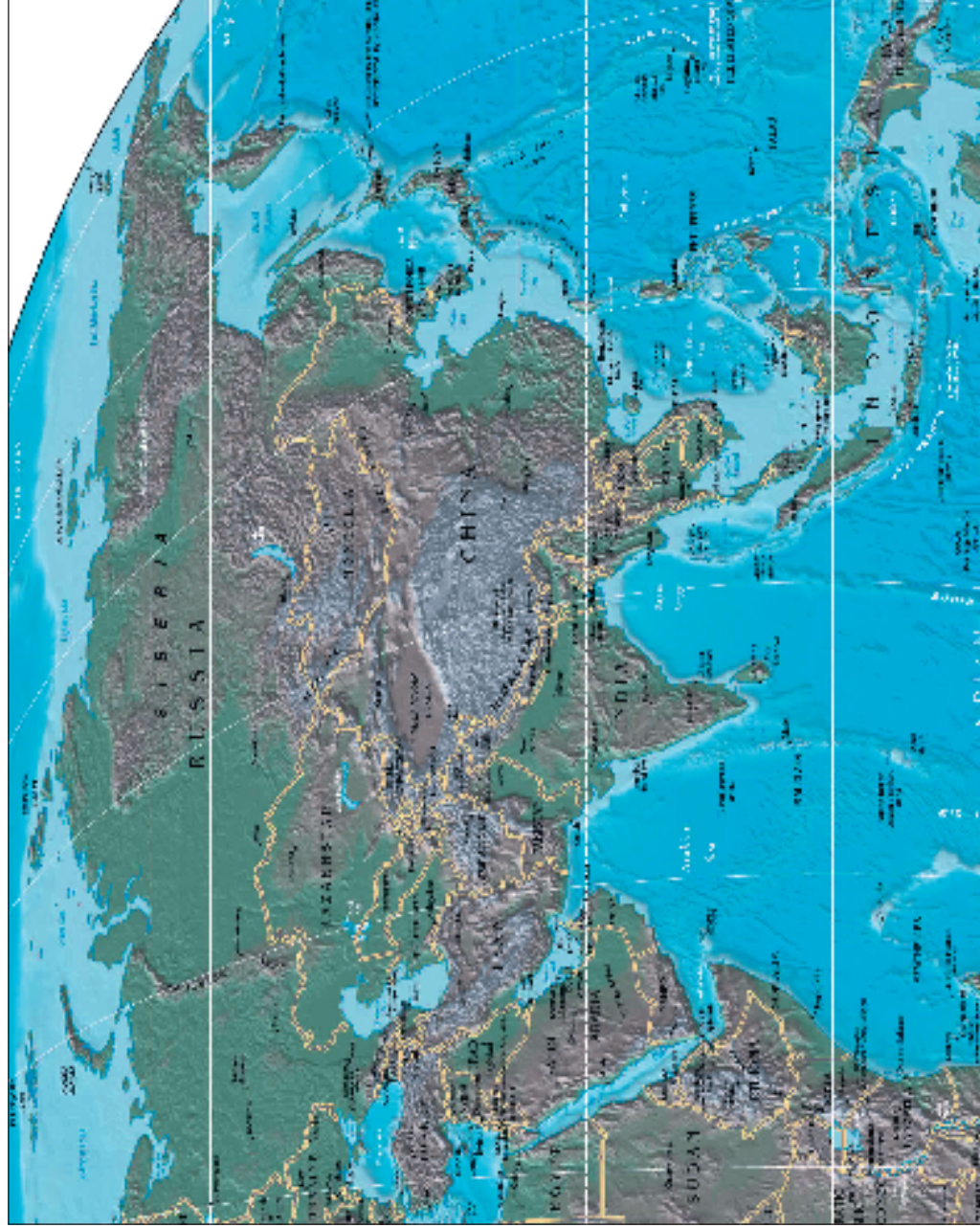
Chief Executive's Review



Oman: Winners of the 2006 ACC U-15 Challenge



Nepal: Winners of the 2006 ACC Premier League



Challenges and Opportunities

The Asian Cricket Council undoubtedly does a great deal for cricket in Asia. The issue, however, which exercises my mind on a daily basis, is whether we do enough. And how much of what we actually do has a beneficial effect.

Chief Executive's Review

No one can deny that more funding and more resources would mean that playing standards would rise but I have yet to discover in all my examination of the issue, a formula for success where so much input equals so much output.

We have resources in Asia; we have 50% of the International Cricket Council's global development budget and revenue from the Afro-Asia Cup and Asia Cup. Last year, without the Asia Cup, we had close to \$4.8 million dollars with which to operate, so I feel we have enough, at our present capacity to be going on with. Would \$48 million make us ten times bigger, ten times better?

It all comes down to the management and the maximizing of resources.

Partners in progress

The ACC has created major possibilities. Pouring money into the top of an institutional teapot (as with the development fund) in the hope that worthy content will emerge from the spout has been the traditional method, but it is more an article of faith than a scientific endeavour. The definition of faith is to be a believer without necessarily having any proof. And if we are to be scientists, what are we to measure? What are our hypotheses?

World Cup qualification for an ACC member country - and up to five of them could be playing in the next World Cup (Asia's home World Cup) and in every World Cup thereafter - is a viable, credible goal. Achieving it would irrefutably prove to all the ACC's credibility, competence and worthiness. After that should come a strategy to allow the qualifiers a chance to 'do an Ireland' and, as in World Cups gone by, 'do a Sri Lanka', 'do a Kenya' and 'do a Bangladesh' by beating Test-playing nations while still ICC Associates.

Qualifying for World Cups is like a good exam result. It confirms the merits of the past and sets up the promise of a better future. I read a great book years ago about the United States Supreme Court which said the court's challenge was "to remember the future and imagine the past." That's a great phrase, because it says so much. You imagine the past in order to make it relevant to the future that you are creating. The future does not just happen - it's shaped by decisions.



If all the money in cricket evaporated tomorrow cricket would continue to be played and enjoyed by people the world over. In the Asian subcontinent and the vast Asian diaspora it is embedded in people's culture and psyche. Lessons learned in the game are passed down from veteran to neophyte until the wheel goes full circle with the neophyte's advancing years. It's been going on for decades. As custodians of the game we should ensure that it does so. Not a shallow knowledge either, but one that is fully aware of the richness, depth and drama of this great game.

99.9% of people who play cricket do it for love, camaraderie, enjoyment, community and education. Not for money. And the development industry which has created such scope for development mercenaries must be resisted. A missionary zeal is what is still needed.

Ask any international professional cricketer playing today how they learned to play the game and how they reached international standard, they will say it was either their parent's, family member's or school-teacher's or youth-worker's input that got them there. Along with, of course, their own devotion to being first among equals. People may choose to excel at one sport over another because of financial reasons but it is that initial desire to excel which we must encourage and it is those conditions of encouragement which we must create.

Chief Executive's Review



No child in Bhutan plays cricket because they envisage a professional career. No coach in Bhutan works with cricketers because they put money first. They do it because there is something about cricket which is truly wonderful. An Empire was built on the bulwark of cricket's values. It is time that cricket's values do not crumble as that Empire has done.

Cricket embodies everything you want in a team sport: you learn how to win, how to lose, the virtues of self-discipline, that someone is captain and others are not, the need to be subordinate to the team but with individual responsibilities.

Playing games is where the benefits of cricket arise. Competition teaches people about life, about leadership and teamwork. Competition prepares youngsters for a competitive world.

I would say that society has changed more in the past thirty years than it has done in the previous one hundred and thirty and that is due to the revolution of television and mass marketing. One cost of the television money merry-go-round from which we are all benefiting is that the volunteer administrator is going out of sport as people see that there is money to be made from cricket. In a world of rampant consumerism, fewer people now have the time or the ability to work without pay.



So we are back to square one, only those with a missionary zeal can start the ball rolling. Mercenaries do a decent job and at least half of them, whenever they go head-to-head, will be winners but they can never convey that essence of 'cricket for cricket's sake' upon which this game has been built.



Chief Executive's Review

Cricket's main competitor, football, has formally been a professional game in England since 1907. English county cricket took most of the remaining century to adopt a fully professional identity. Which simply means that the core of cricket's foundations have never depended on purely financial considerations.

What then of those who will say that without institutions, those few remaining missionaries have no chance to thrive? Well, we have institutions within our midst. They are full of resources and people who have missionary zeal. We just don't utilize them.



ACC Development Officer Roger Binny at Gelephu School in Bhutan, March 2007

They are the schools of Asia. Inevitably there are schools which exist just to make money for their owners but they are still thankfully outnumbered by those schools which exist to shape the citizens of tomorrow. No school worth its name could deny the merits of cricket as something which builds character, selflessness and team-spirit. Sri Lankan cricket was directly built on those values and I have seen schools in Thailand and Bhutan take up cricket for those very same reasons. As much as our trust has been to give certificates to the worthy we should make a serious, concerted effort to take cricket into the school curriculum. The lack of land, funding and manpower are commonly taken to hold back development. Schools have these in abundance.

China

Last year Malcolm Speed, Shaharyar Khan, Matthew Kennedy and I visited a school on the outskirts of Shanghai which had two running tracks, eight basketball courts, numerous tennis courts and an indoor swimming pool. It was not the exclusive preserve of the rich. And they had the beginnings of a cricket team.

In March 2007 one school, the Beijing Meiya, - also the site of the Chinese National Tennis Academy - has offered to give up to 45 hectares of land to the Chinese Cricket Association at nominal cost for the construction of cricket facilities.

The ability to create teams, to get the best from individuals in a group endeavour, to identify talent, to deal with ever-younger people, with ever-changing manners and preoccupations - all these schools are able to do. We should reach out to them across Asia. Bring them into the cricket family.



Malcolm Speed and Shaharyar Khan meeting Cui Dalin, Vice Chairman of the China Olympic Committee

If we and our members, demonstrate more success on the field, not only will other funding opportunities open up but the credibility and capabilities of Asia will increase. Cricket will be a 'quaint' sport no longer. Which is why China, with its potential player numbers, with so much of the world's attention, with its proven formulae for sporting success is such an exciting prospect for us.

Chief Executive's Review

China's land-mass by itself is the equivalent of the rest of Asia's, as is its population. If we thought we had challenges as administrators over such a vast domain, they are surely paralleled by China's sporting mandarins. Top of the table in every Asian Games since 1982 and with multi-disciplinary champions in the summer and winter Olympics and winners in numerous non-contact sports around the world - they must be doing something right.

We can learn much from them. They can learn much from cricket.

Our involvement, let's call it an investment, in China with the ACC's and ICC's US\$400,000 special allocation of Development Funds as announced in September 2006 is geared towards bringing cricket closer to the centre of national sporting activity. The inclusion of cricket in the Asian Games of Guangzhou in 2010 which we championed from the outset is another boost for cricket. The China situation is given greater significance because it is a tri-fold test of much of what the ACC and ICC represent.

First, it is a test of cricket in itself. Does cricket have enough appeal, outside the initial thrust given to it by the British Empire and public-school values, then boosted by international rivalries and the modern-day romance of Indian superstars, to stand as a simple bat-and-ball sport? Secondly, as coaches, administrators and strategists are we good enough to create competitive teams within the space of a decade? Thirdly, it is a test of the Chinese sporting system. Can they triumph at a game which is difficult to master and is so dependent on individual flair within the framework of team-spirit? Or are they to continue to be deemed to be successful only at individual, or at best, doubles competition?

The ICC Chief Executive Malcolm Speed having taken in the nascent cricket set-up in Beijing last year, confidently asserted his belief that China could be a presence in the World Cup to be played in Australia and New Zealand in 2015. With the Women's World Cup in India in 2013 also a possibility. "Countries with a 300-year old history of playing cricket could be looking at China in 2015 and wondering, 'how did they come up so quickly?', said he to an audience of international media-representatives.

How else but through a well-worked out, well-executed development program?

We've created 68 Level 1 coaches in China since 2005, some of whom are working under the direct guidance of the coach, Rashid Khan, supplied by the Pakistan Cricket Board. Is our coaching system good enough for coaches to create cricketers in the absence of any general cricket culture? China brings this issue, central to all of our activities outside the Test-playing countries, into sharp focus.

Cricket asks much of its players. It also asks much of its coaches and administrators.

Our China investment is also significant for being the single largest sum ever given to an ACC member-country. China, because of its size and population is indeed a 'special case' and as with any investment, timing is critical. China's cricket is just at that stage where initial enthusiasm needs to be encouraged and substance given to the parental body's promises. If China was Brunei it would not receive as much as it does but if Brunei displayed the promise and potential of China, it would be in line to receive more than its basic member's allocation.



Malcolm Speed at Beijing's Zheichumi Middle School, September 2006

Chief Executive's Review

Rankings

Our development activity within the existing budget parameters has been streamlined to reflect that countries most deserving of support will be most supported. Hence the six countries in the ICC World Cricket League (the pathway to the 2011 World Cup) Afghanistan, Hong Kong, Nepal, Oman, Singapore and the UAE receive more attention and more funding from the ACC in the coming year.

These six countries fall into the newly-developed rankings system that we have devised in order to properly evaluate each country's performance standings. We recognise that performance on the field is ultimately what matters. It is how the countries are judged. It is how we are judged. Not all countries are capable of World Cup qualification in the immediate future, nor does every country possibly even wish to make all the sacrifices necessary in order to take part. That is up to them. It is our job to provide everyone with an equal opportunity and ensure that positives multiply across members and that negatives are diminished.

A man with one leg can't run as fast as a man with two legs, but his running might well be more Herculean in the face of his difficulties. But you can only measure him against his actual potential. Not all of our member-countries are equal, not all of them have the same goals. But whatever a country wishes to achieve either in the world of cricket or for their cricketers, we will do everything we can to support them.

Governance

Governance is a real concern. As a paternal body, we stake our authority on being effective and maximizing efficiency. We are tangential observers of national associations and our job is to give advice when asked, to give inspiration when needed, to enhance relationships with other members and to fund cricket activity to the best of our ability. However, when money and power are given, the results are not always attractive.

On the financial level, when dealing with other countries, how can we make sure that our investment is not expropriated one way or the other -- that the money we put in is used in the way that we want it to be used, and that the cricket activity which we are paying for will be enforced? We have strict budgetary guidelines, breaches of which are 'punishable' by the withholding of further funding.

The Asian Cricket Council has developed infrastructure to the tune of about USD \$2.2 million since 2000, creating 318 Level I coaches, 56 of whom have become Level II coaches as accredited by Cricket Australia; 554 Level I Umpires, 36 of whom have been accredited at Level II and 64 Level I curators, 16 of whom have completed the Advanced Module as administered by the New Zealand Sports Turf Institute. This isn't subsidising national associations; it's producing skilled personnel where there would formerly have been minimal opportunities.

But what happens then? Expectations rise. People want power in their own hands. Rightfully so, empowerment for the benefit of their cricket, empowerment through performance, revenue and administrative competence is what we are keen to encourage. Not empowerment through clan affiliation and the puffing up of personal fiefdoms, masquerading as fiefdoms.

After the divestment of the budget there needs to come better dialogue between our members and ourselves. Some countries don't need coaches as much as others, others need turf wickets more than their neighbours, some do not need to create umpires who have no matches to officiate. We have established governance guidelines with our Finance and Accounting Manual and our Administrative and Personnel Policies Manual as approved by our Executive Board in 2006. With these, members can know quite clearly what is expected of them in terms of procedure and they can be confident that literally, we will guide them.



ACC Finance Manager *Thusith Perera* with the *President*

Chief Executive's Review

Governance is a tremendously professional concept and when the ICC first introduced it around the beginning of this century I don't think they fully explained what 'governance' meant, or rather not in a way that it could be understood by all its amateur members. *Governance* is the process of governing; *government* is the body that governs. Moreover, governance as we would define it is not something that adheres to any one side of the world or is anything that is imposed by us or the ICC. It is simply the means by which benefits are maximised and demerits minimised.

The lesson is always the same. Values unrelated to modern cricket are not just developmentally hopeless, the values themselves become devalued. 'Spirit of Cricket', 'Cricket Without Boundaries' are all well and good but unless they are explained, vivified and made real, they have no purchase in the real world. The real world is where people are scrabbling for a pair of cricket shoes and can only be thunderstruck by cricket bats costing £300. Asia is rich but it is also poor in a way that cannot be understood by marketing mavens in Starbucks-sipping communities.

The issue is not the capability let alone culpability of people across different cultures, but rather the enforceability of development activity, and the ability for a distant parent to exercise any official oversight. Building accountability and responsiveness is ultimately how cricket in our member countries will develop. The next step for us undoubtedly must be to set up some sort of Oversight body which assesses the merits of each country's development expenditure.

The ACC will understand its members if they wish to be understood. If they are understood they can be appreciated. If they are appreciated they can be truly given what they need and desire. That is why our Development Team for much of the past year has been working on a comprehensive survey of our member countries in order to assess which parts, if any, of our member's bodies need developing. The results of the survey will mean more targeted use of our resources and more benefits for them.

In essence, we are asking our administrators to take more control over their associations, to take stock of their assets and liabilities and literally account for their activity. I must stress that our policies are not arbitrarily imposed but come as the result of much consideration of what is the best way for a country to size up its worth and be appraised as a viable cricketing nation.

As a parental body we take modest satisfaction in the success of any of our charges and give all the credit for achievement to them. However, what rogue elements must realize is that improper behaviour not only demeans them but harms all their family members.

Again the key is dialogue. We are a mature body now, settled in our home in Malaysia since 2003 with considerable experience in our job.

Just because we all speak English and love cricket doesn't mean we speak the same language and know about cricket in each other's countries. When we disagree within and amongst ourselves, and when the stakes get even higher, trust me, we will see the beginning of some serious discussions. These contentious situations can only be resolved through dialogue. The race may not be to the swift but nor is it ever to the one who shouts loudest.

It comes down to three basic things: different information, different perception and different values. Once you can see where people come from you can consider whether the other person has better information and compare their values and perceptions to yours. I am willing to listen. We are really all on the same side: the good of cricket and cricketers.



Executive Board Member Tunku Imran with ACC Vice-President Khwaja Imran

Chief Executive's Review

Management

The really big task which my managers and I face on a daily basis and it is also one that is faced by the Test-playing countries and all our members across the board, is how to clear a path through the labyrinth of vague, shifting, mutually conflicting and multiple goals that is so characteristic of any national sporting agency.

Well before the time of the next World Cup the subject reverberating around the ACC will not only be how are we to invest in our development projects, vital though that is. It will be 'who comes first?' And our answer has to be the cricketer and the nurturing system for him and her.

A major issue, and it is an issue which our Development Manager will also address in his report, is that, as managers of Asian cricket development, how much should we manage? Are our boundaries dictated by our budget or by our lack of ambition? Or even by our lack of understanding? It is not just that administrators are new to cricket development but the topic of cricket development in itself is new. Sporting success is both a science and an art and mastery, if ever achieved, is temporary. But there has to be a place for those who wish to give of their best in order to achieve the best.

In order to do that, rather than just be a convenient agglomeration of Asian countries, the Asian Cricket Council, like FIFA, like UEFA, like the ITF and IOC, has to be a body with a readily understandable identity. Internally and externally. Once we know our goals, once we know what we have to do, once we know what we are, we can truly feed, breed and lead cricket in Asia.

The Asian Cricket Council has been extremely fortunate to have had such accomplished Presidents at its helm this past year. Both Mr. Pawar and Mr. Dharmadasa have made tremendous contributions to cricket in Asia. I am grateful that the Executive Board members are such strong supporters of our development charter and that we enjoy such a healthy relationship with the International Cricket Council. Our hand of co-operation and friendship extended to the Africa Cricket Association with our continuing series of the Afro-Asia Cup has done, and will continue to do, much to strengthen cricket's platform across our two continents. I trust that we will all continue to benefit much in the years ahead.

Next year will mark the 25th anniversary of the formation of the ACC. Cricket in Asia has come a long way since then, led by the Test-playing countries, of which Bangladesh subsequently became a member, and bolstered by the rise of other nations. We are a body united by common goals and a new-found sense of purpose and identity. We are a body that has done much to foster a sense of 'Asia'. Long may that spirit continue.

First and foremost, the Council must continue to prove to its members and the watching world that it does a worthy, valuable job. We can rightly claim success for the native cricketers of Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, Nepal and Thailand. Countries with Anglo-Antipodean and subcontinental expatriates cricket would have gone on the same without us or the ICC. They'd have had their domestic tournaments, their bilateral tours and their occasional visits from the Marylebone Cricket Club.

But we have made a difference. We have expanded the game. We have made the root and branch stronger. We have created the conditions in which thousands upon thousands of the world's citizens now have a chance to play cricket and to be embraced by this great game.

We cannot let them down.

Syed Ashraful Huq





ACC Delegates at the 2006 Annual General Meeting, Kuala Lumpur, June 18 2006

The Formation of the ACC

The Formation of the ACC

The ACC was formed in New Delhi on the 19th of September 1983, as the Asian Cricket Conference. The aims and objectives as stated in the original constitution were "organising, developing and promoting the game of Cricket in Asia" Aims to which it has adhered ever since.

The first Office Bearers of the ACC were:
President – N.K. P. Salve MP
Vice President – Gaminí Dissanayake MP
Hon. Secretary – A.W. Kanmadikar
Hon. Joint Secretary – Syed Ashraf ul Huq
Hon. Treasurer – M. A. Chidambaram

The founding members of the ACC were Bangladesh India, Malaysia, Pakistan, Singapore and Sri Lanka. Membership subsequently increased first with Hong Kong, then the UAE, followed by Nepal in 1990. China is the most recent member, joining the ACC in 2004.

In 1993 the Asian Cricket Conference became the Asian Cricket Council. There are two categories of membership at the ACC - Full and Associate – with the Test-playing countries and ICC Associate countries (Hong Kong, Kuwait, Malaysia, Nepal, Singapore, Thailand, UAE) being accorded Full Member Status with the rest of the member countries ranked as ACC Associates.

It has been a steadfast policy of the ACC to expand the game and to take it boldly into new territories and thus truly globalise the game. Development activities go hand in hand with tournament activities in order to carry forward the original aims of the ACC.

Fiji, Japan and Papua New Guinea have all been members of the ACC and have competed in ACC Trophies. However, following the ICC's formation of the East Asia-Pacific Region for development activity in that region, these countries ceded membership of the ACC.

Until December 1999 all administrative positions of the ACC were honorary. Since 1999 the Secretary and Treasurer have been drawing remuneration. Up to 2003 the headquarters of the ACC were shifted every two years with the biennial rotation of the President's and Secretary's home country. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia was chosen to be the permanent headquarters of the Asian Cricket Council from the latter part of 2003.



Inaugural Meeting of The Asian Cricket Conference on 19th and 20th September 1983, New Delhi, India.

Standing (left to right): Prof. M.V. Chandgadkar (India), R. S. Mahendra (India), A.Sajjad (Pakistan), Q. Noorani (UAE), A. R. Falaknaz (UAE), S.K. Wankhede (India), M.A. Chidambaram (India), P.M. Rungta (India), S.Sriraman (India), M. Jaikishan (India), I.S. Bindra (India), J. Dalmiya (India)
Seated (left to right): A.Abbasi (Pakistan), A.R. Bukhatir (UAE), D.S.Gill (Malaysia), Air Marshal (Retd.) Nur Khan (Pakistan), N.K.P.Salve (India), G.Dissanayake MP (Sri Lanka), S.A. Huq (Bangladesh), N. Mohammad (Sri Lanka), A.W. Kanmadikar (India)

Member Countries

MEMBER COUNTRIES

ACC Member ICC Member

	Bangladesh	1983	2000
	India	1983	1926
	Pakistan	1983	1953
	Sri Lanka	1983	1981
	Afghanistan	2003	2001 (Affiliate)
	Bahrain	2003	2001 (Affiliate)
	Bhutan	2001	2001 (Affiliate)
	Brunei	1996	2002 (Affiliate)
	China	2004	2004 (Affiliate)
	Hong Kong	1983	1969 (Associate)
	Iran	2003	2003 (Affiliate)
	Kuwait	1996	2005 (Associate)
	Malaysia	1983	1967 (Associate)
	Maldives	1996	1998 (Affiliate)
	Myanmar	2005	2006 (Affiliate)
	Nepal	1990	1996 (Associate)
	Oman	2000	2000 (Affiliate)
	Qatar	2000	1999 (Affiliate)
	Saudi Arabia	2003	2003 (Affiliate)
	Singapore	1983	1974 (Associate)
	Thailand	1996	2005 (Associate)
	UAE	1984	1990 (Associate)

The ACC was originally formed as the Asian Cricket Conference in 1983, changing its name to the Asian Cricket Council in 1993.

The ICC was originally formed as the Imperial Cricket Conference, changing its name to the International Cricket Conference in 1965 and then to the International Cricket Council in 1989.

Executive Board Members ACC Development Committee



ACC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Jayantha Dharmadasa, Chairman
President, ACC

K.H. Imran
Vice-President, ACC

Sharad Pawar
President, Board of Control for Cricket in India

Dr. Nasim Ashraf
Chairman, Pakistan Cricket Board

M. Abdul Aziz, ndc
President, Bangladesh Cricket Board

Kangadaran Mathivanan
Member, Sri Lanka Cricket

Y.A.M. Tunku Tan Sri Imran Ibni Tuanaku Ja'afar
President, Malaysian Cricket Association

Mazhar Khan
Administrator, UAE Emirates Cricket Board

Ravi Sehgal
President, Cricket Association of Thailand

Manzur Ahmed
Chief Executive Officer, Brunei Darussalam
Cricket Association

Syed Ashrafu'l Huq
Chief Executive, ACC

Mahmudur Rahman
Chief Executive Officer, BCB – Ex Officio

Duleep Mendis
Chief Executive Officer, Sri Lanka Cricket – Ex Officio

Niranjan Shah
Honorary Secretary, BCCI – Ex Officio

Shafiqat Naghmi
Chief Operating Officer, PCB – Ex Officio

ACC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Dr. Nasim Ashraf, Chairman
Jayantha Dharmadasa

Binaya Raj Pandey
President, CAN

John Cribbin
Hon. Secretary, HKCA

Mirza Asad Baig
Deputy Chief Executive, KCA

Nadeem Nadwi
Development Manager, SCC

Sultan Rana
Development Manager, ACC

Syed Ashrafu'l Huq
Ex Officio

Shubhangi Kulkarni
Hon. Secretary, Women's Cricket
Association of India – Ex Officio



ACC FINANCE & MARKETING COMMITTEE

N. Srinivasan, Chairman
Hon. Treasurer, BCCI

Jayantha Dharmadasa
Ex Officio

Mushitaq Ahmed
PCB

Afzalur Rahman Sinha
BCB



P. Krishnasamy
MCA

Syed Ashrafal Huq
Ex Officio

Thusith Perera
ACC Finance Manager

ACC COMMITTEE for WOMEN'S CRICKET

Shubhangi Kulkarni, Chairperson

Sudat Pasqual, Co-ordinator
SLC

Shamsha Hasmi
PCB

Kim Leung
HKCA

Monowar Anis Khan
BCB

ACC DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Sultan Rana

Roger Binny
Development Officer

Rumesh Ratnayake
Development Officer

Iqbal Sikander
Development Officer

Dr. Vece Paes
Sports Medicine and
Fitness Officer

Keith McAuliffe
Consultant, Grounds and Pitch
Development

Mahboob Shah
Resource Person (Umpiring)

Khizar Hayat
Resource Person (Umpiring)

K. Parthasaradhy
Resource Person (Umpiring)

Peter Manuel
Resource Person (Umpiring)

K. T. Francis
Resource Person (Umpiring)

Ross Turner
Cricket Australia, International Development
Program Manager



ACC SECRETARIAT STAFF



Syed Ashrafal Huq
Chief Executive

Sultan Rana
Development Manager

Ganesan Sundarammoorthy
Development Program Coordinator

Susan Moorthy
Development Program Assistant

Thusith Perera
Finance Manager

Philip Lee
Finance Executive

Noor Faizah Dolah
Finance Assistant

Meenakshy A. Sivaramakrishnan
Accounts & Administration Clerk

Anna Lalitha
PA to the Chief Executive

K.K. Haridas
Events Assistant

Shahriar Khan
Media Officer

Niren Mukherjee
Media Assistant

Farha Niina Binti Anam
Receptionist

Mohamed Suhaili
Office Assistant/Driver

Devadas Kaildas
Driver



The ACC Non-Test Playing Countries Rankings

Purpose:

- *To categorize the member countries by performance in ACC competitions.
- *To motivate the member countries to have performance competition goals.
- *To reward the member countries on their performance in competition

Method:

- *The ACC ranking system is based on a 2-year cycle, as the cycle of age-group tournaments is completed every 2 years.
- *The rankings are determined on the teams' placing in the ACC Trophy, ACC U-19 Cup, the ACC U-17 Cup and the ACC U-15 Cup.
- *The teams with the minimum aggregate ranking points based on finishing positions in the four age-group tournaments are ranked highest.
- *The top ten teams in each age group will participate in the Elite division, while the rest will participate in the Challenge division

ACC Trophy August 06	ACC U-19 Cup Nov 05	ACC U-17 Cup August 05	ACC U-15 May/Dec 06	FINAL COMBINED
Ranking /Points	Ranking /Points	Ranking /Points	Ranking /Points	Ranking (Points)
1 UAE	1 Nepal	4 Singapore	1 Nepal	1.Nepal (10 pts)
2 Hong Kong	2 Malaysia	4 Bahrain	2 UAE	2.UAE (14 pts)
3 Afghanistan	3 Kuwait	4 Kuwait	3 Malaysia	3.Malaysia (19 pts)
4 Nepal	4 Qatar	4 Nepal	4 Bahrain	4.Bahrain (21 pts)
5 Singapore	5 UAE	5 Qatar	5 Afghanistan	5. Kuwait (22 pts)
6 Bahrain	6 Hong Kong	6 UAE	6 Kuwait	6. Singapore (24 pts)
7 Malaysia	7 Bahrain	7 Malaysia	7 Singapore	7. Hong Kong (26 pts)
8 Qatar	8 Singapore	8 Brunei	8 Hong Kong	8. Afghanistan (33 pts)
9 Kuwait	9 Afghanistan	9 Saudi Arabia	9 Oman	9. Qatar (34 pts)
10 Saudi Arabia	10 Thailand	10 Hong Kong	10 Bhutan	10. Oman (42 pts)
11 Oman	11 Oman	11 Oman	11 Thailand	11. Thailand (45 pts)
12 Thailand	12 Saudi Arabia	12 Thailand	12 Iran	11. Saudi Arabia (45 pts)
13 Bhutan	13 Maldives	13 Bhutan	13 Maldives	13. Bhutan (52 pts)
14 Maldives	14 Iran	** 16 Maldives	14 Saudi Arabia	14. Maldives (56 pts)
15 Iran	15 Brunei	** 16 Iran	15 China	15. Iran (57 pts)
16 Brunei	**16 Bhutan	** 16 Myanmar	16 Myanmar	15. Brunei (57 pts)
17 Myanmar	**16 Myanmar	** 16 China	17 Qatar	17. China (63 pts)
16 China	**16 China	* 16 Afghanistan	18 Brunei	18. Myanmar (65 pts)

NB. Countries who have not participated or are disqualified will be given a 16-point penalty for each tournament missed
 (***) Disqualified
 (**) Did not participate

Development Manager's Report

Sultan Rana

For the Asian Cricket Council's development program, the past year has been one of the most significant since its inception.

Results on the pitch are the ultimate measure of gauging a sporting body's success and if Asia is to claim its place as a major cricketing hub, the Asian Cricket Council's development activity has to start producing results. It was a shock to the system to not have any Asian associates or affiliates at the 2007 World Cup and well before the start of this year we embarked upon a course of activity which we feel gives Asian teams a significantly better chance to qualify.

We have targetted the six countries in line for World Cup qualification – Afghanistan, Hong Kong, Nepal, Oman, Singapore, UAE – for special support as they do their best to qualify for the World Cup in 2011.



Afghanistari



Hong Kong



Nepal



Oman



Singapore



UAE

Development Manager's Report

ACC Strategic Development Program

As these countries will inevitably improve over the next year up to 2009's ICC Trophy we can be certain that the other countries of the world will also be getting better at the same time. Such is the nature of progress. We found that everything done up to the ICC Trophy of 2005 hadn't worked. So something different and better had to be done. That is our Strategic Development Program, which we have introduced this year.

We have radically revised the tournament structure, streamlined our coaching program and introduced a fresh Development Program for member countries which will 1) help them to identify what they need to do to improve their playing standards and 2) help us to target our resources to help them achieve their goals.

Our own major insight has come from the realisation that each country is a special case and it must be dealt with in a manner appropriate to its needs. What works in Afghanistan will not necessarily work in the UAE, what works in the UAE will not work in Thailand.

Moreover, the past few years have shown us that there are countries emerging – like Afghanistan, Bhutan, Nepal, Thailand – which have directly benefited from the ACC's development program and who must continue to be encouraged. Indigenous native cricketers playing the game not because their fathers, brothers and uncles played, but because the game of cricket intrinsically appeals to them. In any cost-benefit analysis the system that helps these countries' cricketers must be supported. As long as meritocracy prevails in their teams' selections their progress will not be detailed.

When the ICC Development Program started ten years ago they searched for a handle with which to grasp the world and they chose player numbers. Well, numbers aren't the truth as they and we've discovered. Counting a child in Nauru, Nairobi or Narayanganj who picks up a cricket bat, once, as a cricketer when a man representing the ICC comes by with a big bag of bats and balls does no one a service.



A major problem is that of the cricket that is played, when it is competitive it is not organised and when it is organised it is not competitive. People fatuously talk of a pyramid structure feeding cricketers into the elite as equating to 'development'. What really needs to be focussed on are the driving processes between the players-layers of cricket being played.

Development is not a vertical process, it is circulatory, reflexive, horizontal. It is a weaving of multitudinous elements, not a rendering of a convenient powerpoint presentation clung to by those drowning in development theory for want of anything better to do. Proper engagement is the key.



I'm not into 'any cricket at any price'. Cricketers who only play in corridors or indulge in tape-ball cricket will only ever be marginal cricketers within a nation. I'm into embedding cricket into a nation's sporting consciousness. I'm into winning and results. I'm into the most number of Asian cricketers in World Cups - and I don't count the children of subcontinental migrants currently playing representative cricket for countries outside of Asia. If that were the case, Poland, the ECC, may as well count Mark Kasprovicz as one of their own.

In our member countries where indigenous natives are not part of the cricket fabric it is a fact of life that those with subcontinental ancestry, if not first-generation migrants, are the ones active in cricket. You can take the child out of Asia but you cannot take Asia out of the child. So all the more reason for the Test-playing countries and the ACC to wish that these countries take part in World Cups. It is a demonstration of Asian strength, Asian passion and Asian unity.



What has happened in the past five years means that the next five years will be very different. Countries which do not apply themselves to the new climate of retrenchment and reform in order to create the best possible results will find themselves floundering.

The ACC will reward success but not indulge failure. And for those member countries which will not or cannot satisfy the simple demands of transparency and accountability, those countries which waste the opportunities given to them by the ACC and ICC, will find themselves increasingly marginalized.

In many of our member-countries cricket is high in the sports hierarchy and this is driving the growth of cricket commercially worldwide. All development efforts must be made to protect this source of cricket's growth.

Competitive Structure

The ACC Trophy is our premier tournament. It is our Asia Cup qualifier and our World Cricket League determinant and the 2006 event was the biggest yet with seventeen teams (all but China amongst our non-Test playing members) participating.

It is the first stage of the journey to World Cup qualification for our members. Our tournament website received almost 100,000 hits during the event with users registered all over the world (except South America). This showed us that cricket in our countries has a passionate following not least because for many of our members it is the one sport which puts them on the global map. As cricketing nations a significant number of our members are ranked in the top 30 of the world. As footballing nations a number make it into the bottom 30. Cricket's potential as a nation-builder should reflect this and this prominence that cricket brings to each country should be emphasized in our interaction with national sports authorities.

Speaking to the competitors prior to the tournament, to a man (with the exception of newcomers Myanmar) they all said that their biggest ambition in life was to play in a World Cup. My heart would break when I heard them.

My heart would break not because we operate in a format where only two countries can be guaranteed a slot in World Cup qualification through the ACC Trophy. It breaks not because we are in a structure where Asia has to compete with the other four regions for qualifiers, not because World Cups come along maybe only three or four times in a top cricketer's life. My heart broke because I knew at the outset of the 2006 ACC Trophy who the likeliest qualifiers to join Oman and the UAE in the ICC World Cricket League would be: Afghanistan, Hong Kong and Nepal. No one else can match them at present. That's a lot of cricketers whose dreams have no hope of being realised. Too many.





ASIA'S WAY TO THE 2011 WORLD CUP

In a radical and innovative qualifying format, the ICC have made it possible for any one of Asia's 11 Affiliates and 7 Associates to join the ten Full Member nations at the 2011 World Cup.

The high-stakes system has been set up to allow teams to focus on peaking at the right times for what will be the biggest cricket matches of their lives in the years leading up to 2011.

6 of the ICC's 87 current global Affiliates and Associates will make it through. 5 of them could be ACC members.

The ambition to succeed already exists. The platform has been provided. The campaign to qualify must start now.



* As UAE and Oman have pre-qualified for World Cricket League Division 2 through their participation in the 2005 ACC Trophy, the slots available to Asia's qualifier for World Cricket League Division 3 becomes available to the next ranked team should the UAE and Oman be finalists in the 2006 ACC Trophy. Should only one of UAE and Oman be in the final, then their opponents will be Asia's qualifiers for World Cricket League Division 3. Two more World Cricket League Division 3 slots are available to the next-ranked team following UAE, Oman and the Division 3 qualifier in the final playoffs of the 2006 ACC Trophy.

The Currency of Hope

Being a team that can win a match here and there at ACC level isn't enough. I keep stressing the importance of being a team that can win a match against any Associate. The UAE and Hong Kong who were finalists in the 2006 ACC Trophy have a pedigree of success. But if we at the ACC aren't creating the conditions in which they meet with stiffer internal opposition, then we will find that when our qualifiers take on the likes of Bermuda, Canada, Ireland, the Netherlands and Scotland in the World Cricket League, they will lose.

In essence, the more competitive we make Associate-level cricket, the more significant we become and the World Cup no longer becomes a two-division contest. It becomes a true World Cup.

Cricketer Education Programs

Apart from the tournaments, the ACC also conducts curatorship, umpiring and coaching courses at all levels every year to ensure that this important aspect of cricket is not neglected.

Our Development Officers along with resource persons and outside consultants do a tremendous amount of work in educating our member countries' cricket communities. Towards the end of the Annual Report is a greater discussion of the benefits and impact of Cricket Australia's and the New Zealand Sports Turf Institute's contribution.

I believe that certification amongst our members has almost reached saturation point. We have coached the coaches, now it is time for the coaches to go out amongst their citizens and do the work for which they have been trained.

Genuine improvement can occur only when throughout the team there is a sense there is no big answer, no great breakthrough, but only the challenge of getting 100 small things so right that the overall result is inevitably positive.

Results in the ACC Trophy, World Cricket League and the World Cup will grab the world's attention but incrementalism is a subtle and powerful force. The benefits of the work which our Development Officers and everyone else associated with us has done is already being seen and will continue to be done. There are no major leaps day to day but small steps are taken month to month. Each non-Test playing member country can look to where their playing standards are now to what they were five years ago and see significant progress.

Analysis reveals that it is actually in the countries where the indigenous peoples have taken up cricket – Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, Maldives, Nepal, Thailand – that the most progress has been made. I foresee our rankings system to fluctuate tremendously as a truly competitive environment emerges across Asia.

Tournaments

We have a sound competitive program for both juniors and seniors. For the past three years there has been a three-day league for the elite non-Test playing senior teams. Every year two pan-Asia age-group tournaments are conducted and last year for the first time we split each age-group into a two-tier system – 'Elite' and 'Challenge'. The tiers are based on rankings as evinced by past tournament performances at each level.

It makes for less mis-matches and more competitive cricket as each country finds itself playing against teams at a similar level.



UAE won their fourth consecutive ACC Trophy this year

Development Manager's Report



The tournaments will alternate between U-15 cricketers and U-19 cricketers one year and U-17 and seniors the next. This ensures that talented cricketers have a platform to perform and excel on a regular basis. Our Emerging Nations tournaments for the Middle East and South-East Asia have been discontinued for the simple fact that standards have sufficiently risen in those regions in recent years for them not to be classed as 'emerging' any more.

Nepal continued their U-15 supremacy this year with victory in the ACC U-15 Elite Cup

Whereas our budget has been constant for the past three years our tournament expenses have risen by 30% as we find airfares, hotels and playing equipment all costing more. As such, without wishing to compromise on our competitive structure we have disbanded the three-day league which some members felt did not reflect the true cricketing elite in Asia and introduced a Twenty20 Cup in its place.

The jury's still out on this new format, I think all over the world people have yet to get to grips with it. In England it is thriving because of the long daylight hours of summer, the fact that the weather is such a significant player in the mix, thus adding to non-formulaic cricket and because it fits in brilliantly to urban society's work hours. But even there few international cricketers could be said to have mastered it.



Twenty20 Cup

As for Asia, my view is that Twenty20 is a real test of a player's skills. The shorter the game, the more it forces you to use different skills. If you're a bowler and you can't bowl a yorker and a slower ball for variety, you're in trouble. Moreover, the gap between top teams and those below narrows with less time for strengths to manifest themselves and I think that some serious upsets could occur! Twenty20 puts a premium on fitness and bowling discipline and if teams find themselves devoting more time to body management then playing standards can only rise.

Fitness is something a player can control much easier than skill acquisition and the opposition. If I would have our Development Officers stress one thing in their interaction with our members it is this.

Women

Women's cricket has energized many of our associations and their presence in our system offers us a chance to give them the refined version of our development program, minus all mistakes and misdirections. They have come along at just the right time in order to benefit from the coaches and pathways that have been created up to now and which are ready to be activated.

This year we part-funded an Asia Cup qualifier between Hong Kong's and Pakistan's women and though Pakistan beat Hong Kong easily, there were enough signs of promise from Hong Kong to suggest that in the future the matches will be more competitive.



Oman took the honours in the ACC U-15 Challenge Cup



I very much look forward to the first ACC Women's Tournament to be played in July 2007 and expect the cricket to be correct and competitive. New countries could really make a name for themselves as they all strive to work themselves up the ladder towards the Women's Asia Cup and World Cup.

Nepal



The Captains of India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka's Women



In the past year where they have won two out of the three competitions they've played it is worth singling out Nepal for some attention. They are a very interesting case study for anyone who examines development. Their prominence in ICC and ACC tournaments since the ACC Development Program kicked off at the start of the century has been remarkable.

Nepal has achieved considerable success in all their age-group representative matches since Roy Dias took over as national coach, with the U-15, U-17, and U-19 teams playing some stirring cricket. In the U-19 World Cup in New Zealand in 2002 they lost a close game to an England side full of county cricketers and then beat Pakistan in the tournament's most thrilling upset. In the 2004 U-19 World Cup they beat South Africa and two other Associates and in 2006 beat South Africa and New Zealand to win the U-19 World Cup Plate Championship.

This year they won the ACC Premier League triumphing over the UAE, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore.

Roy Dias has been a key factor in their rise and quite simply his association with the team has led to their success. It is a success based upon hard work, executing the basics and relying on thinking to win matches. The Nepalis aren't big, they aren't overly well-nourished, they don't have access to too much equipment or comfortable facilities. What they do have is the desire to use cricket to propel themselves as individuals and as a nation, out of obscurity.

No better example can there be of how simple the development process is than to look at Nepal's performance in the ACC U-15 Elite Cup in May 2006. The tournament was played over two-days to allow players the chance to impose themselves on the game rather than as in limited overs, have the game impose itself on them. Taking wickets and making big scores would be the determinants of success.



Afghanistan U-15 in 2006



A U-15 Nepali



Against countries such as Bahrain, Kuwait and the UAE, filled with players who had imbibed cricket from infancy, Nepal won the tournament. They won having only two players who had ever played cricket outside of net practise. They won because what they were taught, coupled with their desire to succeed, was enough. They won because they were given just what they needed.

Roy Dias worked with his players for one month before the tournament in a camp, drilling into them the basics of the game. UAE, Kuwait, Afghanistan and Bahrain had players of more flair but Nepal had more players who did things right. And it is to be emphasised, only two of their native sons had ever played a real match before coming to Malaysia and lifting the U-15 ACC Elite Cup.

Work has started in Kathmandu on something grandly called a 'National Academy' but that is a word like 'governance' which is often used without a true appreciation of what it should mean. My definition of a national academy is that it should be a national training centre. This is vital for every country. It creates a real identity and provides so many different things. Quite apart from the technical advantages of always having the best players to play against and the best coaches to help you, there is the medical back-up. Any injuries get the best attention immediately. Everybody is exchanging ideas on everything to do with the game and fitness. It creates the best possible atmosphere for everybody to improve. Anything less is liable to be a white elephant.

On The Way To 2011

As I said at the beginning, not having any Asian qualifiers in the West Indies for this year's World Cup was a shock. It is how we are ultimately measured as a development body, and that is just how it should be. Asia has the resources. Asia has the desire. Asia has the ACC.

2011 – our home World Cup - with the participation of five Asian qualifiers plus Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka is possible.

It means overcoming, Ireland, Scotland, The Netherlands, Bermuda and Canada but it is possible. Definitely possible.

God bless you all.

Sultan Rana



Asian Cricket Council Champions



ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL CHAMPIONS



ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

Asia Cup



ASIA CUP

- 1984**, Sharjah: Champions **India**, runners-up Pakistan
- 1986**, Sri Lanka: Champions **Sri Lanka**, runners-up Pakistan (India absent)
- 1988**, Bangladesh: Champions **India**, runners-up Sri Lanka
- 1991**, India: Champions **India**, runners-up Sri Lanka (Pakistan absent)
- 1995**, Sharjah: Champions **India**, runners-up Sri Lanka
- 1997**, Sri Lanka: Champions **Sri Lanka**, runners-up India
- 2000**, Bangladesh: Champions **Pakistan**, runners-up Sri Lanka
- 2004**, Sri Lanka: Champions **Sri Lanka**, runners-up India

Afro-Asia Cup



- 2005**, South Africa: The three-match series between Africa and Asia was tied



ACC Trophy

- 1996**, Malaysia: Champions **Bangladesh**, runners-up UAE
- 1998**, Nepal: Champions **Bangladesh**, runners-up Malaysia
- 2000**, UAE: Champions **UAE**, runners-up Hong Kong
- 2002**, Singapore: Champions **UAE**, runners-up Nepal
- 2004**, Malaysia: Champions **UAE**, runners-up Oman
- 2006**, Malaysia : Champions **UAE**, runners-up Hong Kong



Fast Track
Countries Tournament

Fast Track Countries Tournament

- 2004-2005**, Champions **UAE**, runners-up Hong Kong
- 2005-2006**, Champions **Nepal**, runners-up UAE

Emerging Nations Tournament

- 2004**, Kuwait: Champions **Oman**, runners-up Bahrain
- 2005**, Thailand: Champions **Maldives**, runners-up Thailand
- 2006**, Kuwait: Champions **Bahrain**, runners-up Afghanistan
- 2006**, Thailand: Champions **Maldives**, runners-up Thailand





ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL CHAMPIONS



U-19 Afro-Asia Cup

2005, India: Champions **India**, runners-up Sri Lanka

U-19 Asia Cup

1997, Hong Kong: Champions **Bangladesh**, runners-up Papua New Guinea

1999, Singapore: Champions **Bangladesh**, runners-up Nepal

2001, Nepal: Champions **Nepal**, runners-up Malaysia

2003, Pakistan: Champions **Nepal**, runners-up Malaysia



ACC U-19 Cup

2005, Nepal: Champions **Nepal**, runners-up Malaysia

U-17 Asia Cup



2000, Pakistan: Champions **Sri Lanka**, runners-up Pakistan

2001, Bangladesh: Champions **India**, runners-up Bangladesh

2004, India: Champions **Pakistan**, runners-up India



ACC U-17 Cup

2005, Malaysia: Abandoned at semi-final stage due to inclement weather



U-15 Asia Cup

2000, Malaysia: Champions **India**, runners-up Pakistan

2002, UAE: Champions **Pakistan**, runners-up Sri Lanka



ACC U-15 Cup

2005, UAE: Champions **Nepal**, runners-up Afghanistan



ACC U-15 Elite Cup

2006, Malaysia: Champions **Nepal**, runners-up UAE

ACC U-15 Challenge Cup

2006, Thailand: Champions **Oman**, runners-up Bhutan



ACC Tournaments

ACC Trophy
ACC Premier League
ACC U-15 Elite Cup
ACC U-15 Challenge Cup

ACC Trophy

Kuala Lumpur: August 14 to 26 2006
Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bhutan, Brunei, Hong Kong, Iran, Kuwait, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, UAE
7 venues, 40 matches



Emirates Fly High



The UAE confirmed their eminence amongst the non-Test playing nations of Asia by winning their fourth consecutive ACC Trophy.

Unbeaten throughout, the champions started with a 367-run win over Brunei, won a thriller against Saudi Arabia by three wickets in the group stage and utterly destroyed fellow championship aspirants Nepal in the semi-final, winning by nine-wickets.

Afghanistan breezed through all their matches until their semi-final against Hong Kong in a rain-affected match at the Selangor Turf Club. There a combination of tactical naïveté and an inability to dominate slow bowling on a turgid surface in the way they do fast bowling on hard ground, gave Hong Kong victory by 18 runs via Duckworth-Lewis. This loss cost Afghanistan a chance of playing in the 2008 Asia Cup in front of what would have been an extremely partisan crowd in Pakistan.

UAE thus met Hong Kong in the Final, whom they beat by five wickets, chasing 174.

Batsmen (Qualification: 200 runs)

	HS	Runs	Innings	Average
Ashhad Ali (UAE)	213*	461	6	153.66
Sarfraz Ahmed (Saudi Arabia)	167*	268	3	134.00
Saqib Ali (UAE)	132*	321	6	107.00
Suhrab Kisingakann (Saudi Arabia)	133	240	3	80.00
Rahul Sharina (Hong Kong)	123	378	7	75.60
Muhammad Jahangir (Qatar)	90	364	6	60.66
Hussain Butt (Hong Kong)	102*	292	6	58.40
Munish Arora (Singapore)	111	346	6	57.66
Tim Smart (Hong Kong)	100	277	7	46.16
Muhammad Iqbal (UAE)	114	228	6	38.00

Bowlers (Qualification: 10 wickets)

	O	R	W	BB	Average
Mehboob Alam (Nepal)	36.1	92	11	7-3	8.36
Najeeb Amar (Hong Kong)	47.4	135	13	6-2	10.39
Shadeep Silva (UAE)	50	176	14	4-26	13.57
Khurram Khan (UAE)	33.1	139	10	3-12	13.90
Binod Das (Nepal)	46	195	14	5-24	13.93
Saleem Akhtar (Qatar)	54	165	11	4-21	15.00
Afrazul Hojdar (Hong Kong)	47	213	14	4-18	15.21
Nadeem Ahmed (Hong Kong)	52	188	11	3-18	17.09
Qamar Saeed (Bahrain)	44	222	10	3-37	22.20

ACC TROPHY 2006 KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA



FINAL: Hong Kong v UAE - UAE won by 5 wickets

3rd and 4th position: Afghanistan v Nepal - Afghanistan won by 64 runs (D/L METHOD)

5th and 6th position: Bahrain v Singapore - Singapore won by 25 runs (D/L METHOD)

7th and 8th position: Malaysia v Qatar - Malaysia won by 45 runs (D/L METHOD)



Semi-Final 1: Nepal v UAE - UAE won by 9 wickets

Semi-final 2: Afghanistan v Hong Kong - Hong Kong won by 18 runs (D/L METHOD)

Plate Semi-final 1: Bahrain v Qatar - Bahrain won by 10 runs (D/L METHOD)

Plate semi-final 2: Malaysia v Singapore - Singapore won by 24 runs



Quarter-final 1: Qatar v UAE - UAE won by 111 runs

Quarter-final 2: Bahrain v Nepal - Nepal won by 25 runs

Quarter-final 3: Afghanistan v Malaysia - Afghanistan won by 9 wickets

Quarter-final 4: Hong Kong v Singapore - Hong Kong won by 6 wickets



Group A Results

Malaysia v Brunei - MATCH ABANDONED

Malaysia v Saudi Arabia - Malaysia won by 15 runs

Brunei v UAE - UAE won by 367 runs

Saudi Arabia v UAE - UAE won by 3 wickets

Brunei v Saudi Arabia - Saudi Arabia won by 314 runs (D/L METHOD)

Malaysia v UAE - UAE won by 8 wickets



Group B Results

Bahrain v Singapore - Singapore won by 86 runs

Maldives v Oman - Oman won by 7 wickets

Oman v Singapore - Singapore won by 75 runs

Maldives v Singapore - MATCH ABANDONED

Bahrain v Oman - Bahrain won by 19 runs

Bahrain v Maldives - Bahrain won by 35 runs



Group C Results

Kuwait v Nepal - Nepal won by 6 wickets

Bhutan v Hong Kong - Hong Kong won by 9 wickets

Bhutan v Nepal - Nepal won by 281 runs

Kuwait v Myanmar - Kuwait won by 9 wickets

Hong Kong v Myanmar - Hong Kong won by 422 runs

Bhutan v Kuwait - Kuwait won by 291 runs

Hong Kong v Nepal - Nepal won by 87 runs

Bhutan v Myanmar - Bhutan won by 9 wickets

Hong Kong v Kuwait - TIED

Myanmar v Nepal - Nepal won by 10 wickets

Group D Results

Afghanistan v Qatar - Afghanistan won by 66 runs

Iran v Thailand - Thailand won by 9 wickets

Afghanistan v Iran - Afghanistan won by 9 wickets

Qatar v Thailand - Qatar won by 7 wickets

Afghanistan v Thailand - Afghanistan won by 10 wickets (D/L METHOD)

Iran v Qatar - Qatar won by 219 runs

ACC Tournaments

ACC PREMIER LEAGUE

September 2006 to March 2007
Hong Kong, Malaysia, Nepal, Singapore, UAE
5 venues, 9 matches



Nepal Reach the Peak

Nepal won the 2006-2007 ACC Premier League, with UAE finishing a close second. Nepal have been contenders for the three-day cricket title from the onset of the event in 2004 and had finished second to UAE in both previous seasons.

With Nepal having completed their fixtures in November 2006, UAE had two matches left and 41 points to make up when they came to south-east Asia in March 2007 if they were to retain their title. An innings-victory against Malaysia brought them to the brink but heavy rain and a water-logged pitch in Singapore cost UAE any chance of play and they finished 10 points short. UAE had beaten Nepal earlier in the season at Sharjah.

"Nepal have proved worthy winners of the Premier League", said K.K. Haridas, ACC Events Organiser. "They have been consistent challengers to UAE for three-day supremacy and though Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore have all had their moments ultimately Nepal and UAE have played the most consistent cricket. Nepal have been the only team in Asia to ever defeat UAE, which they did in 2005"

The Premier League, (previously the Fast Track Countries Tournament) is to be replaced in the coming season by the ACC Twenty20 Cup for the top ten ACC countries according to ACC performance-based rankings.



2006-2007 ACC PREMIER LEAGUE Points Table

Team	P	W	L	D	NR	Batting	Bowling	Total Points
Nepal	4	2	1	1	0	30.5	37	95.5
U.A.E.	4	2	0	1	1	23.5	24	85.5
Singapore	4	1	2	0	1	19.5	25.5	69
Malaysia	4	1	0	2	0	24.5	28	66.5
Hong Kong	4	0	0	2	0	27	33	60

- NOTE:
- 14 points for a win.
 - 0.5 points for every 25 runs scored.
 - 0.5 points for every wicket taken.
 - In the second innings, a maximum of four points can be obtained for batting.
 - The match between Singapore and UAE in March 2007 was abandoned due to a water-logged pitch. 10 points were awarded to each team.



ACC PREMIER LEAGUE 2006-2007

Top Performers

TOP BATSMEN (Qualification: 150 runs)

	M	I	N.O.	R	HS	Ave	50	100
Hussain Butt	2	3	1	255	218*	127.50	0	1
Chaminda Ruwan	3	6	1	352	122*	70.40	0	2
Arshad Ali	3	5	1	262	137	65.50	1	1
Irfan Ahmed	3	5	0	251	142	50.20	0	1
Shadeep Silva	2	4	0	168	96	42.00	1	0
Mehboob Alam	3	6	0	235	74	39.16	3	0
Paras Khadka	4	8	0	272	87	34.00	3	0
Sharad Veshawkar	4	8	0	201	79	25.12	1	0
M.Krishnamurthi	4	8	1	154	49	22.00	0	0
Dinesh Muthuraman	4	8	0	169	94	21.12	1	0

TOP BOWLERS (Qualification: 10 wickets)

	M	O	M	R	W	Ave	5w	10w	BB
Paras Khadka	4	53.5	15	130	11	11.81	0	0	3-15
Thushara Kodikara	2	59.4	17	150	11	13.63	0	0	4-50
Binod Das	4	102.5	21	270	18	15.00	1	0	5-24
Pramod Raja	2	77.3	23	219	14	15.65	0	0	2-14
Zahid Shah	1	59.3	19	165	10	16.50	1	0	6-36
Sanjam Regmi	4	93	38	183	10	18.30	0	0	3-18
Afzaal Haider	3	82	16	273	13	21.00	1	1	8-50
M. Krishnamurthi	4	95.1	24	230	10	23.00	0	0	2-17
Rohan Suppiah	4	116.3	26	261	11	23.88	1	0	5-25
Suresh Navaratnam	4	85	13	277	10	27.70	0	0	3-43

Filed March 12 2007

ACC Tournaments

ACC U-15 ELITE CUP

*Kuala Lumpur: May 26 to June 8, 2006
Afghanistan, Bahrain, Hong Kong, Kuwait, Malaysia, Nepal, Singapore, UAE
6 venues, 17 matches*



For the first time, the competition was played with two-day match format. The eight quarter-finalists of the ACC U-15 tournament played in UAE in April 2005 were eligible for this tournament.

Nepal's Novices Craft Elite Win

Nepal's team arrived in Malaysia with only two of them ever having played any cricket outside of practices and nets. All the more remarkable therefore that they should see off the Middle East teams, so many whose players are steeped in the game. Nepal, while lacking the firepower to force victories were nevertheless extremely hard to beat and played the points system well enough to ensure that their five consecutive draws would be enough to see them through. Testimony to team desire, discipline and exemplary coaching.



Nepal won the Final with a performance that never allowed the UAE a chance of victory.

Players from Bahrain, Afghanistan and Kuwait in particular impressed, as did the cool head of Nepal's captain Subhandu Pandey who played a number of high-class innings under pressure. What was most impressive about the cricketers at this level, particularly in comparison to many of the seniors on view in the ACC Trophy was how sound in technique and zestful of spirit they were.

"If proper coaching and encouragement of these talented cricketers continues, standards across Asia will rise," said ACC Development manager Sultan Rana.



Bahrain's David Mathias



UAE's Rajan Vignesh bowling



Nepal's Subhandu Pandey



Singapore's Pranav Mishra

ACC U-15 Elite Cup Final

Nepal v UAE at Kinrara Oval

MATCH DRAWN; Nepal win on points









Nepal won the toss and elected to bat









Nepal: 177 for 7 in 59 overs decl. (S. Pandey 51; M. Kishore 3-42) and 200 all out in 75 overs (S. Pandey 82 ; M. Kishore 5-54)

UAE: 75 all out in 44 overs (K. Karki 3-19) and 49 for 2 in 11 overs

Man of the Match: Subhandu Pandey (Nepal)

Leading Batsmen

	R	HS	Ave	Country
David Mathias	287	84	47.83	
Zard Ali Ali	260	120	43.33	
Subandu Pandey	239	82	34.14	
Zuaid Khan	229	62	45.80	
Malik Aqib	200	26	22.22	
Prithu Banskota	189	51	23.20	
Navtej Singh	187	103	37.40	
Ashish Gadhia	180	68	25.71	
Timothy Rushil Singham	176	81	35.20	
Syazrul Ezat Idrus	157	62	26.17	

	W	Ave	Best	Country
David Mathias	27	12.74	6-43	
Kishore Dhakan Manish	23	8.69	6-10	
Rajan Vignesh	21	10.19	4-8	
Krishna Karki	20	9.65	3-15	
Abilash Raaj Sugunan	19	8.26	3-4	
Imran Idress	18	12.72	5-25	
Rezza Gaznavi	16	12.81	3-13	
Zard Ali Ali	15	15.07	3-23	
Muhd Fazly Daros	15	7.73	2-7	
Rochak Bhatta	14	12.50	1-4	

ACC U-15 CHALLENGE CUP

Bangkok and Chiang Mai: December 14 to 23, 2006
Bhutan, Brunei, China, Iran, Maldives, Myanmar, Oman, Qatar,
Saudi Arabia, Thailand

4 venues, 25 matches



Matches were played over one-day, 40 overs per side. The top two teams of this tournament will be promoted to participate in the Elite Division of the 2007 U-15 Elite Cup.

Oman Win at a Canter



Oman won the ACC U-15 Challenge Cup, defeating Bhutan by eight wickets at the Royal Bangkok Sports Club Polo Grounds.

"The boys played very well and thoroughly deserved their victory. They are the future of cricket in Oman and with this victory will go on to even greater things," said Oman Manager Madhu Sampat.



Oman's Abu Saud hits the winning run

The tournament was notable for the emergence of Bhutan as a cricketing force and for the debut of China indeed won their first ever fixture, against Myanmar, and did just enough to suggest that they have some nascent cricketing ability. China also sent their first umpire to officiate during the event.

China in cricket competition. China indeed won their first ever fixture, against Myanmar, and did just enough to suggest that they have some nascent cricketing ability. China also sent their first umpire to officiate during the event.



Bhutan's Manager Jigme Norbu with the Spirit of Cricket Award

The new facilities provided at Chiang Mai's Prem School were exemplary and the Cricket Association of Thailand organisers acquitted themselves well.

Qatar showed plenty of form but their own administrative snafus meant their players could not advance beyond the group stage. Thailand motored along well until it came to the crunch in the semi-final against Bhutan when, against a leg-spinner bowling round the wicket, they were blown away.

Bhutan's positivity and attitude throughout the competition garnered them the tournament Spirit of Cricket award.














ACC Tournaments











Final

Bhutan v Oman at RBSC Polo Ground
 OMAN WON BY EIGHT WICKETS
 Bhutan: 67 off 33.4 overs (A.Saud 3-12, K. Pandya 3-12)
 Oman: 71 for 2 off 15.4 overs
 Man of the Match: Abu Saud (Oman)

Leading Batsmen

	R	HS	Ave	Country
Tamoor Sajjad	400	221	100.00	
Fahad Ghulam	160	81	80.00	
Suneet Fernandes	298	192	59.60	
Abdul Samad	297	139	59.40	
Wanchana Uisuk	229	90	45.80	
Arnab Chaudhuri	175	78	35.00	
Gaurav Honavar	104	61*	34.66	
Luvieen Alva	201	150	33.50	
Miftah Ibrahim	132	99	33.00	
Mansour Raeissi	123	58*	30.75	
Ismail Hameed	108	52	27.00	

Leading Bowlers

	W	Ave	Best	Country
Aditya Mehta	11	2.19	6-18	
Abu Saud	12	4.00	3-1	
Nikhil Xavier	14	4.50	5-16	
Suneet Fernandes	16	5.25	5-17	
Jigme Singye	11	6.59	5-11	
Lakshmi Prasad	14	8.29	5-0	
Abdolvahab Ebrahimpour	12	12.42	3-27	
Aref Raeissi	10	13.20	4-4	
Afshin Tirehdast	10	13.50	4-28	
Mohammad Adil	11	14.09	4-18	

MEMBER COUNTRY QUALIFICATIONS FROM ACC COURSES



Coaches

	Level I	Level II
Afghanistan	2	
Bangladesh	82	30
Bahrain	15	
Bhutan	6	
Brunei	3	
China	68	
Hong Kong	5	1
India		
Iran	4	
Kuwait	6	3
Malaysia	11	1
Maldives	11	
Myanmar	3	
Nepal	17	3
Oman	14	3
Pakistan		3
Qatar	8	2
Saudi Arabia	10	
Singapore	29	5
Sri Lanka		
Thailand	14	2
UAE	10	3

Umpires

	Level I	Level II
Afghanistan	21	
Bangladesh		
Bahrain	18	
Bhutan	27	2
Brunei	8	1
China	32	
Hong Kong	16	4
India		
Iran	38	1
Kuwait	58	3
Malaysia	39	3
Maldives	49	4
Myanmar		
Nepal	44	4
Oman	45	1
Pakistan		
Qatar	38	2
Saudi Arabia	4	1
Singapore	69	5
Sri Lanka		
Thailand	28	5
UAE	20	0

Curators

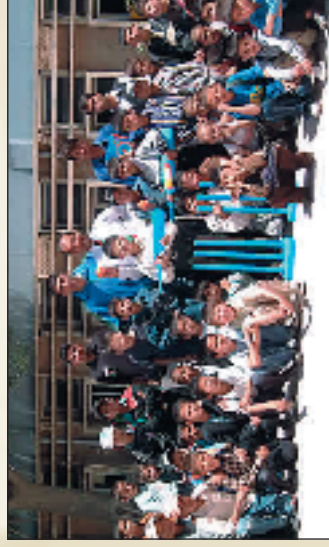
	Module I	Module 2	Module 3	Advanced
Afghanistan	2			
Bangladesh	2	2		
Bahrain	1	2	1	
Bhutan	4	3	2	1
Brunei	2	1		
China				
Hong Kong	4	3	1	
India				
Iran	1	1	1	
Kuwait	5	4	2	1
Malaysia	9	7	4	6
Maldives	4	5	2	2
Myanmar	2	2		
Nepal	4	3	2	1
Oman	3	2	1	
Pakistan	2			
Qatar	4	3	2	1
Saudi Arabia	2	2	1	0
Singapore	4	3	2	2
Sri Lanka				1
Thailand	4	2	4	1
UAE	3	2	2	



Cricket Initiatives

Afghanistan Finds a Centre

Kabul's youth can now enjoy the benefits of a dedicated new cricket coaching centre, thanks to local businesses supporting the efforts of the Afghan Cricket Federation.



The opening of the coaching centre (not quite an academy but nevertheless a place designed to develop local talent) was an occasion of some significance. National senior captain Karim Sadiq along with the ACF President Shahzada Masoud, voiced their pride in Afghanistan's performances on their continuing quest for greater international recognition.

Mr. Masoud said that he hoped cricket would develop rapidly in Afghanistan and said that "Afghanistan's cricketers will earn a good name for the country if they continued developing with the same spirit."

National Coach Taj Malik said that a number of such centres had been registered in the country to promote cricket and he expressed his gratitude to the merchant community for supporting the ACF's activities.

Thailand Rising



Petchabun, Khon Kaen and Chiang Mai: these are the regions where ACC Development Officer, Roger Binny, spent seven gruelling days with Thailand's budding cricketing enthusiasts in May 2006.

Petchabun was the first to be dealt the expertise of Roger Binny. Here, training sessions were held for the junior boys and girls who showed remarkable energy during the learning process. The children had only recently been introduced to cricket. Roger Binny highlighted that he was pleasantly surprised to notice, "a significant development amongst the children."

Khon Kaen has been deemed to be the "future breeding ground" for cricket in Thailand. Training the junior squad has allowed the ACC Development Officer to see a natural ability amongst the players as well as a keenness to succeed in the sport. The cricketers were also noted for high playing standards and as described by Roger Binny himself, "They have improved in leaps and bounds."



Chiang Mai welcomed, for the first time, a specific coaching visit from a representative from the ACC. Roger Binny and Mohideen Kader, from the Cricket Association of Thailand (CAT), arrived on the 1st of May where they spent two days providing coaching sessions for aspiring cricketers.

Cricket Initiatives

Gung Ho in Guangzhou

The fourth ACC coaching program held in China was another positive step forward in China's emergence into the world of cricket.

Held at the end of April, 30 educationalists with top-flight sporting backgrounds gathered in Guangzhou to be taken through the ABC's of batting, bowling and umpiring by ACC Development Officer Rumesch Ratnayake, Umpiring Resource Person K.T.Francis and coaching personnel from Cricket Australia.

The response received towards a relatively new game was exceptional and Development Officers are supremely confident that China will pick up cricket quickly, having seen the passion, aptitude and interest shown by all.



Ganesan Sundarammoorthy, the ACC Development Program Coordinator who witnessed proceedings said, "Cricket being introduced into China is a great push forward. All the people here are so wholeheartedly dedicated to gain knowledge of the game, it makes coaching them all the more easier. At this point of time, hard work needs to be a prime factor and for all in China, this has been achieved. Their passion and energy tends to show whenever they're being coached and this is a trait that leads to eventual perfection."

General developments are proceeding at a fair pace, though given the scale of China, there is still much work left to do.

Malaysia First Among Associates

Malaysia will become the first Associate Member country to host the ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup when it stages the U-19 World Cup in February 2008.

"We are delighted to be able to spread our top junior cricket event around the emerging cricket world," said ICC President Ehsan Mani in May 2006.



"Malaysia has a proven track record of staging international cricket events. It successfully staged cricket during the 1998 Commonwealth Games and has previously hosted the ICC Trophy and the ICC World Cup Qualifying Series Division Two," added Mr. Mani.

Malaysia has played host to a number of other youth tournaments and also hosted the ACC Trophy (for the second consecutive time) in August 2006 along with an ODI Tri-Series between Australia, India and the West Indies in September .



Sheikh Zayed Stadium, Abu Dhabi

The next four U-19 World Cups will all be staged in Associate nations, with the UAE scheduled for the 2014 event.

Mr. Mani went on to say: "The United Arab Emirates will have three magnificent stadiums in place by 2014 as well as the facilities of the ICC Global Cricket Academy. All four members have sufficient grounds and turf pitches and these events will provide impetus for the continued growth of the sport in these four geographically spread countries." (Malaysia, Canada, Kenya and the UAE).

The UAE has also been awarded the right to host the 12-nation ICC World Cup Qualifier (formerly The ICC Trophy) in April 2009.

Unicef and the ACC Field for Children



The Asian Cricket Council and UNICEF (The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) have renewed their international partnership for children. The new agreement continues to promote Girls Education in South Asia and the right of all children to enjoy healthy recreation, and will also now support the Global Campaign on HIV/AIDS "Unite For Children, Unite Against AIDS".



Virender Sehwag at a UNICEF event during the 2005 Afro-Asia Cup

UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia and the ACC first signed a two year agreement in 2004 ahead of the Asia Cup. The new partnership runs until 2008. UNICEF have a presence at every major ACC event.

"UNICEF's partnership with the Asian Cricket Council is very important to us," said Cecilia Lotse, Regional Director for UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia. "Children are often overlooked in the AIDS agenda as well as in the response. There are still also too many children, particularly girls out of school and an uneducated person is more at risk from avoidable diseases including AIDS. In South Asia cricket can help get over vital messages that could save the lives of millions and improve the lives of a billion."

An estimated 100,000 children are living with HIV/AIDS in South Asia. Globally AIDS is redefining the very meaning of childhood for millions. The pandemic has deprived children of the care, love and affection of their parents, taken away the chance of education and hope for the future while leaving them more vulnerable to exploitation.

The ACC Chief Executive, Syed Ashraf ul Huq said, "As a development body for South Asia's most popular sport, the health of the young is of paramount importance to us. Child welfare is an integral part of any successful society and we trust that Asia's success in cricket will be duplicated by the success in UNICEF's vital campaigns. We are proud to play our part in raising awareness of these important causes."



Junior Ambassadors for UNICEF at the ACC Trophy Final in Kuala Lumpur

Cricket Initiatives

Cricket's on the Silk Road

Uzbekistan, a former Soviet Socialist Republic with a current population of 27 million, is potentially the next ACC member and ICC Affiliate.

"The country is brand new to cricket, but they have an interest thanks to the Mayor of (the capital) Tashkent who did his university education in Lahore. He wishes to promote the sport in Uzbekistan and has offered his support to the formation of a cricketing body in his city," says the ACC Chief Executive.



Tukhtare Abdulkakhkar H., Mayor of Tashkent, presenting a gift to the ACC Chief Executive, July 2006

Uzbekistan, at the centre of Central Asia has had ties with east and west for centuries thanks to the legendary 'Silk Road' which passed through it via the trading posts of Bukhara and Samarkand.

Steeped in history, the people are a proud, hardy race who, as seen by their multi gold-medal successes in recent Asian Games and Olympic Games at boxing and wrestling, may well in turn show an aptitude for cricket.

China's First Champions

Two teams from Beijing won the first Chinese National Cricket Championships in July 2006.

The middle school attached to Beijing Institute of Technology won the Under-15 age group while Aidi International Primary School was crowned at the Under-13 division. The championships also feature an Under-19 competition will be contested from September to November 2006 by college teams including Peking University and Tsinghua University, China's equivalent of Oxford and Cambridge.

68 universities and schools have started playing cricket since the inaugural ACC introductory course in September 2005.



Yuan Yuang of Zhichunli High School



Zhao Ruiquan of The Attached High School to Beijing Institute of Technology

China Receives \$400,000 in Special Funding from ACC and ICC

In September 2006, the Chinese Cricket Association was assigned \$400,000 in development funding, "in order to accelerate cricket's growth in the People's Republic", said Syed Ashraf ul Huq, Asian Cricket Council Chief Executive.

\$200,000 came from the Development Fund of the Asian Cricket Council and it was matched by the International Cricket Council's use of a Special Fund to release a further \$200,000.

"This represents an opportunity for everyone involved with cricket in China," said Malcolm Speed, Chief Executive of the International Cricket Council. "There's been a very good start in China. This is a ten-year project and no one should be under any illusion that results will appear overnight," he continued. "Cricket in China is still very new and this funding from our two bodies is directed at strengthening the development structure for cricket as established by the state sporting administration."

Syed Ashraf ul Huq added, "As with any investment, timing is critical. China has gone from practically no cricket activity one year ago to 51 schools in Beijing and Shanghai playing the game, with close to 6500 participants."

"This grant is special and substantial but in China they are not playing cricket with any thought of financial gain, they are playing cricket because once anyone has been exposed to 'The Noble Game', they are fascinated by it – coaches, players, and officials. This special funding is targeted at accelerating the growth process just when cricket is starting to gain some momentum," continued Mr. Huq.

Matthew Kennedy, ICC Global Development Manager says, "Prior to the funding allocation, we had been studying the matter for some time and appreciated that China because of its size and population is indeed a 'special case'. This is a new funding commitment outside of what the ACC provides already. We will be monitoring the situation closely and hope that the activity of China's cricketers and administrators helps them to bring cricket closer to the core of national sporting activity."



At the Olympic Hall in Beijing, (from l to r) Cui Zhiqiang, Malcolm Speed, Zhang Xiaoning, Shaharyar Khan, Syed Ashraf ul Huq

Hong Kong's Women Fly to Pakistan



The Asian Cricket Council funded a visit by Hong Kong's women to Pakistan to play a Women's World Cup qualifying series in Lahore from September 17-21, 2006.

Mark Burns, Hong Kong's Manager speaking on the eve of the team's departure said, "Pakistan obviously have far more experience at international level and local conditions will be a factor. But we've been training hard since May and we expect it will be quite a contest."

At stake was a place in the ICC Women's World Cup Qualifying Tournament in Ireland in mid-2007. The top teams from that tournament will play in the Women's World Cup in 2009.

Cricket Initiatives



Hong Kong's Natasha Miles



Pakistan's Sajida Shah (two 50s in the series) hits out

It's an awesome opportunity," said Hong Kong women's cricket captain, Neisha Pratt, "and we'll be giving it our best shot." The squad going to Pakistan had players aged between 12 and 50 and included six teenagers. The Hong Kong squad also included Natasha Miles who plays in the Hong Kong men's Saturday League with some success.

Pakistan won all three matches.

Malaysia's Aim: High-Intensity Cricket on High-Quality grounds

They showed the world they've got the facilities, now they want to show they have the players. The Malaysian Cricket Association (MCA) are ploughing the estimated \$150,000 windfall from the recently completed Tri-Series back into domestic cricket. Their mission: to streamline performance and create better international cricketers from within.

Centres of cricketing excellence will be set up in each of Malaysia's thirteen states to ensure a steady flow of players into the various national teams.

MCA President Tunku Imran is urging the states to look beyond their boundaries towards the national agenda of producing a quality national team and league.

MCA Vice-President Mahinda Vallipuram said the players for the Centres of Excellence will be selected at the district level. "Our junior development programmes will entail a coach in each state going to the districts for talent identification. With the cooperation of the district Education Department, we hope to penetrate schools, provide cricket coaching lessons to teachers, and organise district level tournaments," he said.

"Our objective here is to produce keen competition at the elite level, a national league that will be the pinnacle of domestic cricket," added Tunku Imran.



Kinrara Academy with new floodlights, September 2006

Thimphu's Time to Shine

U-15, U-17 and U-19 cricketers were in attendance at the Bhutan cricket ground in Thimphu when Roger Binny, the ACC Development Officer for the country paid a visit at the start of October.

He spent three days at the ground and another two days in the Board of Control for Cricket in Bhutan's offices on budget utilization strategies.

Roger Binny commented approvingly on how "well organised the programs are by their coaches and how very closely they follow the coaching manuals of the ACC. Their children are very keen and serious on the game."

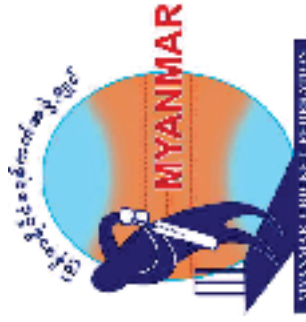
Indeed, even though the seniors took a hammering in the recently concluded ACC Trophy and their age-group cricketers too, find the going tough in international competition, we have all observed a steady rate of growth in their cricketing abilities since their initial emergence.

It is still a minority sport in Bhutan, but the ones who do play cricket "do so with the right spirit and considerable enthusiasm" said Mr. Binny. "They see a lot of cricket on television. I'd like to see them organise more tournaments for school-children and they need a full-time coach to work with them."



A national squad practise session, Thimphu

Myanmar Makes a Match of it



The Myanmar Cricket Federation took a major step forward in September with its adoption of a ground in Yangon dedicated to cricket. It is called the Pahan ground.

They have put up two practice wickets with box nets and are preparing a centre match wicket at the ground which, though a little way short of international dimensions is perfectly sized for youth cricket. The Federation have also opted Lamadaw School's playing ground exclusively for cricket which also has multi-purpose indoor facilities.



Schools Cricket at Pahan

Roger Binny, the ACC Development Officer for Myanmar observes, "The Myanmar children are keen to play the game and will improve over the years with some proper guidance. There is a lot of interest among the girls and women's cricket could really take off here." He feels Myanmar's proximity to Bangladesh could certainly help in the provision of jute-matting wickets and sundry cricket items.

Najmul Abedeen, Myanmar's first national coach, was seconded from the Bangladesh Cricket Board in order to prepare the country for its first international competition, the ACC Trophy. He finished his assignment in Myanmar, saying "it was challenging but satisfying as well. I think I've done a good job especially with the U-15 team. There is still a long way to go though."

Myanmar's cricket season runs from October to May of each year.



Maldives Cricket Carnival for Children

The Maldives' biggest school and youth cricket event of the year took place in September with over 170 children from 7 schools participating in skill development activities.

The Cricket Carnival was held over three days and included age-group competitions for boys and girls in skills such as target throwing, target bowling, under arm throwing to one stump, longest throw, ball tapping, front foot target driving, pull to leg on back foot and longest straight hit. A double wicket competition, cricket quiz and a poster competition were also held during the carnival.

Much Urdu about the Laws of Cricket

The Laws of Cricket have been published in Urdu thanks to a new translation by Pakistani umpire Parvaiz Azhar. Mr. Azhar is a Grade II Umpire in Pakistan and is currently officiating in the Patron's Trophy.

ACC Resource Person Khizar Hayat proofed the translation and said, "Mr. Azhar used very simple and easy words. It can easily be understood by each and every umpire and I recommend it be used by all Urdu-speakers." 500 copies have been distributed in Pakistan by the ACC and PCB with a copy also residing in the MCC library.



UAE: One Door Closes, Another Opens



Chairman of the Al Dhaid Cricket Village Development Committee Walid Bukhatir, with ECB Administrator Mazhar Khan

Sharjah Cricket Council opened a new seven-ground cricket complex, the Al Dhaid Cricket Village, in the UAE in October 2006. This move guarantees the future of club cricket in the Dubai-Sharjah area.

Cricketers in Dubai and the neighbouring Emirates were all shocked when the Dubai Cricket Council vacated seven grounds in Al Jadaf in February 2006. A solution was immediately sought by the Emirates Cricket Board and now hundreds of club cricketers have a place to play.



Six of the new grounds are already able to host matches on cement tracks. The remaining ground will have turf by 2008. All of the seven grounds have been built by the Sharjah Cricket Council (SCC) with an investment of US \$3 million.

Inaugurating Al Dhaid, Mr. Bukhatir said: "The theme of creating such a village is to ensure that people enjoy cricket with their families in lush green surroundings, away from the city. We will have a look at the amount of water available in this area and if possible try and transform the whole village into a green turf".

SCC President Qasim Noorani praised the efforts of Abdullrehman Bukhatir in securing this ground. "For Bukhatir cricket has no boundaries. His love for the game is so much that he has ensured cricket does not stop being played in the UAE due to shortage of venues."

"This is for those who love to play cricket in a peaceful environment with a friendly atmosphere," said Nasir Akram of the SCC. The Al Dhaid Cricket Village is geared to being a family environment with recreation and catering areas for families and spectators who accompany the cricketers to the grounds.

Mahboob Shah: Cricket Suits Iranian Women

ACC Umpiring Resource Persons Mahboob Shah and K. Parthasaradhy conducted a landmark ACC Elementary Umpiring and Scorers Course in Tehran in November 2006. The course received wide coverage in the local media, Iranian television running special features on it. On its conclusion Mahboob Shah ran two further clinics in the outlying towns of Kerman and Qom.

In Kerman, on the border with Iraq, Mr. Shah said "Although the Cricket Association is run by men, all cricket activity in Kerman rotates around the ladies. There are over 25 women playing cricket in Kerman. They have at least one qualified umpire and she too is a lady. It appears that ladies in Iran have monopolised umpiring.

"The reason for the great popularity of cricket amongst Iranian women appears to be the game's traditions, including the way the players are dressed up for play. Its fully covered dress code makes cricket the most suitable game for women, who feel comfortable in playing it without compromising the sanctity of their own national dress code."

Developing Nations to be Berthed in Dubai

The array of top-class facilities being put into place at Dubai Sports City, home of the ICC's Global CricketAcademy, will be used for developing cricketing nations, said ICC Chief Executive Malcolm Speed in November 2006.

It is intended that the academy will be a focal point for the training and development of cricket players, coaches, umpires, curators and administrators.



Another one of the innovations the ICC Global Cricket Academy is looking to implement is the creation of the first universal standard for cricketing qualifications. Its Director of Coaching Rodney Marsh says: "At the moment there is no way of knowing how a coaching qualification in one country relates to a qualification somewhere else. What we are looking to establish is a series of benchmarks that everyone can understand and recognize, something that will allow people to know exactly where they sit in the scheme of things."



Cricket Initiatives

Asia Cup Firmed Up

During discussions between Board Officials of the Asian Test-playing nations in India during the Champions Trophy it was confirmed that the Pakistan Cricket Board will stage the Asia Cup in April 2008. Lahore, Karachi and Rawalpindi will be the venues for the six-nation, thirteen match event.



Matches in the six-nation tournament between the Test-playing countries and Hong Kong and the UAE will commence on April 24, 2008 with the Final on May 7.

Pakistan will also be hosting the Champions Trophy in September 2008.



Nepal Pot Big Sponsors

In December 2006 the Cricket Association of Nepal (CAN) announced two major sponsorship deals for the forthcoming years. The first, for U-19 cricket is from existing sponsors Wai-Wai Noodles and is worth in excess of 770,000 rupees (US\$ 10,500). The sponsorship will support an intra-district tournament (i.e. within districts) an inter-district level regional event (i.e. between districts) and an inter-region event.

In order to ensure that Nepal's record of success continues trailing clouds of glory, CAN have also secured sponsorship from tobacco brands John Player and Shikhar Filter Kings. Together with Standard Chartered they will be sponsors of a national league and the national team for five years in a deal worth Rs 200,000,000 (US\$ 272,000). Alongside a national one-day league, a national two-day competition will be established.

CAN President Binaya Raj Pandey said, "We believe that our senior team has failed to perform as they could have because of the weak domestic structure and this will improve their performances in coming years."

With ACC funding, Nepal also plan construction of a high-altitude training centre at Mulpani, a village in the outlying regions of Kathmandu.



CAN President Binaya Raj Pandey

Afghanistan Builds



Construction work on a modern cricket stadium has started at Kabul University. Taj Malik, general secretary of the Afghanistan Cricket Federation (ACF), says that the ground would be constructed on a 6-acre site of the Engineering Faculty of the university.

A lease for ten years has been agreed. Funding for the project is to come from the ACC allocation to Afghanistan, Afghani businesses and individual supporters of cricket in Afghanistan. ACF President Shahzada Masoud MP, inaugurating the site said, "The stadium will help in shining the abilities of the players. With construction of the stadium the players will win more honour for our country in international matches."

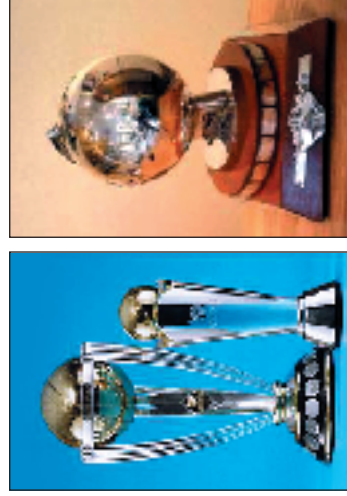
ACC Strategic Development Program Approved

The ACC Executive Board approved the ACC Strategic Development Program for 2007-2011 at a meeting in Singapore in December 2006. "The plan is a major step forward in streamlining and focussing development activity with a view to making cricket stronger in each ACC member country. It is the blueprint for game-building throughout the region. It is structured so that the six countries in line for World Cup qualification in 2011 receive the best possible support and, looking past 2011, that other countries will be in the World Cup frame too," says ACC Development Manager Sultan Rana.



*Development Manager
Sultan Rana*

Nepal and Singapore Receive World Cup Chances



The December 2006 ICC Development Committee meeting in Uganda saw Nepal, Singapore and Jersey chosen as the final three members of World Cricket League Division 5. They join Afghanistan, Asia's other representatives in that ten-nation group. Afghanistan qualified as 2006 ACC Trophy semi-finalists.

Division 5's matches will be played between April and June 2008 in one of the competing nations, with the top two countries advancing to Division 4. Hong Kong (Division 3), Oman (Division 2) and UAE (Division 2) are the ACC's other members in line for the 2011 World Cup.

Five of these six ACC members could qualify for the World Cup of 2011 which will be played in Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Laws of Cricket in Russian

The Laws of Cricket have been translated into Russian at the instigation of the Asian Cricket Council. "This is a first step and opens up a whole new region for the expansion of the game. The countries in line to most benefit are the former Russian republics Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, countries which have a long history of trade and commerce with their neighbours Afghanistan and Pakistan," says Syed Ashrafu Huq, the ACC Chief Executive.

Rustam Kurbanov, the Minister of Culture and Sport Affairs in a meeting with the ACC Chief Executive assured him, "We are keen to reach up to cricket and see how well we can do. Many of us are aware of the game and would like to take part."

The Laws in Russian join the Laws in Mandarin and Urdu in being approved by the MCC. A translation of the laws into Farsi is in the pipeline.

Keith Bradshaw, the Secretary & Chief Executive of the MCC, said that the ACC's "continued efforts to ensure that people new to cricket have a chance to study the game in their own language will, without doubt, be of benefit to the future progression of the game."



Oman and Qatar Boost Women's Cricket

ACC Development Officer Roger Binny, on his visit to the Sultanate in January 2007 encouraged Oman to continue in its ambitions for women's cricket and following an inter-school girls soft-ball tournament held at the end of 2006, Oman became set to introduce women's cricket to the country.

Vaishali Jesrani and former Indian national woman's cricketer Ranjit Matharoo have been appointed to co-ordinate women's cricket in Oman. Oman plans to start the registration of women cricketers from March.



Qatar is set to hold tournaments for schoolgirls and has invited ten schools in Qatar to participate in the first event in March.

"Our association will help the schools in developing their cricket teams by providing coaching and equipment," says Manzoor Ahmad of the QCA. "Women's cricket is high on the ACC's agenda and we need to introduce the game to girls at school level."

Brunei Hands on the Baton

Continuing their efforts to start the playing of cricket by the children of Brunei, the Brunei Darussalam Cricket Association (BDCA) gave ACC-branded cricket equipment to 13 primary schools in Temburong, the eastern-most part of the country in February 2007. "I believe this district has a lot of potential to develop the game," says BDCA Chief Executive Manzur Ahmed.



BDCA CEO Manzur Ahmed donating cricket equipment to a school in Temburong

The handing over of cricket equipment is part of an effort to introduce the game among Bruneians at the grassroots level. "So as they play the game and more students join, it is hoped cricket will slowly but steadily progress. The long-term aim is to create a fresh batch of national players," says Mr. Ahmed.



The BDCA are planning a program for secondary schools where students from primary schools would continue to have access to cricket as they mature. Schools in the other three districts of Brunei have also been given cricket equipment in line with the BDCA's efforts to embed cricket in the sporting curriculum.

The BDCA further plans to run a cricket carnival for young students and hold an inter-school competition in 2007.

BCCB Roadshow Heads South

As soon as the winter snows started to melt, the Bhutan Cricket Council Board took cricket to the south of the country, on the border with India's Assam, as part of a program to encourage a whole new slew of schools to take up cricket. The tour was made with the full co-operation of the Youth and Sports Division of the Ministry of Education.



Cricket Initiatives

"The program is mainly to prepare these districts for the upcoming school tournaments which will commence from April and to set up a base where local trained coaches will be recruited later on to look after development," said Damber Singh Gurung, Bhutan's national captain and youth coach.

Of the 13 government, and two private, schools in Sarpang a number have already pledged their support to the BCCB and allocated grounds for renovation and modification for cricket's purposes. 1200 children will now have access to cricket facilities. A Level 0 course for 30 of the district's school-teachers is to be held at the start of March. A similar program will be conducted in Paro district in the west of Bhutan at the end of March.

On the next visit to Sarpang by Damber Singh Gurung, workshops and training programmes will be held. "The major encouraging factor was that cricket already existed in the district and the people had some idea of how it is played. We found out that some of the schools were an ideal place as there were lots of facilities mainly concerning grounds," added Mr. Gurung.



A Level 0 Theory class in progress

Cricket is being made available to both boys and girls, men and women teachers. Mr. Gurung says, "The schools were desperate for sports to be introduced as they wanted their students to be involved in it. The General Secretary of the local Sports Association also was keen and very much pleased with the Cricket Board because he thinks that cricket is the only sport that is going places and he believes that cricket has the potential to become a major sport in Bhutan. We believe that Sarpang is an ideal place to develop cricket because major number of the schools have grounds of their own, which will help in developing the school cricket base as the schools can hold inter-class tournaments easily."

With the monsoon season underway and the roads unable to be navigated with any available vehicles, five of the schools could only be reached by the coaches walking to them each day, two hours there and two hours back. However, being in the south of the country with a more temperate climate than the rest of Bhutan, Sarpang district and its largest town Gelephu is seen as the ideal place to eventually situate the country's first full-sized cricket ground.



Bhutan's Umpires Widen Their Appeal

In an endeavour to inculcate cricket in the administrative sporting consciousness of the country, Bhutan held its first ever internal Umpiring Course in March 2007. Eight Paro district teachers took part along with twelve trainees from the National Institute of Education, three of whom were women.



The intensive day-long course was conducted by Umpire Dorji along with coaches Tobgay and Sonam Phuntsho. The Paro District Coaching Coordinator, Dorji (Level II Accredited) is Bhutan's most experienced umpire and stood recently in the ACC U-15 Challenge Cup.

Cricket Initiatives



The introductory course involved theory, question and answer and practical sessions. After the course, the participants were also taught basic cricket skills and took part in game-simulations. Umpiring courses like this will also be conducted in other districts in Bhutan.

Cricket Advancing Towards the Asian Games

Following a meeting between the President of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) HE. Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah and HRH Tunku Imran during the Doha Asian Games, the cause for cricket's inclusion in the Asian Games of 2010 at Guangzhou advanced considerably.

Cricket had come close to featuring in Doha at one stage but with the Executive Committee of the Asian Cricket Council having agreed at their December 2006 meeting in Singapore, to send "the best available teams" to the next Asian Games, cricket looks to be a strong candidate for Guangzhou.

The Chinese Cricket Association will also be presenting a case for cricket's inclusion to the Guangzhou Asian Games Organizing Committee later this month.

"The President of the OCA told me he was very keen for cricket to be in the Asian Games. Support, sponsorship and funding for the game across Asia can only increase with this development," said Tunku Imran. 39 sports are currently on the roster for 2010 and the Guangzhou Asian Games Organising Committee is expected to make a decision on cricket soon.

The Chief Executive of the ACC has proposed a Twenty20 format for the event featuring the four Test-playing countries along with China and three other qualifying nations.

Cricket was indeed included in the 2010 Guangzhou Games following a meeting of the Olympic Council of Asia's General Assembly in Kuwait in April 2007.

Maldives Go Live

The first ever live broadcast of Maldives domestic cricket was made on April 15 2006 in Malé. Television Maldives showed every ball of the Sonee Sports 2020 Cricket Cup final. Hinnavaru Hirriya emerged as champions.

The telecast united cricket fans across the Maldives archipelago and brought a new audience to local cricket. Live commentary of the match was provided by veteran cricketers and some current players.



Champions Hinnavaru Hirriya



ACC Umpires Take The A Train

Three of the ACC's highest-rated umpires, Riaz Chaudhry of Kuwait, Buddhi Pradhan of Nepal and Sarika Siva Prasad of Singapore officiated during the Eurasia Cricket Series for A teams in Abu Dhabi from April to May 2006.

India A, Ireland, The Netherlands, Pakistan A, Sri Lanka A and hosts UAE took part in the event. Pakistan A beat India A by 36 runs in the Final.

"It was a great honour and vote of confidence in us. Being exposed to this level of cricket really broadened our understanding of the skills necessary to umpire at the highest level," said Mr. Prasad.



Buddhi Pradhan of Nepal

ACC AGM 2006 Held in Kuala Lumpur

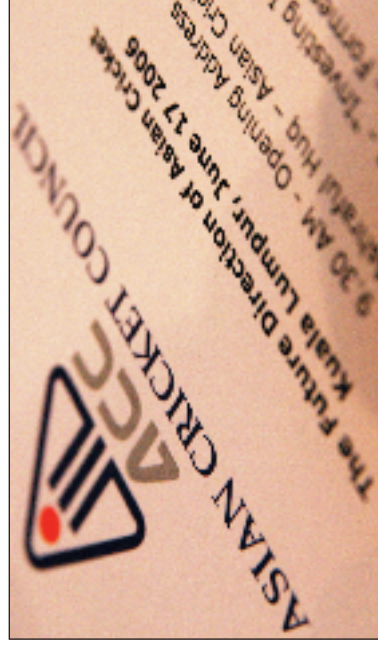


The Asian Cricket Council conducted its Annual General Meeting in Kuala Lumpur for the first time in June, 2006. Delegates from all the member countries attended, with observers from the International Cricket Council's Women's Committee and the Women's Cricket Association of India.

Along with discussions on a wide-ranging number of tabled issues, Mr. Jayantha Dharmadasa, Chairman of the Interim Committee of Sri Lanka Cricket was appointed the new President. He replaces Mr. Sharad Pawar, President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India, who remains on the Executive Board of the ACC.

In addition, new members were appointed to the Development and Finance Committees.

AGM Seminar - The Future Direction of Asian Cricket



Following on from the successful International Development Seminar in Lahore in May 2004, the ACC held a seminar on 'The Future Direction Of Asian Cricket' prior to the 2006 AGM in Kuala Lumpur.

Cricket Initiatives



"I was very concerned that our members get a chance to contribute as much as possible to our strategy and thinking. As such, this forum where our associations were given the chance not only to present papers but to contribute to debate and dialogue on the issues raised, served a valuable purpose in broadening everyone's understanding of how, why and where we should be concentrating our development activity in the years to come", said ACC Chief Executive Syed Ashraf Huq. "We were honoured that our President and the ICC Chief Executive Mr. Malcolm Speed contributed so much with their presence and statements throughout the day and all our members benefited immensely from hearing them and our other speakers from Brunei, China, Dubai Sports City, ESPN STAR Sports and the ACC itself."

CAN Will Do



The Executive Committee of the Cricket Association of Nepal has decided to restructure their domestic cricket to ensure that the success of the age-group is carried through to the senior level.

Mr. Pandey announced a Twenty20 club level tournament, two-day national league matches, district initiatives and a new U-13 inter-district school tournament. The CAN agenda also includes the introduction of women's cricket and support for the blind cricket association.

Mr. Pandey also promised to make CAN's financial dealings transparent. He also expressed confidence in bringing in sponsors and helping cricketers get jobs. He also plans to include the progressive and fair selection of players, the construction of cricket playing facilities around the country and more training for coaches and umpires.

Mr. Pandey also stated that once the new constitution of CAN is approved by the National Sports Council he will initiate the first-ever elections for office-bearers.

Rashid Khan Coaching in China



Rashid Khan with ACC Coaching Assistant
Yuzhou Lin

Former Pakistan international Rashid Khan (4 Tests and 29 ODIS from 1980-1985) will be coaching China's cricketers as they prepare for their entry into international competition in 2006 and 2007.

Mr. Khan has previously worked with the Pakistan U-19 teams and coached PIA and Karachi Harbour with considerable success as well as being a junior selector. His services have been donated to China by the Pakistan Cricket Board with the support of the Asian Cricket Council. He will be based in Shenzhen where the Chinese U-15 squad players prepared for the ACC U-15 Challenge Cup and then will continue working with the China Women's and U-19 squads.

Malaysia Gets Militarised

The Malaysian Cricket Association (MCA) have enlisted the nation's Royal Military College to be a National Centre of Excellence under its Development Program.

"There are currently five armed forces players in the national senior team", says Mahinda Vallipuram, MCA Vice President, "and we felt that the core values of the military would translate well in the cricket arena. Malaysian armed forces personnel have historically been prominent in national sport.

The Royal Military College is the only school in Malaysia with its own turf wicket and has hosted ACC matches. The intention of the alliance is to benefit the MCA with a steady influx of young talent and allow the College access to the expertise of the national coaches.

The MCA have also undertaken to arrange teachers for national players while in centralised training camps so that their studies aren't affected.



The Royal Military College, Kuala Lumpur



Raees Ahmadzai with ACC Development Officer Iqbal Sikander

Afghanistan Formalise

The Afghanistan Cricket Federation has established an Umpires Association to manage the increased cricket activity in the country. Former national captain Raees Ahmadzai will head the body, saying, "It is very much necessary to have umpires for domestic and international competitions for Afghanistan. We are playing at a high standard now and umpiring is an important part of that."

Qatar's Emir Rates Cricket

HH Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani of Qatar has donated a ground in the Industrial Area of Salwa to the cricketers of his country.

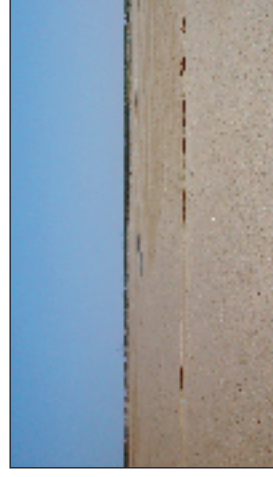
The Doha Golf Club is helping with the landscaping and irrigation work and the Qatar Cricket Association is providing technical support for the high-priority project.

"It's the size of a proper cricket ground where proper matches can be held and the complex will also have a pavilion," says Malik Nazar Mohamed, QCA vice- chairman. The ground will be of immense benefit to Qatar's players who currently play and practice on cement and matting wickets with the outfield littered with stones. Some tournaments are even held in empty car parks.

"Players not used to proper turf wickets often perform poorly when they play in tournaments abroad and that is why we need to have proper pitches," says Mr. Mohamed. "We can host international tournaments once the ground is complete probably by the end of this year," he added. "Cricket in Qatar will definitely get a boost when the ground becomes functional."



HH Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani with Dr. Manmohan Singh



Cricket Initiatives

Laws of Cricket in Bengali

The Laws of Cricket have been translated into Bengali at the instigation of the Asian Cricket Council. Two of Bangladesh's international umpires, AFM Akhtaruddin Shaheen and Mahbubur Rahman, with the support of the Umpires Association of Bangladesh have been responsible for the translation.

The Chief Executive of the ACC Syed Ashraful Huq said, "It has long-been a desire of mine to have a Bengali version of the Laws and with so much cricket being played across Bangladesh, this can only help in securing the foundations of the game. The umpires involved in composing the translation are to be commended for their efforts, which have already been recognised by the Marylebone Cricket Club."



Manuals for ACC Labour



The ACC Finance department has issued a Finance & Accounting Manual along with an Administrative & Personnel Policies Manual to all member countries. "The Finance Manual is for us to outline to our members the best recommended practices in the area of accounting and financial management. Core functions have been outlined to remove any ambiguity and compliance with the policies will ensure that development funding efficiency is maximised" said ACC Finance Manager Thusith Perera. "The Administrative Manual is set up to codify professionalism in the ACC Secretariat" he added.

Development in Action

DEVELOPMENT FROM THE GROUND UP: The Role of the New Zealand Sports Turf Insititute in ACC Member Countries



Bangalore's Chinnaswamy Stadium whose first international fixture after being relaid is the 2007 Afro-Asia Cup: a NZSTI project



The Kinrara Oval, venue of the DLF Tri-Nation ODI series, September 2006. A NZSTI project for the Malaysian Cricket Association.

Mid-2007 there are rising countries like Afghanistan, Oman and Bhutan who still do not have proper turf facilities. Mid-2000, however, there were a whole lot more and cricket in those countries was in a far more fragile state.

Thanks to the New Zealand Sports Turf Institute, a career pathway for curators who have been accredited by the ACC in collaboration with NZSTI has been established. Over 150 curators are now versed in wicket preparation and some superb venues in Kuwait, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand have been created.

Development in Action

To keep the wickets coming, and the surrounds in constant good order involves the following:

- Developing standards for facilities and equipment to match each tier of cricket: national teams, clubs, schools and districts.
- Establishing subsidized schemes to assist the national teams, clubs, schools and districts in developing facilities and accessing equipment.
- Establishing standards for facility and equipment requirements for the central and satellite academies including grounds, net facilities indoor and outdoor, floodlights, a fitness and a recovery centre.
- Forming a partnership with retailers and manufacturers of cricket equipment
- Promoting the training program for groundsmen and curators as a resource for NCAs, clubs and schools

Facilities Development Support

The ACC has placed a major focus on facilities development. The ACC continues to provide funding to support visits by NZSTI experts and support the ACC-accredited Curator training courses.

Countries wanting expert advice from an Institute advisor need in the first instance to contact their Development Officer or ACC administration.

About the NZ Sports Turf Institute

The NZ Sports Turf Institute (NZSTI) is an independent, industry-funded advisory service. Founded in 1949, it is an internationally regarded sports turf consultancy, research and training organisation.



The Institute has five regional offices in New Zealand (including the National Turf Training Centre) in addition to offices in Malaysia and Australia. NZSTI employs 30 staff with a wide range of experience and specialities.

Current or recent Asian region clients of the Institute include: the Asian Cricket Council; Singapore National Parks; Leisure and Cultural Services Division, Hong Kong Government; World Bowls Board; Royal & Ancient Golf, Pakistan Cricket Board, Karnataka Cricket Association, Malaysian Cricket Association, and numerous individual sports clubs, schools, golf courses and councils.

Core Activities

Research – research projects on behalf of the commercial and sports sector, as well as alliances with research organisations and the practising turf industry.

Advisory work – a team of advisors currently make in excess of 2,500 on-site visits a year and provide specialist services such as benchmarking and construction specifications.

Teaching – NZSTI training combines understanding of the latest turf management technology with practical application to meet the specialised needs of turf managers. Content and delivery can be customised to meet specific client/sector requirements.

- Feasibility studies
- Laboratory, analytical and diagnostic services
- Design, preparation of working drawings and specifications
- Maintenance consultancy
- Project tendering and reporting
- Accredited performance testing and sports field quality and safety auditing
- Construction standards, tolerances and guidelines
- Training in grounds maintenance
- Project supervision and management
- Production of the NZ Turf Management Journal

ACC Curator Training Courses

Since 2002 the Institute has delivered a series of Cricket Curatorship Training Programmes in countries such as UAE, Kuwait and Qatar in the Middle East and in South East Asia training modules have been delivered in Singapore, Hong Kong and Malaysia.

Each module is made up of theoretical in-class sessions every morning and is delivered by NZSTI expert trainers with on-site practical sessions in the afternoon provided with the assistance of experienced Curators. The in-class topics form the generic learning base for the two main regions, but with a specific slant to cater for the various differences each region offers. Some of the topics include turf establishment and cricket wicket construction, rolling and mowing practices, irrigation and soil management, pitch preparation and renovation. Advanced topics in the final year discuss pitch-covers management, construction of practice facilities and performance testing pitches and outfields to name a few.

ACC Agronomy Consultant Visits



NZSTI's Mark Hooker (centre) in Qatar, October 2004

(Agronomy = soil management. An agronomist is an expert in soil management.)

The ACC and NZSTI have conducted country assignments in each of the member countries since 2001 (with the exception of Myanmar, for which a visit is scheduled in the near future). Agronomist visits are generally made at the recommendation of the Development Officers, or following a request made to the ACC by the member country.

Visits are customized to suit the specific needs of the member country, and can address issues such as construction specifications through to giving advice on maintenance and pitch preparation.

With their stretch from the deserts of the Middle East to the altitudes and northerly latitudes of Afghanistan, Nepal and Bhutan to the tropical climes of South East Asia, ACC member countries pose a great number of challenges to the region's curators and groundsmen.

The holy grail is that perfect playing surface which provides bounce and pace and allows for turn – 'a proper cricket wicket'. Curators therefore, search for that ideal mix of clay, silt and sand with which to work. The Middle East countries such as the UAE and Kuwait favour Karachi clay for its ready availability whereas Malaysia and Singapore for example opt for an Australian clay (Darwin) as it has so many of the same characteristics as those which are used in the international grounds of Australia.

The Maldives also being a coral atoll, don't even have any clay to call their own so have had to import every ounce of cricket playing surface from outside the islands.

As such, top-flight technical assistance is a necessity for the various factors influencing pitch preparation are numerous.



The Kinrara Oval, May 2004



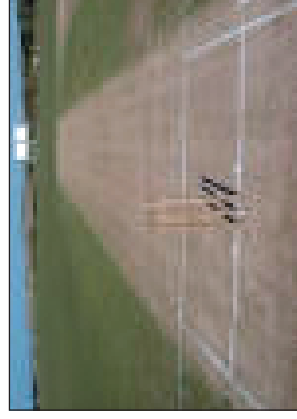
The Maldives sole turf playing area, January 2007

Development in Action

With due consideration to the needs of the game of cricket, challenges of obtaining land for cricket use in many countries and the advances in modern technology, NZSTI believe that portable or moveable pitches can play a major role in the future of cricket in Asia.

The beaches and schools of Sri Lanka, the maidans of India and the gullies of Pakistan, along with the rooftops of Hong Kong and Bangladesh have been a breeding-ground for many a cricketer but the truth is, playing areas across Asia are shrinking with the onset of urbanization and population growth.

*"I remember growing up in a city, in Bangalore, and there was so much of area around where we lived and I played cricket. Everyday, we got together as a group and in the neighbourhood there were a lot of empty plots where you could clean up the plot and play a game of cricket every evening. There is none of that today. Now, there is commuting. If my parents or my father took me for cricket coaching or cricket practice from my house to the stadium, it was a twenty minutes drive. Today, it is an hour's drive." **Rahul Dravid***



For quality cricket to be played there needs to be a pitch and outfield of good (high quality and safe) standard. Constraints that currently limit achieving the above in many countries, include:

- The need for cricket to share facilities with football codes and other users, which hinders preparation of a quality cricket surface and limits the time the ground is available for cricket use. Furthermore, a cricket pitch located in the middle of a football field will compromise quality of the other user groups.
 - A shortage of grounds for cricket and the difficulty for cricket to acquire land in some countries (especially where it is seen as a minor sport)
 - The intensive use (amount of cricket played) at some venues, which directly affects pitch quality and also limits the opportunity to work on new pitches while a match is in progress. Portable pitches (either natural or synthetic turf surfaces) will help ensure that:
 - Cricket can operate symbiotically with other sports (cricket needs to demonstrate to football and other codes that it can share a ground without compromising quality of the football surface)
 - A quality playing surface (prepared portable pitch) can be provided to venues (countries, associations) that do not have the capability or resources to prepare a quality pitch. For example an exhibition cricket match could be successfully played at a major football stadium.
 - Grounds can receive intensive use without compromising quality (fresh pitches brought in). This will have particular significance for grounds that already have high use, and for major tournaments.
 - Aligned to the above, having a portable system will enable the Curator to be working on preparing the next pitch while a game is in progress, thereby lowering the risk of ground defects.
- In many places, where there was desert there is now turf. Where there is turf there is now cricket. And where there is cricket there can only be improvement.

Keith McAuliffe, NZSTI's Chief Executive, says "I guess our staff take a lot of satisfaction from seeing a country with little or no playing facilities develop international standard and sustainable playing facilities – the Kinrara ground in Kuala Lumpur would be a good example.

"It is nice to receive letters from countries where help has been given to develop curatorship skills and to hear of the progress made (e.g. Nepal).

"I have also enjoyed the responsibility and challenge working with the Test-playing countries, such as the recent evaluation of first-class grounds in Pakistan.

"If I was to say what I look forward to it would include:

- working with the ACC and ICC to ensure the next World Cup is a success with regard to pitch and outfield quality.
- Seeing new technology introduced to the region, such as affordable, effective portable pitch systems." The New Zealand Sports Turf Institute has done much to benefit Asian cricket. The rest is now in the hands of those on the ground."



Keith McAuliffe



ASIA'S DEVELOPMENT WINNERS

Asia's winners at the sixth ICC Development Awards were announced in February 2007 following the submission of nominations by the Asian Cricket Council. Matthew Kennedy, ICC Global Development Manager said, "Winning these awards is a fantastic tribute to the successful Members. They will rightly take the plaudits but the whole process of deciding the winners has left the regional judges feeling immensely positive about the health of the game around the world."

"On behalf of the Asian Cricket Council, I commend all the regional winners for their contribution to cricket", said Sultan Rana, ACC Development Manager.

Best Overall Cricket Development Program: Singapore Cricket Association



Best Junior Cricket Initiative: Chinese Cricket Association



中国板球协会
Chinese Cricket Association



Best Women's Cricket Initiative: Nepal Development Region V



Best Cricket Promotional and Marketing Program: CCBM Promotion & Marketing



Photo of the Year: Afghanistan Cricket Federation



Lifetime Service Award: John Cribbin



NEPAL AND SINGAPORE WIN IN GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT



In March 2007 Nepal and Singapore were confirmed as winners of the 2006 ICC Global Development Awards, with the Singapore Cricket Association winning the blue riband award of Best Overall Cricket Development Program.

Nepalganj (Development Region V of the Cricket Association of Nepal) in the south-west of the country has won recognition for the Best Women's Cricket Initiative in their third year of existence. Thanks to the efforts of a broad base of volunteers, currently 1000 schoolgirls are registered as playing cricket in the region. 'Hard-ball' cricket was played by them for the first time this year.

Iqbal Sikander, ACC Development Officer for Singapore, says "The efforts of the SCA to develop cricket in Singapore have been broad-based and long-term and in the past year alone have seen cricket spread to girls, women and to school-children. The SCA have consistently distinguished themselves by the quality of their administration and this prestigious award is due recognition of their efforts."



TM

International Cricket Council

ICC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ANNUAL AWARDS 2005

(Awards ceremony, Kuala Lumpur, 17th June 2006)

Regional Winners

Best Overall Cricket Development Program
Hong Kong Cricket Association's Wellcome Cricket Development Program



HKCA Secretary John Cribbin, ICC Chief Executive Malcolm Speed and ACC President Sharad Pawar

Best Junior Cricket Initiative
Hong Kong Cricket Association's Junior League



HKCA General Manager Charles Lau with the award

Best Cricket Promotional Program
Cricket Control Board of Maldives 2020 Cricket



CCBM Vice Chairman Ahmed Hassan Didi with the award

Best Spirit of Cricket Initiative
2005 Phuket International Cricket Sixes



CAT President Ravi Sehgal with the award

Best Women's Cricket Initiative
Hong Kong Cricket Association Women's League



John Cribbin with the award

Photo of the Year
Chinese Cricket Association



CCA Vice-President Cui Zhiqiang with the award

Volunteer of the Year
Malik Nazar Mohammad (Qatar)



: QCA General Secretary Manzoor Ahmad accepted the award on behalf of Mr. Mohammad

Lifetime Service Award
Dr. Harjit Singh (Malaysia)



Dr. Harjit Singh

Global Winners

Best Spirit of Cricket Initiative
Asian Cricket Sixes Tour – 2005 Phuket International
Cricket Sixes



Ravi Sehgal with the award

Photo of the Year
Chinese Cricket Association



CCA Vice President Cui Zhiqiang with the award

Lifetime Service Award
Dr. Harjit Singh (Malaysia)



Dr. Harjit Singh with the award

Development Topics

The ACC is often asked to contribute its views on various subjects at regional and global meetings. In light of current discussions within the ACC here is a particularly relevant presentation by our Development Manager Sultan Rana.

July 2005

Presentation for ICC Development Staff Conference

Gentlemen, thank you for the privilege of making this presentation on: "Maximizing the worth of outside expertise, targeting needs and successful use of consultants and development partnerships in Asia."

As wide-ranging as the topic is I shall break down the topic into its component parts. First off, 'maximizing the worth of outside expertise'. Before we head into cost-analysis territory, let me begin by debunking the notion of such a thing as 'outside' in outside expertise. We at the Asian Cricket Council are fortunate to have as consultants the input of Cricket Australia. For us, they administer coaching and management programs, providing hands on involvement all the way and make their intellectual property available.

Close to 300 accredited coaches have been created in this past year alone. But are they outsiders? Are they not integrally linked to us by the fact that they speak the same languages – English and cricket – demonstrate physical and practical skills that can be followed by all who attend these courses? Are we all here not bound by the unifying theme of cricketing success?

You know, maybe before there was a distinct 'us and them' when it came to Asia and the rest of the world, but that was when Asian cricket meant just India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, now the ACC region extends from the Gulf across to South East Asia. Australia is now less, thanks to economic migration both internal and external, for want of a better word, 'foreign' to the rest of the world. So now not just geographically are we much closer to Australia, increasingly socially, economically and even emotionally we are too. They are certainly aware of this closeness to Asia, one has only to think of the wave of compassion that flooded out from Australia in response to last December's Tsunami.

Cricket Australia constantly say how much they are learning from Asia. It's a learning process both ways, it's a dialogue, it's a mutual education. We are both becoming better. Trust me, Cricket Australia are not seen as outsiders by the ACC in Asia. They are dedicated to going into every one of our member countries and communicating all that they know about developing and managing a successful cricket institution and culture.



Sultan Rana

"Maximizing the Worth of Outside Expertise, Targeting Needs and Successful Use of Consultants and Development Partnerships in Asia."



Ross Turner, Cricket Australia's International Development Program Manager

Similarly, our use of the New Zealand Sports Turf Institute is not predicated on bringing in an 'outsider'. The NZSTI have been associated with Indian cricket for over a decade and as for Karachi loam – the soil that is used by a number of countries in the Gulf for their turf wickets - they are even more familiar with it than I am.

Cricket Australia are responsible for the world's most successful team and have a hugely impressive administrative set-up. So it's right and fitting that the ACC have chosen them to act as consultants. But they are no less under examination as are the applicants we send to their courses. They have a substantial ongoing relationship with Bangladesh and we are just beginning to see the results now. What they will do for countries that are less in the spotlight is also a major test of their development abilities.

As for maximizing the worth of such expertise, I hope no one here is expecting a cost-benefit analysis. How can one, for example, put into dollars and cents the effects of a Level I Coaching Candidate in Bangladesh, rising up through to Level III over the years who then works with successive squads of youths aged let's say 12 to 21, one of whom then goes out and makes a Test fifty. In miniature, it's already happened, in the case of 19-year old Aftab Ahmed of Bangladesh who did just that in England a few weeks ago (18 June 2005). Lest we forget, it was also his six in the final over of an ODI against Australia that sealed his country's victory. The bulk of his coaching over the past three years has come via Cricket Australia.



immense wealth of credibility and expertise. They are familiar to many Asians but on many an occasion they are no less an 'outside expert' to a country than anyone from Cricket Australia or the NZSTI.

But what they do have, which separates them from the other institutions, is the opportunity to actually go into an ACC member country for a length of time, move outside the classroom into the field, into the administrators' offices and find out what exactly a country needs most for development and then ask us to target our resources and their time accordingly.



What they will do for countries that are less in the spotlight is also a major test of their development abilities.

That's expertise in action at the highest level. But by any calculation, with Cricket Australia and particularly the NZSTI having made country visits to all our members, that expertise represents excellent value for money. Hundreds of coaches and curators and umpires have been exposed to their expertise all across Asia and these individuals in turn once they learn all that they need to, will come into contact with hundreds more inside their own countries.

In a nutshell, outside expertise will become inside expertise. We in Asia are also lucky to have the services of our outstanding Development Officers, Roger Binny, Rumesh Ratnayake and Iqbal Sikander. Two of them have won World Cups and the other was instrumental in establishing his country as an international force. With Dr. Vece Paes on the Sports Medicine front, these individuals bring to Asian cricket an

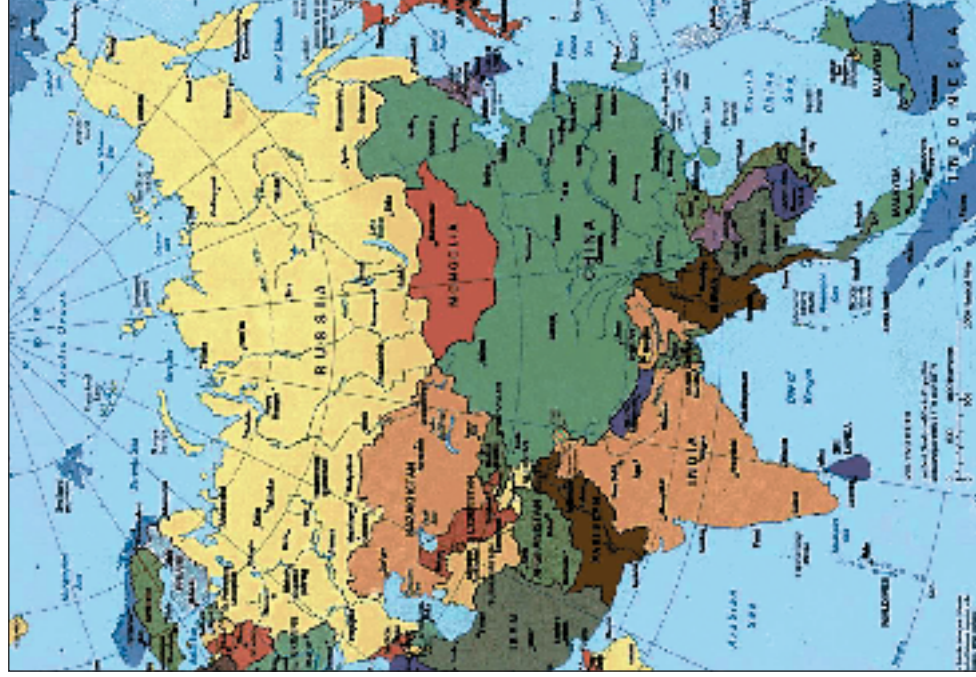
immense wealth of credibility and expertise. They are familiar to many Asians but on many an occasion they are no less an 'outside expert' to a country than anyone from Cricket Australia or the NZSTI.



Iqbal Sikander, Roger Binny, Rumesh Ratnayake, Vece Paes

Development Topics

I've used Bangladesh as an example because, really it was not so long ago that they were just an ACC and ICC Associate. Their rise has literally been Development in Action and they inspire all the other Associate Members. The 21 countries in the ACC are all at different stages of development, some such as the UAE, Nepal, Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia (our Fast Track countries) are more advanced than others. But each country is unique. Each country has different needs.



2.5 billion people, 21 countries, scores of socio-economic groups and many, many micro-cultures. Asia, as administered by the ACC, presents a huge challenge. There is no one single development program that fits all.

Given the climate of many of our members, indoor schools are needed by many. Given the fact that cricket is a new developing sport in many of our members, sometimes more basic infrastructure is needed. Given the fact that many national players of our members work for a living, proper floodlights for evening practices would go a long way. Given the fact that cricket in some countries is not part of the sporting curriculum, serious lobbying needs to be done by the local associations in order to develop the sport on a broader basis.

All of these needs come to light through a dialogue between the member country, the Development Officer and us at the ACC Secretariat. On the question of 'targetting needs', yes we need to target, prioritise and allocate resources accordingly. Just pumping in development funds isn't enough, just thinking 'if you build it they will come' isn't enough. We're really addressing the core of the issue here, which is that without dedicated administrators inside our member countries who have the vision, energy and financial savvy to make the most of their budgeted resources, then the ideal scenario for development cannot occur.

Which is why a country like Kuwait has risen above the ranks of other ICC affiliates. It identified its needs – turf wickets - back in 2000 and has taken positive steps to develop its cricket, to the extent that it already has two turf grounds with two more under construction.

So far I've been saying on one level that there is no 'outside' in Asia, and that we are all united in a common effort to develop cricket. We have made the 'outside' the inside. We at the ACC Secretariat treat everyone the same and instruct our consultants and Development Officers to do the same, but we live in the international development cricket world. And there the race goes not to the swift, but to the most professional. Without a sound foundation within a country then the cause of development is hampered.

We are asking amateur associations in the main, to respond in the manner of the professionals who have a demonstrably successful development model. It's asking a lot of the Affiliate countries, but of the Associates we can surely expect greater things.

One of the things I will endeavour to do in the time I am at the helm of the ACC Development Program is to narrow the gap between Associates and Affiliates on the field. To quote Peter Hanlon of Cricket Australia at the ACC Administration and Management Course held in Bangalore last December, "on-field performance is determined by off-field performance". So what happens at administrator level is as critical to national success as the skill and nerve of a 19-year old facing the biggest over of his life.



ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL



TM

International
Cricket Council

So, regarding 'the successful use of consultants and development partnerships in Asia', it is not so much the relationship between the ACC and its consultants that is critical, it is rather the partnership that the ACC and ICC have with the administrators inside the member countries that is most fundamental in driving forward development.

I'm sure that's the case in all the ICC regions. It is to maximize the expertise of the 'inside' to which we should, as a global body, be putting more of our resources. Which could well be the topic for be another presentation.

Sultan Rana
July 2005



Development Topics

In September 2006, the ACC and ICC sent a joint delegation to China to assess the state of development in the People's Republic. **The ACC Committee to Evaluate Cricket in China** was set up by Sharad Pawar when ACC President and was chaired by Shaharyar Khan when PCB Chairman.



Meeting at the Beijing Olympic Games Administrative Centre September 20th 2006, (from l to r): Cui Zhiqiang, Romesh Kaluwitharana, Syed Ashrafat Huq, Shrawan Patel, Malcolm Speed, Cui Dalin, Shaharyar Khan, Zhang Xiaoning, Matthew Kennedy, Cui Weihong, Zhang Yan, Zhang Tian



Shaharyar Khan

1. At the invitation of the Chinese Cricket Council (CCA) an Asian Cricket Council (ACC) delegation visited Beijing (September 18-21) and Shanghai (21-23) (itinerary at Annexure A). The ACC delegation comprised Mr. Shaharyar M. Khan (Pakistan) leader, Mr. Shrawan Patel (India), Mr. Romesh Kaluwitharana (Sri Lanka), Mr. Ashrafat Huq, (CEO ACC), Mr. Malcolm Speed (CEO ICC) and Mr. Matthew Kennedy, Development Manager ICC joined the ACC delegation on behalf of ICC and followed the same itinerary drawn up by CCA.
2. At the outset, we would like to record our profound appreciation to the CCA for their generous hospitality and for the excellent programme that was drawn up for the delegation's visit. The CCA's multi-media briefing given by Mr. Calvin Leung (appendix 'B') gave a valuable insight into CCA's present and future programmes.

3. This report covers our visit to China and has been drawn up thematically and not chronologically. Each section of the report contains a brief analysis and recommendations.



The delegation meets Zhang Xiaoning (third from left), Head of China's Multi-Ball Games Administrative Centre

Ground, nets, practice facilities.

4. At present, there is not a single turf wicket or a dedicated field for cricket matches and practice in the whole of China. Only a few nets exist in educational institutions. Cricket matches are played on borrowed, make-shift venues, usually football grounds, with artificial surfaces. We saw one net at a school with boys practising on an artificial surface (a cricket mat). In Shanghai at the Dulwich School, the delegation visited an expatriate club with a proper grassy field but no turf pitch. Nets with artificial wickets were located at the ground. At a well appointed secondary school in Shanghai , two schools played each other on an artificial pitch laid on an over-grassed football field.
5. In Beijing the delegation visited 2 possible sites for development of cricket grounds:
 - a) In Shen Yi about a one hour drive from Beijing Centre 200 acres are available in a wooded pastoral area. This large expanse of land could be developed and converted into a multi-purpose cricket centre.
 - b) In Feng Tai, a suburb of Beijing, about half an hour from Beijing Centre and served by subway and bus transport, we were shown a Sports Centre ready for redeveloping. This 5 acre development is in a built-up area which could be re-developed into a Cricket Centre.
6. Both these options should be taken up mainly because there are no cricket grounds in Beijing . There are a couple of grounds (grass base) in Shanghai but no turf wicket. The wooded area in Shen Yi (200 acres) could be converted into 2 or 3 cricket grounds. It could also provide a National Academy, with accommodation, offices and ultimately a hotel. A large concrete Stadium is not recommended at this stage and if, in the years ahead, China is to host an Asian or International Championship, temporary stands could be provided for 10,000-15,000 spectators. The negative aspect of the large area is that it is too distant from the centre of Beijing for the ground/academy to become the hub of cricket for Beijing. Boys and girls would find it difficult to travel long distances to have afternoon net practices or coaching sessions.
7. The smaller plot in Feng Tai provides a better option to serve as the hub of cricket in Beijing. It is closer to the centre, is served by subway and bus connections and with redevelopment, the area could have a cricket field with turf wickets. It could also have indoor and outdoor nets and serve as a coaching centre. Boys and girls from Beijing could have coaching and practice sessions without having to travel long hours. Although not located in an attractive area, the ground and facilities in Feng Tai would be more easily accessible and practical.
8. A third option is for one of the universities/secondary schools to be persuaded to dedicate one ground exclusively to cricket. At present, matches are played on football grounds (with synthetic turf and pitches) that are converted as cricket venues by placing an artificial mat on them. A dedicated cricket ground would need to have a cricket ambience with a small pavilion, sight-screens, score-boards, grassy outfield (not the thick grass we saw at Shanghai secondary school) and a turf pitch. This university/school ground could then erect 6-8 net practice areas and serve as an additional 'hub' for cricket in Beijing.



An U-19 match at Tsinghua University, Beijing

Development Topics

Recommendations

9. As there is not a single turf pitch in China, it is an immediate and basic requirement that one dedicated cricket ground in each region should immediately be prepared. This is a fast track necessity.
 10. In addition, 2-4 practice nets should be constructed in each institution so that cricketers are able to practice regularly. Priority financing of these projects should be made.
 11. In Beijing, both the areas on offer may be allotted for cricket. The possibility of a dedicated cricket ground at one of the Universities may also be explored.
 12. In Shanghai the grassy ground used at the rugby ground at Dulwich School provides an excellent opportunity for a dedicated cricket field. A turf pitch may be prepared and 4-6 net practice pitches erected. At the impressive Shanghai secondary school, a dedicated cricket pitch would be welcome. In any case, 4-6 practice nets (with artificial base) may be immediately prepared at all schools, universities, clubs where cricket is being played. Both boys and girls should be given equal opportunity to practice.
- ### Equipment
13. There is an acute shortage of equipment which hinders cricketing progress. On an immediate basis, ACC/ICC should provide funding for age-group and adult equipment: bats, balls (red and white), protective gear including helmets, stumps, scoring books, simple score-boards, bowling machines, slip cradles, umpires coats etc. Sight screens can be made in China. At a later stage, when China is ready to prepare turf wickets, grass-cutting machines, rollers, covers, ropes should be made available.
 14. After the initial stages, China may be encouraged to manufacture the above equipment indigenously.

Coaching

15. An essential element in promoting cricket in China is the need for coaching at the youth level. Undoubtedly a large number of coaches (around 63) would be available in the first year. These are grade I coaches who would be trained in the basics of cricket. It is important, however, that a pyramid of Coaches with Grade III and Grade II experience begin coaching in China. In short, coaching should be invested with quality in addition to the existing quality that is commendably being achieved. High grade foreign coaches (especially Asian) on deputation to be groomed by ACC/ICC or bilaterally would help create the coaching pyramid. In due course, a Coaching Academy that would include (i) coaches training, (ii) curators training, (iii) umpiring and scorers courses for both men and women should be set up.



World Cup winner Romesh Kaluwitharana hands on some tips at Tsinghua University



Men's and Women's Cricket

16. Although cricket is mainly a man's game (especially at Club level), it is important that China encourages women's/girls cricket with special commitment. As Asian women's standards are low compared to Asian men (Sri Lanka, India and Pakistan have all won the World Cup), it is likely that Chinese women would quickly measure up to Asian women's cricket standards. As with tennis, football, hockey and other games where Chinese women have made an impact, China is likely to have early success at the women's level while their men would take much longer to reach middle and high levels of performance.

17. It is strongly recommended that special encouragement be given to girl cricketers as they are more likely to win laurels for China and help expand interest in the game through performance.

Competing abroad

18. As standards improve, Chinese teams (U-15, U-17, U-19, women) should be encouraged to participate in regional and international championships. Even if they lose heavily, the experience of competing with foreign teams will improve performance levels.

Bilateral visits

19. CCA may exchange bilateral visits especially with Asian countries with a view to gaining experience and improving skills. These visits, at all levels, need to be planned and encouraged.

Domestic Competitions

20. China has prepared teams at Club/School/University level. Domestic competition needs to be encouraged even if, initially, standards are low. Pride of performance and limited media coverage of competitions would raise standards and increase interest.

21. In Club matches, interaction with expatriate cricketers and their clubs should be encouraged. This would help promote the heritage and culture of cricket in China. Expatriate Clubs in Shanghai and Beijing should be encouraged to participate in friendly and league cricket.



Role of Television in promoting cricket

22. Cricket is a virtually unknown sport in China. In order to evoke interest in the game, Chinese TV may be encouraged to show some of the more important matches (e.g. Champions Trophy finals being played in India later this year) on China television. Commentators using Mandarin would help explain the basics of the game and help transmit the crowd and player excitement to Chinese television audiences.

Filling the void in cricket culture

23. China does not own a tradition or culture of cricket. This void needs to be filled as cricket is a highly complex and multi-dimensional game that thrives on its rich history. It is also a game that has a unique character-building capability, especially for the young. The need gradually to fill the void of not having a tradition and culture of cricket is important. Accordingly, the following steps may be encouraged:

- a) A cricket museum/library at the headquarters of cricket,
- b) Video libraries in all cricket centres showing famous matches, players etc.,
- c) Cricket players' quiz shows,
- d) Occasional exposure of cricket on TV,
- e) Mini-museums in all cricket pavilions,
- f) Regular articles extolling the history and virtues and ethos of cricket in national newspapers.





Role Models

24. Stars/Role Models inspire the young to follow in their footsteps. Since China has no cricketing tradition, the few Chinese origin players who have played first class cricket could be asked to serve as role models by giving coaching seminars in China. One such player is Richard Chee Quee the former NSW batsman. Other Chinese-origin Cricketers from Australia, New Zealand and West Indies could be encouraged to coach in China.

The Olympic Movement

25. Cricket has not been part of the Olympic Movement so far. If cricket were to become part of the Olympic movement, cricket would become a government-sponsored game with abundant financing and government support for funding grounds, coaches and cricket activity in general in countries like China.

Fast-tracking

26. In order to achieve early lift-off for Chinese cricket, there is a need to fast-track several facilities and developments. These fast-track requirements are shown as F/T in the summary of recommendations given at the end of the report.

27. It is recommended that ACC/ICC may consider joining the Olympic Movement – perhaps at Twenty20 level – which would assist government funding of cricket in China (and Japan).

Financing

28. Clearly CCA is in dire need of funding its programmes. Initially, funding for essential fast-track projects needs to be financed by ACC and ICC that would complement indigenous financing.

29. It is important, therefore, for CCA to draw up budget planning for a) short term, b) medium term and c) long term projects. The international cricket community and bilateral grants would initially assist in implementing these projects. In the longer term, CCA would need to depend on its own financial resources. In this effort, the entry of cricket in the Olympic and Asian Games programme would provide a significant boost to indigenous planning.



Summary of Recommendations. [FT] = Fast Track

1. At least one dedicated cricket ground (grass outfield and turf pitch) must be located in each of the three regions nominated to adopt cricket. Both options in Beijing for developing dedicated cricket facilities need to be taken up. These ground facilities must be given priority financing. The third option of a dedicated cricket ground at one of the Universities, Schools may be explored. [FT]
 2. In Shanghai where the weather permits a longer season, better cricket facilities are available (grass outfield). A turf wicket may be developed at Dulwich School and other options taken up. [FT]
 3. At least 4-6 nets may be erected with artificial wickets in all the dedicated educational and club centres. This would enable regular practice and coaching clinics. [FT]
 4. Cricket equipment must be provided on an immediate basis. ACC/ICC/bilateral financing would ensure early delivery. [FT]. Later, China could start manufacturing most of the equipment required indigenously [FT].
 5. The current training of Grade I coaches is commendable. The coaching pyramid may be created by short term attachment of Grade III and II coaches. [FT]. Eventually a Coaching Academy should prepare its own high level coaches. The Academy should also have teaching programmes for umpires, curators, scorers and cricket administrators.
 6. The CCA are advised to focus on the development of girl cricketers. Their teams should practice frequently under good coaches and ample opportunities provided for the development of girls cricket. This special focus on developing a women's cricket team is likely to bring early laurels for China with consequent development of the game as a whole. [FT]
 7. Chinese teams at all levels – U-15, U-17, U-19, women's teams - must be encouraged to participate in regional/international tournaments. Bilateral visits may also be scheduled.
 8. Domestic competitions between Schools, Clubs and Universities must be organized on a regular basis.
 9. Chinese Television may be encouraged to show top-level fixtures on Chinese Television.
 10. Promoting a cricket culture in China may be achieved through a cricket museum, cricket libraries and video-labs in the cricket playing regions.
 11. Chinese role models like Richard Chee Quee may be encouraged to coach in China. [FT]
 12. ICC/ACC may formally consider bringing cricket into the Olympic Movement through a Twenty20 competition. This would impact favourably for cricket in countries like China/Japan where government support is only available for Olympic sports. Vital financial and administrative support would then be forthcoming for development of cricket in China.
 13. A Development Plan with funding recommendations should be prepared for Fast Track, medium and long-term projects.
- Shaharyar M. Khan
September 2006

Development Topics

In the middle of 2006, with Myanmar's membership of the ICC imminent, and with its first international fixtures in the 2006 ACC Trophy on the horizon, the ACC embarked upon a hot-housing program for the country. Nazmul Abedeen, then the Bangladesh U-19 Coach was seconded to Myanmar to assist them in their preparations. Here follows his report submitted after completion of his assignment.

Coach Assistance for the Myanmar Cricket Federation

Nazmul Abedeen, Bangladesh Cricket Board



Introduction

The Coach Assistance for the Myanmar Cricket Federation was a four month program starting from June 1, 2006. Myanmar, recently affiliated with the Asian Cricket Council, is looking to prosper in cricket with the direct help and guidance of ACC.

Although there is no infrastructure or cricket culture at the moment, Myanmar has seen cricket being played on its soil since the 1950s. It's really good to see that the Myanmar Cricket Federation has taken the initiative to bring the game back.

Present Cricket

The cricket season in Myanmar starts some time in the month of November. Monsoon rain is very prominent between May/June to September.



Before the start of this program, cricket was limited to within 45 to 50 cricketers (men) ranging from 15 to 60 years of age. Most of these players are migrants from neighbouring countries and living there for three or four generations. Involvement of the local population in men's cricket is still very limited but among the recently introduced youth program more than 80% are local and this number is increasing. It is obvious that the standard of cricket is poor but the good thing is that these handful of cricketers kept the game some what alive.

Cricket grounds and pitches being non-existent, the game used to be played among four or five teams on the week ends on football fields using a matting wicket. All the players are involved in different professions and the game is more recreational than competitive. It's no surprise that there has never been any use of bowling boots, helmets or quality cricket equipment. Nets or practice facilities of any kind are not yet available. Cricket was confined to playing matches of 25-30 overs within those 50 players.

Until recently Myanmar had no National team or any experience of playing at any level. As a result no infrastructure was developed for the training of the National team.

Selection

A total of ten weeks' preparation was available for the ACC Cup. 26 players were initially selected by the MCF. By the end of the third week this number was reduced to 18 and by the seventh week a 14-member team with 4 reserves was announced. As a policy to increase the popularity of the game, four local players with almost no cricket background were selected. Selection was based on just enough cricketing ability. This is why the age of the players varied from 16 to 58.

Preparation

There was no lack of enthusiasm on the part of the management or the players; but individual ability, training facilities and the time allocated for training was extremely inadequate. As most of the players were involved in various professions the only time available for training was 7:00 to 8:30 am except for the last two weeks before leaving for Malaysia. Moreover, managing purposeful training was very challenging due to a lack of space and nets. Constant rain made things even more difficult.

As a result of all these factors the learning couldn't go past the intermediate phase. Each player had improved considerably but this was not enough to perform under pressure or against proper opposition as most of these learning took place under closed conditions. The environment in which training was conducted was nowhere near the required one. No one had any experience of batting against quick bowling or proper spin. There was no match played before the first match of the ACC tournament.



Net construction at Pahan, July 2006

The ACC Trophy



Myanmar's veteran captain Michael Moosajee and Kuwait's captain Mustansar Hassan on the eve of Myanmar's inaugural international fixture, 2006 ACC Trophy. Abdul Sami Khan was the Match Referee

Against all the odds Myanmar managed to play all 50 overs against Kuwait in their first match which to me is a tremendous achievement. This was possible due to some luck and a positive frame of mind. But losing 2 wickets in the first over of the very next match against Hong Kong was a huge set back. It is too much for a team that has barely two three batsmen who can manage to survive at this level. The morale of the team was destroyed right there. Ability and experience-wise Myanmar is far from their opponents, the team was heavily relying on its morale. Without that it was hard to gather enough courage to play opposition like Nepal and Hong Kong. It was inevitable that without confidence they would do badly against such strong opposition.



Myanmar's first ball in world cricket. Omer is the batsman.

I don't think it is wise to blame any one for the outcome of the matches, especially against Hong Kong and Nepal. The players that represented Myanmar are not meant to play at this level. In this regard I fully endorse the idea of having a separate tournament for the bottom teams.

Youth Program

Phase 1

The youth program started with 60 school boys between 13 and 16 years of age. In the first phase of two months they were introduced to some basic skills of batting, bowling, wicket keeping and fielding and mostly exposed to game situation to have an understanding of how the game is played. Once again the intensity and density of training suffered due to lack of space and facility.

Phase 2

Phase 2 started at the end of the ACC Trophy and continued till the end of September. Once again 60 boys were taken into this program. This phase was conducted in a multi-purpose school indoors with adequate space. As a result this phase was particularly satisfactory and fruitful.



Development Topics



In this phase more emphasis was on structured coaching and most of the participants responded very well. It was good to see young players getting in shape and playing proper cricket. With the view of forming a national U-15 team the group was initially brought down to 33 and finally 18 players. It is expected that most of these players will represent Myanmar in the U15 ACC Tournaments in 2006-2007.

Observations and Recommendations

- It is very unlikely that the present national team will show much improvement and perform much differently. But this is the only group of people who has some understanding of the game and with some training can contribute as coaches, umpires, curators and even as future administrators.
- Playing grounds and practice wickets are just coming up in Myanmar. Installation of synthetic wickets along with matting wickets would be a good option for easy maintenance and quality output.
- Batsmen need reasonably good bowlers to develop batting. At this point bowling machines can be a substitute for that.
- All players are totally dependent on the equipment provided by the ACC. National team players even at age level need equipment of proper size and weight.
- At this moment emphasis should be on quantity of cricketers rather than quality. As many senior cricketers as possible should be involved in guiding schoolboys playing cricket.
- School cricket should be given priority. Structured cricket competition should be introduced as soon as possible.
- All ACC accredited personnel (coaches, umpires and curators) should be actively involved in the development programs.



Myanmar's first Inter-Schools competition was played in January 2007

Conclusion

It is obvious that Myanmar has to come up with a new generation of cricketers to match some of the other Associate Member countries in Asia. Having been involved with the Youth Program I'm confident that they have the potential to become a force in the future; subject to the availability of all logistics. I saw a number of boys in Myanmar who are the equal of any in Bangladesh of the same age. They improved tremendously with just one month of practise. Exposure to cricket on television would help tremendously in popularising the game.



The commitment, interest, passion and discipline shown by Myanmar's school children have been exemplary. But it is only the first step and there has to be quite a few of them. I wish them success.

I thank the President and members of the Myanmar Cricket Federation for the wonderful hospitality. I was looked after very well during my stay and enjoyed working with them. The relationship I developed particularly with the players was something very special. I look forward to help MCF in any way in the future.

I thank Mr. Michael Moosajee for his continuous support and assistance both on and off the field. He truly has done a wonderful job as an assistant coach and shown his coaching ability beyond any doubt.

Last of all I thank ACC for providing me this opportunity. Myanmar can't afford to look for immediate success. With hard work, patience and continuous support from the ACC they will surely achieve their goal. I along with many others am looking forward to that.

Nazmul Abedeen
Senior Coach
High Performance Unit
Bangladesh Cricket Board

October 2006



Why Nepal's Mauling Of Myanmar Matters

*ACC Trophy: Group C, Myanmar v Nepal at Club Aman
NEPAL WON BY TEN WICKETS*

Ten years ago when so many countries were much of a muchness below a leading few, countries like Myanmar and Nepal could have met on the field and enjoyed a more even contest. Thanks to the ACC, of which Nepal are long-term members, Nepal's cricket has developed tremendously since the first ACC Trophy in 1996.

No way should these two countries play each other until Myanmar are ready. And they will not. The ACC Trophy as with other ACC age-group competitions will have Champions and Challenger divisions, where the top ten and bottom eight countries by ranking play amongst themselves with promotion and relegation between the two divisions.

Myanmar are playing their first tournament. This was the ICC's newest Affiliate Member against a twenty-year old ICC Associate member. Nepal have had the benefit of years of development funding, coaching programs and cricket has embedded itself in the national consciousness. Cricket is now the biggest sport in Nepal, (transplanting football) and the cricketers are national heroes, their every action on the field headline news.



After the conclusion of the match, the Myanmar Cricket Federation's President sent the following message: "Thank you for giving us a chance to find ourselves. Thank you for your patience and understanding. This failure has to be, the beginning of our success." It will be.

The Myanmar Cricket Federation operate under the banner: 'Playing Cricket is to Achieve Subtle Supremacy'. They know that subtlety and supremacy are not acquired overnight but take years of dedicated study. They have the will. The ACC will show them the way.

Much depends of course on member countries' individual goals. Maybe some are happy to be minnowing along in the global cricket family, content just to give a select few the chance to play cricket. Maybe. But unlikely. No one likes to be thought of as small and insignificant. When a country plays in international competition, big or small, they are all treated in the same way and play by the same rules.

Big or small, any country can win. Or lose. Once a country identifies with its cricketers then poor preparation and poor performance will not be tolerated. Countries have broken through - Afghanistan, Kuwait and Oman - let alone Nepal. Other countries will follow.

We know, our Development Officers know and the countries know that there are enough individuals with hand-eye skills and athleticism to play cricket in the ACC member countries.

Cricket is a great game. It can build a nation. Nepal has shown that. Myanmar believe that.

Ten years from now our goal is to make things come full circle and do away with the need to have two divisions. All countries will have improved and there will be no mismatches. Just pure and simple competition. The winner being first among equals.

The real depth and breadth of cricket in Asia will then be evident.

Myanmar v Nepal 20th August, 2006 at Club Aman

Toss: Nepal

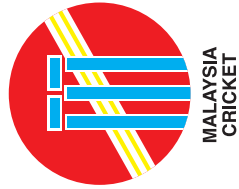
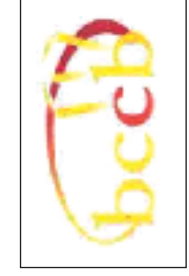
NEPAL WON BY TEN WICKETS

Myanmar: 10 all out in 12.1 overs (M.Alam 7-3; B.K.Das 3-4)

Nepal: 11 for 0 in 0.2 overs



Country Profiles



Country Profiles



Afghanistan

Population: 30 million (2005 census)
Population Aged 0-15: 44.6%
National coach: Taj Malik Alam
National captain: Raees Ahmadzai
Cricket clubs: 37
Grounds: 4 Grounds
Turf wickets: 3
Women's Cricket: No
Playing season: September to May
ACC Member since 2003.



A billboard put up in Kabul after the team returned from India having played the MCC in Mumbai, April 2006

Recent Achievements:

- 2005 ACC U-15 Cup Finalists
- 2006 Middle East Cup Finalists
- 2006 Defeated MCC in Mumbai
- 2006 Tour of England – won six out of seven matches, defeating Leicestershire 2nd XI, Essex 2nd XI, Glamorgan 2nd XI, Hoddesdon, Ditchling and the Royal Military Academy
- 2006 Third, ACC Trophy
- Qualifiers, ICC World Cricket League Division 5



Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

- Coaches : Level I – 2
- Umpires : Level I – 21
- Curators : Module 1 – 2

Afghanistan are the rising stars of Asian cricket. Already with a global following, they play with dash and panache, care only for winning and consider every match played to be a matter of national honour. Since becoming ACC members their progress has been rapid and had it not been for tactical naiveté and an ability to countenance anything else but big hits against spinners, it would be they and not Hong Kong who would be in the next Asia Cup.

Had they qualified for the 2008 Asia Cup in Pakistan, they would have had huge support for it is in the North West Frontier Province, in the camps established during the Afghan Wars of Liberation from 1979 onwards that cricket first became popular amongst the displaced Afghans. To this day, Afghan cricketers play in Pakistan domestic cricket and many are proud to claim a common ancestral heritage with their Pakistani brothers.

Robin Marlar, President of the Marylebone Cricket Club, said in 2006 that there are a couple of Afghan cricketers already good enough to play Test cricket. When there are more cricketers, and when all the efforts of those who wish to see Afghani cricket succeed coalesce, then Afghanistan will truly have a team capable of playing in a World Cup.



National player Karim Sadiq encounters W.G. Grace at Lord's, June 2006



Cricket is playing a big part in rebuilding Afghanistan after the recent wars.

Afghanistan



The President of Afghanistan Hamid Karzai with the National Squad, 2005



Taj Malik at Kabul's Nadaria School



Afghanistan at Lord's during their 2006 tour of England



National squad practice. Kabul, 2003



Afghanistan's Coach Taj Malik with Imran Khan, Lahore

Country Profiles



Bahrain

Population: 688, 345 (2005 estimate)
Population Aged 0-15: 27.4%
National coach: Haroon Rashid
National captain: Qamar Saeed
Cricket clubs:
Grounds: 25
Turf wickets: 0
Women's Cricket: No
Playing Season: September to April
ACC Member since 2003



Winners of the 2006 ACC Middle East Cup

Recent Achievements:

- 2004 Finalists, ACC Middle East Cup
- 2006 Winners, ACC Middle East Cup
- 2006 Semi-Finalists, ACC U-15 Elite Cup

Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

- Coaches : Level I – 15
- Umpires : Level I – 18
- Curators : Module 1 – 1; Module 2 – 2; Module 3 – 1



Bahrain consistently put up teams that are positive in attitude and hard to beat in competition. Invariably well prepared, their seniors enjoy the benefit of some adroit coaching from Pakistan's Haroon Rashid and their juniors display sound basics and exemplary team-spirit. They are in the Elite division of every age-group competition.

Assuming all the elements in Bahrain coalesce, the senior team could mount a serious challenge to the top teams in Asia and should the youth team fulfil their promise, Bahrain's cricket future looks to be assured.



U-15 squad, 2006



ACC Development Officer Rumesh Ratnayake with David Mathias

Bahrain



Bahrain win the ACC Middle East Cup in Kuwait, February 2006



Bahrain at the ACC U-15 Elite Cup, Malaysia, May 2006



David Mathias



Action from Bahrain v UAE, ACC U-15 Elite Cup, Malaysia, May 2006



Land for the future home of Bahraini cricket, Fort Riffa (built 1812) looms in the background

Country Profiles



Bhutan

Population: 2,232,291 (2005 estimate)
Population Aged 0-15 : 38.9%
National Coach: Baba Mazahir Sourjah
National Captain: Damber Singh Gurung
Cricket clubs: 8
Grounds: 6
Turf wickets: 1
Women's cricket: No
Playing Season: September to May
ACC Member since 2001



Bhutan's openers Tashi and Wangchuk summon the spirits before going out to bat, 2006 ACC Trophy.

Recent Achievements:

- 2006 Finalists, ACC U-15 Challenge Cup
- 2006 Winners, Spirit of Cricket Award ACC U-15 Challenge Cup

Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

- Coaches : Level I – 6
- Umpires : Level I - 27; Level II – 2
- Curators : Module 1 - 4; Module 2 - 3; Module 3 - 2; Advanced – 1



Nestled as it is in the heart of the Himalayas, for centuries none but the most intrepid made it through the steep mountain passes to reach proudly independent Bhutan. Archery being the national sport guaranteed the country considerable protection against invaders. But the Bhutanese were helpless before the onslaught of electromagnetic waves carrying television signals.

Starting in 2001, Indian television started threading its way through the highlands and in its wake came an appreciation for movies, soap operas and cricket. "Cricket caught on just because of STAR TV and Doordarshan," says Roger Binny ACC Development Officer for Bhutan.

Out of a population of 2.2 million only 200 or so are active cricketers, though the numbers are rising. The biggest ground in the capital Thimphu (2.3 km above sea level) isn't quite big enough for ICC-sanctioned cricket but serves its purpose in training the national senior and youth teams. They even play in the winter months, braving intermittent sleet and snow.

Many of the socially privileged families send their children to study in India where they learn the game, who then play it in Bhutan on their holidays and after graduation.

Yet wherever they are, wherever they play, the cricketers retain a unique Bhutanese flavour. All batsmen bow their heads in supplication to the cricketing gods before taking the field. "We do not pray for victory", says national captain Damber Singh Gurung, "we pray for each other to give our best and to emerge complete from the competition." The Dechephu Lhakhang temple in Thimphu is the spiritual home of Bhutan Cricket and cricketers visit before every tournament to invoke the protecting deities.

The team itself, as evidenced by their performances in three Asian Cricket Council competitions in 2006, are on the up. When they're not playing bigger, faster, stronger opponents more versed in cricket, Bhutan have shown they know enough about the game to inflict a lesson upon their fellow neophytes. Their cricket is definitely improving and in their youngsters have enough talent to be able to compete with any team.



Bhutan



Every spring a new batch of children is introduced to cricket



Bhutan's captain Jigme Singye receives the Runner's-up trophy from CAT President Ravi Sehgal, ACC U15 Challenge Cup, Thailand, December 2006



Bhutan's Damber Singh Gurung bowls against Kuwait, 2006 ACC Trophy



Jigme Norbu salutes the crowd and his team, 2006 ACC U-15 Challenge Cup



Bhutan's Thinley Jamthso lets fly, ACC U-15 Cup, Thailand, December 2006



National Captain Damber Singh Gurung takes the game to Gelephu



Bhutan win their semi-final against Thailand, ACC U-15 Challenge, December 2006



A Level 0 Theory class

Country Profiles



Brunei

Population: 372,361 (2005 estimate)
Population Aged 0-15: 28.1%
National Coach: Manzur Ahmed
National Captain: Manzur Ahmed
Cricket clubs:
Grounds: 1
Turf wickets: 0
Women's cricket: No
Playing Season: Year-round
ACC Member since 1996

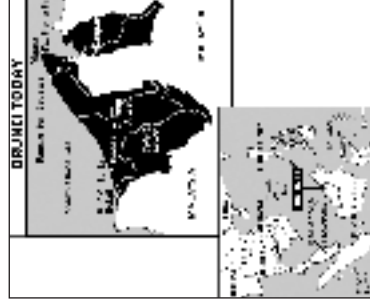


As their elder siblings practised, these two children picked up a bat for the very first time. Bander Seri Begawan, November 2004

Recent Achievements:

2004 **First international tournament participation in ACC Trophy**
Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

Coaches : **Level I – 3**
Umpires : **Level I - 8; Level II – 1**
Curators : **Module 1 - 2; Module 2 - 1**



Brunei provides a classic lesson in sporting development. The country came into Asia's sporting consciousness the early 1990s when the very best available professional talent – Javed Miandad, Viv Richards, Ian Botham, Jahangir Khan – was brought into the country at regular intervals to coach the elite of the country. It was thought that their top-down influence would spread far and wide throughout the country.

Their influence spread near and narrow.

Cricket kept on going at an ad hoc, amateur level during these years as expatriate oil-workers and migrants arranged fixtures for themselves and their children but Brunei is a small country, its total population but a fifth of Kuala Lumpur's alone.

The cricketers that do currently play, however, are dedicated to building a base for cricket and the Brunei Darussalam Cricket Association have pioneered a form of coaching in Asia known as 'Level 0' – the basics for the base. The focus is on schools and their teachers and the game is indeed slowly spreading.



Action from a club game in Bander Seri Begawan, 2006



Roger Binny emphasising the need for fitness to the Brunei national squad

Brunei



ACC Development Officer Roger Binny in Brunei, November 2004



Roger Binny and some children in Brunei amidst the football pitches



Brunei's captain Manzur Ahmed bowls to Saudi Arabia's Suhrab Kisingatakam, ACC Trophy, Malaysia, August 2006



BCA CEO Manzur Ahmed donating cricket equipment to a school in Temburong, March 2007



A Brunei national squad practise session

Country Profiles



China

Population: 1,306,313,812 (2005 estimate)
Population Aged 0-15: 20.8%
National Coach: Rashid Khan
National Captain:
Cricket clubs:
Grounds: 4
Turf wickets: 0
Women's cricket: Yes
Playing Season: April - October

ACC Member since 2004



On the Great Wall

Recent Achievements:

- 2005 **Winners ICC Global Development Awards Photo of the Year** (above)
- 2006 **Participants in the ACC U-15 Challenge Cup**
- 2006 **Winners ICC Development Awards, Asia Region, Best Junior Cricket Initiative**

Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

Coaches : **Level I – 68**
Umpires : **Level I - 32**



That China has finally started playing what they call 'shen shi yun dong', 'the noble game', is a significant step forward for cricket. In the words of former ICC President, Ehsan Mani, "Cricket cannot call itself a global game when one-fifth of the world's population is not aware of it."

China's emergence in the global sporting arena has been rapid and substantial. Chinese athletes dominate many disciplines in the Olympics, have played in the FIFA World Cup and have triumphed in grand slam tennis, all within the space of twenty years. Their determination to succeed at whatever targets they set themselves is unparalleled.

For cricket to be established as a sport in China will be a test of the Asian Cricket Council Development Program, the Chinese state sporting machine and the game of cricket itself. Since the ACC formally introduced cricket to mainland China in 2005, much progress has been made. Coaches, umpires and most importantly player numbers in schools, have risen dramatically ever since then.

Rumesh Ratnayake, ACC Development Officer for China says, "Never in my life have I seen the game taken up so quickly by children. They had the basics of the game within five minutes."

The Asian Cricket Council and International Cricket Council (ICC) consider China to be a 'Special Project' and have allocated funds specifically to develop cricket in China. In the words of the ACC Chief Executive Syed Ashraf ul Huq, "Global revenues for cricket will increase by 30-40% in my estimation once China becomes an established cricketing nation, either as a venue, a participant or a breeding ground for future cricketers in the decades ahead."

Malcolm Speed, the ICC Chief Executive, at the end of his personal evaluation of Chinese cricket in October 2006 said that, "I have seen 15-year-olds in Beijing who, if given every chance to continue their progress, will become very good cricketers. I foresee China playing in the World Cup of 2015."



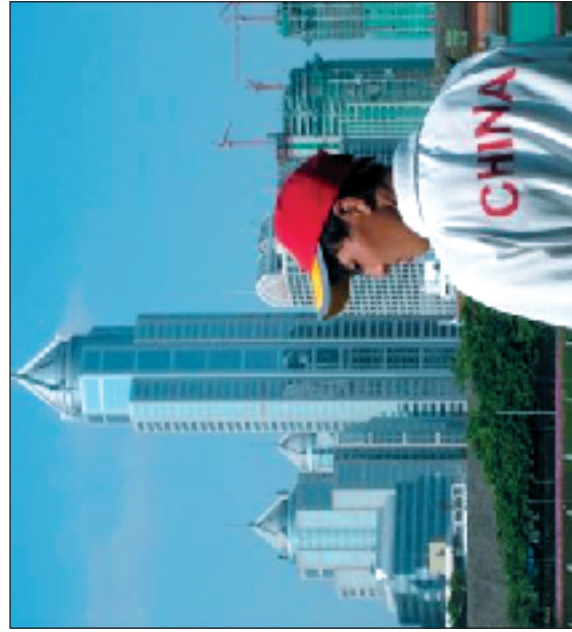
China



Children from Beijing Railway School 6 were the first to officially come into contact with cricket



ICC Chief Executive Malcolm Speed seeing for himself the pace of China's progress, Zhichunli School, Beijing, September 2006



Rising star Chen Xiudong in Bangkok



China's captain Zhang Yufei applauds his team's win in their first ever official match, ACC U-15 Challenge Cup



Sri Lankan legend Romesh Kaluwitharana on an ACC Inspection Tour of China, passes on a few tips at Tsinghua University, Beijing, October 2006

Country Profiles



Hong Kong

Population: 6,898,686 (2005 estimate)
Population Aged 0-15: 18%
National Coach: Robin Singh
National Captain: Ilyas Gul
Cricket clubs: 14
Grounds: 6
Turf wickets: 2
Women's cricket: Yes
Playing Season: September - April

ACC Member since 1983



Hong Kong: Fresh Growth

Recent Achievements:

- 2004 Participants, Asia Cup
- 2005 Winners of ICC Regional Development Award for Asia's Best Overall Cricket Development Programme, Best Junior Cricket Initiative, Best Women's Cricket Initiative
- 2006 Finalists, ACC Trophy
- 2006 ICC Development Awards, Asia Region, Lifetime Service Award: John Cribbin
- Qualifiers, ICC World Cricket League Division 3
- Qualifiers for 2008 Asia Cup

Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

- Coaches : Level I – 5; Level II – 1
- Umpires : Level I - 16; Level II – 4
- Curators : Module 1 - 4; Module 2 - 3; Module 3 - 1



Notwithstanding the premier performances of the UAE, Hong Kong are pretty much the class act amongst Asian associates. It's status as a former British colony has given it a long-standing foundation for cricket. The Hong Kong Cricket Club was founded in 1851 and succeeding generations have all contributed to the growth of cricket.

What was once a purely Anglicised expatriate game now encompasses a significant number of subcontinental migrants who come together at senior and all age-group levels to represent Hong Kong. What is most significant however about current cricket activity is that the game has been embedded in the curriculum of primary schools throughout the territory. As such, thousands of native Chinese boys and girls have been introduced to cricket. The Hong Kong Cricket Association has created opportunities to sustain that initial contact and interest not only in the school-system but outside it too. A thriving club cricket scene for men and women provides plenty of playing opportunities.

The popular annual Hong Kong Sixes generates substantial revenue and along with ACC funding and ICC support, the Hong Kong Cricket Association is healthily placed to find, nurture and develop internationally competitive cricketers. One thing that has held them back for a while is the absence of a full-sized international ground but plans (and negotiations with the authorities) are already underway for the creation of two fully-turfed grounds in Kowloon's Po Kong and Mission Road within the next few years.

Many of their Asian competitors have thought in recent years that Hong Kong are a team ripe for the taking but successive qualification in two Asia Cups has shown that when it comes to match-play on turf, Hong Kong are a match for all but the UAE.

Hong Kong



The 2006 ACC Trophy Finalists



Much coaching is done by national players, in this case Atzaal Haider of Kowloon C.C.



A new generation of Hong Kong cricketers is emerging



Junior cricket in Kowloon



The squad for the ACC 2006 U-15 Elite Cup



Hong Kong's Hussain Butt appealing for the wicket of UAE captain Arshad Ali, 2006 ACC Trophy Final

Country Profiles



Iran

Population: 68,017,860 (2005 estimate)
Population Aged 0-15: 26.1%
National Coach: Shahid Aslam
National Captain: Nariman Bakhtiar
Cricket clubs:
Grounds: 4
Turf wickets: 0
Women's cricket: Yes
Playing Season: September - April

ACC Member since 2003



The Laws of Cricket in Farsi

Recent Achievements:

- 2006 Participants, ACC Middle East Cup
- 2006 Participants, ACC Trophy
- 2006 Fourth, ACC U-15 Challenge Cup

Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

- Coaches : Level I – 4
- Umpires : Level I - 38; Level II – 1
- Curators : Module 1 - 1; Module 2 - 1; Module 3 - 1



Iran has been one of the beneficiaries of the globalization mantra that pervaded the cricket development ethos of the late 1990s. Quite cannily adapting the Baseball Federation into the Cricket and Baseball Federation initially, the administrators have subsequently taken advantage of their proximity to Pakistan to create a following for the game.

Much activity is centred around the southern Chabahar and Baluchistan regions of Iran as they border Pakistan and there is increasing evidence, as these regions develop commercially and welcome cross-border interaction, that cricket is being played by more and more Iranians.

Cricket because of its body-covering uniform is seen as something that women can play and women's cricket is being increasingly encouraged. The majority of accredited umpires in Iran are currently women.



Trials for the national team in Chabahar, January 2006



Lady Umpires with ACC Resource Person Mahboob Shah



Iran



Carpark cricket in southern Iran, March 2007



Carpark cricket in southern Iran, March 2007



Cricket in Chabahar, 2006



Cricket in Chabahar, 2006



Cricket in Chabahar, 2006



The next generation

Country Profiles



Kuwait

Population: 2,335,648 (2005 census)
Population Aged 0-15: 27.2%
National coach: Samir F. Desai
National captain: Mustansar Hasan
Cricket clubs: 30
Grounds: 7
Turf wickets: 4
Women's Cricket: No
Playing Season: September - April
ACC Member since 1996



The Kuwait Squad, 2006 ACC Trophy

Recent Achievements:

- 2004 **Third, ACC Trophy**
- 2004 **Hosts, ACC Middle East Cup**
- 2005 **ICC Associate status**
- Semi-Finalists, ACC U-19 Cup**
- 2006 **Hosts, ACC Middle East Cup**

Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

- Coaches : **Level I – 6; Level II – 3**
- Umpires : **Level I - 58; Level II – 3**
- Curators : **Module 1 - 5; Module 2 - 4; Module 3 - 2**



Kuwait, with a decent team at all age-group levels, sound administration, plenty of domestic commercial support, exceptional facilities and a desire to truly be a vibrant member of the international cricketing community, has plenty of things going for it.

In fact, it is a surprise Kuwait haven't already gone further on the field. In fact, they have some outstanding batsmen but a combination of competitive naiveté and the paucity of cutting-edge bowlers have held them back up to now. What the Kuwait Cricket Association do have, however, is a desire to maximise their resources in the most efficient manner possible. As they stated to the ICC inspectors when being assessed for Associate status in the summer of 2005, "There are areas where there is still much to be done such as allowing greater access and participation by the Kuwaiti nationals, creating links between clubs and schools, forming of junior sections within established clubs, improving existing facilities and providing public pitches and practise facilities."

It's a rare Association that 1) admits to its shortcomings 2) on admission, resolves to correct them and 3) actually corrects them. But the KCA's goal is to be the best possible cricket resource for all its members and to make Kuwait cricket stand as worthy members of the global cricket community. They are dedicated to that cause. Current indications suggest greater success at ACC level and then ICC level cannot be far away.



Desert into Turf: The KCA proudly show off the KOC Ahmadiya ground to the ACC and ICC, May 2005



Hisham Mirza takes a Myanmar wicket, ACC Trophy 2006



The KCA's Asad Baig and CAT's Ravi Sehgal - new ICC Associates at Lord's, June 2005



KCA Secretary Haider Farman with the 'Father of Kuwaiti cricket' Yousef Ali Baksh



Kuwait's big-hitting Mubashir Khalid takes on Nepal at the 2005 ACC U-19 Cup



Kuwaiti coach Arjuna Arumasingham with his team, 2006 ACC Trophy



Hisham Mirza



Intensity during the draw for the 2006 Gulf Consult Cup

Country Profiles



Malaysia

Population: 26,849,336 (2005 estimate)
Population Aged 0-15: 27.2 %
National Coach:
National Captain: Rohan Vishnu Suppiah
Cricket clubs: 30
Grounds: 32
Turf wickets: 8
Women's cricket: Yes
Playing Season: Year-round
ACC Member since 1983



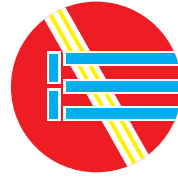
The Kinrara Oval

Recent Achievements:

- 2002 Semi-Finalists, ACC Trophy
- 2003 Finalists, ACC U-19 Asia Cup
- 2004 Hosts, ACC Trophy
- 2005 Hosts, ICC World Cup Qualifier Division 2
- Semi-finalists, ACC U-15 Cup
- Hosts, ACC U-17 Cup
- Finalists, ACC U-19 Cup
- Hosts, U-15 Elite Cup
- Hosts, ACC Trophy
- Hosts, DLF Cup Tri-Series

Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

- Coaches : Level I – 11; Level II – 1
- Umpires : Level I – 39; Level II – 3
- Curators : Module 1 – 9; Module 2 – 7; Module 3 – 4; Advanced – 6



MALAYSIA
CRICKET

Speak to anyone who knows anything about cricket in Malaysia and they'll say, "Malaysia has the best facilities amongst the non-Test countries of Asia." Its abilities to organise and deliver a top-class international tournament were demonstrated by the 2006 DLF Tri-Series between Australia, India and the West Indies in September 2006.

Its ability to deliver on the promise of being an ODI nation well, they're still far away. Notwithstanding the considerable commercial and administrative acumen that is evident among many of those connected with cricket in Malaysia, cricket has not received its due reward in the national consciousness. Much of that is due of course, to the core national consciousness not being geared to cricket or indeed participatory sport.

Malaysia has produced one outstanding cricketer in recent years, their former captain Suresh Navaratnam who impressed the visiting Australians mightily in his net sessions with them during the DLF series. And to create the next generation, using the revenue from the Tri-Series, a far-reaching development program has been established to harness talent across peninsular and eastern Malaysia. Most significantly, the U-19 squad have been immersed in a year-long preparation program prior to Malaysia's hosting of the ICC U-19 World Cup in 2008, for which they have qualified as hosts.



Anwar Arudin lets fly against Saudi Arabia in the 2006 ACC Trophy



Manrick Singh and Eszrafiq Aziz make new friends in Nepal

Malaysia



MCA Deputy President P. Krishnasamy with Cricket Australia's International Development Program Manager Ross Turner



Malaysia's Kasman bowls to Nepal's Paras Khadka in the Final of 2005 ACC U-19 Cup, Kathmandu



National captain Rohan Vishnu Suppiah



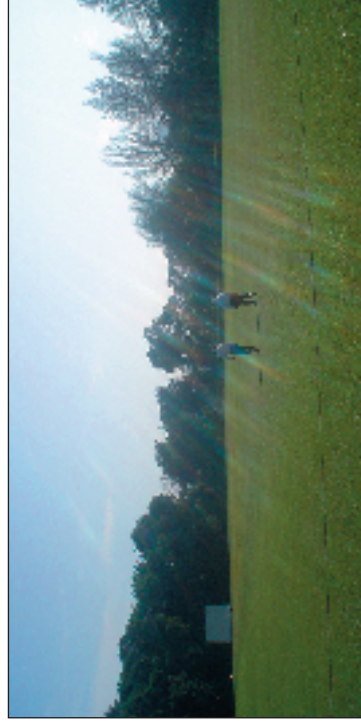
The 2007 U-19 squad pledge themselves to the MCA cause



Suresh Navaratnam



Malaysia will field a team during the 2007 ACC Women's Tournament



Umpires take the field in the golden light of Penang.

Country Profiles



Maldives

Population: 329,000 (2005 estimate)
Population Aged 0-15: 46 %
National Coach: Brendon Kuruppu
National Captain: Moosa Kaleem
Cricket clubs: 30
Grounds: 2
Turf wickets: 2
Women's cricket: No
Playing Season: September - April

ACC Member since 1996



President Gayoom with the 2005 ACC Emerging Nations Trophy and national captain Moosa Kaleem

Recent Achievements:

- 2005 **Winners, ACC Emerging Nations Tournament**
- 2006 **Winners, ACC Emerging Nations Tournament**
Winners, Asia Region's ICC Development Award for Best Cricket Promotional and Marketing Program
- 2007 **Winners, Asia Region's ICC Development Award for Best Cricket Promotional and Marketing Program**

Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

- Coaches : **Level I – 11**
- Umpires : **Level I – 49; Level II – 4**
- Curators : **Module 1 – 4; Module 2 – 5; Module 3 – 2; Advanced – 2**



The fact that grass on this coral atoll is a rarity and that the land mass is so disparate are factors which the Cricket Control Board of the Maldives has enthusiastically overcome. A nation where over half the population are under 21, like Bhutan, makes it a fertile place for the promotion of any sport and cricket has caught on in recent years thanks to television. And more importantly, the success of the national team in international competition.

The Maldives' victory in the 2005 ACC Emerging Nations Tournament was the nation's first ever international sporting triumph. The team received a rapturous welcome on their return from Thailand along with a presidential reception. Some will say it was a small tournament but if it had not been held and if the Maldives had not won, cricket would not have received the boost it did nation-wide. The Maldives successfully defended their title in 2006.

Cricket is now the game to play in the islands and sponsors and the media are increasingly behind the sport. Development has been managed well by the CCBM and turf wickets have been installed for practises along with a vibrant tournament structure.

Their performances in international competition has shown a significant improvement in recent years at all levels, in fact such has been the improvement of countries such as the Maldives, Bhutan and Thailand that there is now no longer any need to differentiate them from the other ACC members as 'Emerging Nations'.





Winners of the 2005 ACC Emerging Nations Trophy



Winners of the 2006 ACC Emerging Nations Trophy



2005 U-17 squad training



Red-carpet treatment for the 2005 ACC Emerging Nations Tournament champions in Malé



Neesham Nasir bowls against Singapore, 2006 ACC Trophy



CCBM Vice-Chairman Ahmed Hassan Didi and Development Manager Imad Ismail with the 2005 ICC Development Award for the Best Cricket Promotional and Marketing Program in Asia



Maldives captain Moosa Kalem and wicket-keeper Abdulla Shafeeu, 2006 ACC Trophy



The CCBM held a three-day school cricket carnival in September 2006



Ismail Shayyal reaches 50 against Saudi Arabia, 2006 ACC U-15 Challenge Cup



New turf nets in Malé, February 2007

Country Profiles



Myanmar

Population: 42,238,224 (2005 estimate)
Population Aged 0-15: 28.1%.
National Coach: Michael Moosajee
National Captain: Tin Mg Aye
Cricket clubs:
Grounds: 4
Turf wickets: 2
Women's cricket: No
Playing Season: October - May
ACC Member since 2005



Recent Achievements:

2006 **Participants, ACC Trophy**
Participants, ACC U-15 Challenge Cup

Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

Coaches : **Level I – 3**

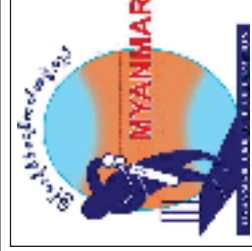
Curators : **Module 1 – 2; Module 2 – 2**

Myanmar embody the truest spirit of amateur cricket in the ACC and arguably, the world. The Myanmar Cricket Federation is a benevolent parental body which offers holistic encouragement to all who wish to play.

The MCF have realised that creating the proper conditions for cricket will inevitably lead to creating a proper national team in the years to come, one which truly represents not just the spirit of Myanmar but the spirit of cricket.

To that end since they became ACC members in 2005 and the 97th member of the global ICC family in 2006, cricket has been taken to primary and secondary schools in Yangon. The construction of nets and then a ground for school cricket led to the first Inter-School tournament in January 2007 with six teams taking part. "Not very exciting as yet, but we shall improve," says MCF President U Nyunt Win.

On becoming ACC members in 2005, the MCF released a song for public consumption which did much to establish cricket in the public consciousness. It's chorus – "Cricket – Cricket – Cricket – Cricket / Play cricket – Achieve Subtle Supremacy."



Growing Myanmar



Lum-Madaw 1, Winners of the first MCF Inter-School Cup, January 2007

Myanmar



MCF President U Nyunt Win



National captain Tin Mg Aye



Action from the MCF Inter-School Cup, Yangon, January 2007



Myanmar's openers Omer and Ye Myo Tun during Myanmar's international debut, 2006 ACC Trophy



Veteran cricketer Michael Moosajee watches over Myanmar's young

Country Profiles

Nepal

Population: 27,676,547 (2005 estimate)
Population Aged 0-15: 39.7%.

National Coach: Roy Dias
National Captain: Binod Kumar Das

Cricket clubs:

Grounds: 52

Turf wickets: 12

Women's cricket: Yes

Playing Season: September - November, March - May

ACC Member since 1990



Recent Achievements:

- 2002 Finalists, ACC Trophy
Winners, ACC U-19 Asia Cup
- 2005 Winners, ACC U-15 Cup
Winners and hosts, ACC U-19 Cup
- 2006 Winners, Plate Championship ICC U-19 World Cup
Winners, ACC U-15 Elite Cup
Runners-up, ACC Fast Track Countries Tournament
- 2007 Winners, ICC Development Award, Asia Region, Best Women's Cricket Initiative
Winners, ICC Global Development Award, Best Women's Cricket Initiative
Winners, ACC Premier League
Qualifiers for ICC World Cricket League Division 5

Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

Coaches : **Level I – 17; Level II – 3**

Umpires : **Level I – 44; Level II – 4**

Curators : **Module 1 – 4; Module 2 – 3; Module 3 – 2; Advanced – 1**

Nepal's position at the top of the ACC rankings rests firmly on its overwhelmingly consistent performance at all levels of competition. At age-group level, they simply clean up. Wins in recent U-19 World Cups against Pakistan, New Zealand and South Africa have been based on disciplined, error-free cricket and they showed in their thrilling fast-wicket victory over New Zealand in the 2006 event that they possess boundless desire for success.

Sri Lanka's legendary batsman Roy Dias who took over as coach in 2001 has been the architect of Nepal's triumphs and he has moulded a nation high on enthusiasm and short of experience into a fine competitive force. No greater evidence of his ability to maximise the skills of his charges can be seen than by the performance of the U-15 team in the 2006 ACC Elite Cup. Only two of the Nepal squad had ever played any form of competitive cricket before reaching Malaysia to play the event, two weeks later they had won it. The opposition wasn't bad, far from it. It was just that Nepal did the basics and then just a little bit more, very well thanks to all that their coach had inspired them to learn.

The one level they have yet to master is that of the seniors, where they have so far found the seasoned talents of a full-strength UAE just that little bit too much for them. But they're pushing, they're certainly pushing and the battle between them and the UAE should be fascinating in the years ahead.

A regime change at the Cricket Association of Nepal has led to the adoption of a more professional approach to development. Greater sponsorship and more focussed domestic competitions have been the result. Work has already started on a national Academy, felt to be vital given the extremes of Nepal's weather, for indoor practise. This will be partially funded by the ACC.



Nepal



Roy Dias hoisted on his team's shoulders after they win the 2005 ACC U-19 Cup in Kathmandu



Nepal celebrate winning the U-19 World Cup 2006 Plate Championship ©ICC



National captain Binod Kumar Das



Cricket takes over football territory Kathmandu, November 2005



Nepal with the 2005 ACC U-19 Trophy



Roy Dias working with his U-19 team



Nepal's home supporters at Tribhuvan



2006-2007 ACC Premier League champions



Rumesh Ratnayake in Kathmandu, September 2004

Country Profiles



Oman

Population: 3,001,583 (2005 estimate)
Population Aged 0-15: 42.6%
National Coach:
National Captain: Jitendra Redkar
Cricket clubs: 43
Grounds: 5
Turf wickets: 0
Women's cricket: Yes
Playing Season: August - April
ACC Member since 2000



Recent Achievements:

- 2004 Finalists, ACC Trophy
- Winners, ACC Middle East Cup
- 2005 Ninth, ICC Trophy

Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

- Coaches : Level I – 14; Level II – 3
- Umpires : Level I – 45; Level II – 1
- Curators : Module 1 – 3; Module 2 – 2; Module III – 1



Oman came from seemingly nowhere to finish second in the 2004 ACC Trophy and clinch a place in the aborted 2006 Asia Cup as well as the ICC Trophy of 2005.

Their rise was based on having a team packed with all-rounders, superb team spirit and the presence of former Indian international Sandip Patil as coach. Though Sandip Patil's association with Oman isn't on a permanent basis, he is with them for all major tournaments. They have all the ingredients for success, including a vigorous national association but until their plans to introduce turf wickets are realised, they will always find the going that much tougher in alien conditions.

Skill and sound temperament took Oman to a thrilling last-ball victory over Bahrain in the 2004 ACC Middle East Cup and team spirit has remained high throughout. However, the lack of turf wickets in the Sultanate has hampered the team's preparation for international events. It wasn't until the last match of their ICC Trophy campaign in Ireland in 2005 that they came to grips with the conditions as they chased down USA's 345 with five balls to spare.

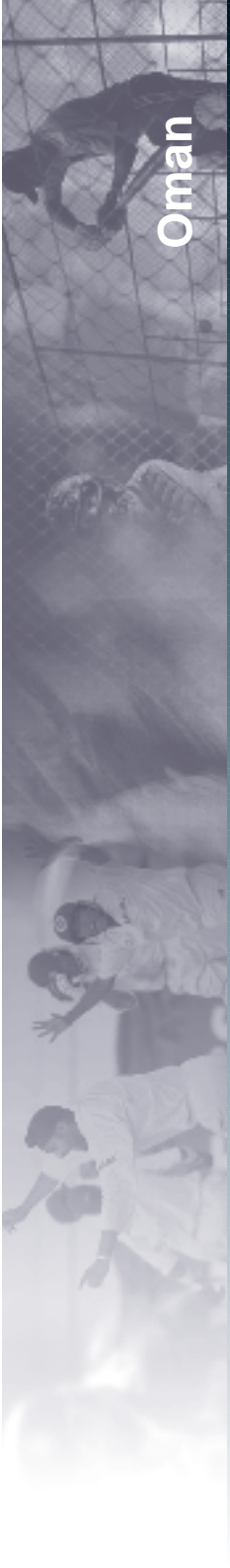
Their bowling remains strong but the lack of match-practise on turf cost them dearly in the 2006 ACC Trophy where they couldn't progress beyond the group stage.



The ACC Chief Executive presents the 2006 ACC U-15 Challenge Cup to Oman's captain Luvleen Alva



Oman celebrate victory against USA, ICC Trophy 2005



Oman



HH Sayyid Haitham bin Tariq Al Said, OCB's Patron in Chief at the conclusion of a cricket fund-raiser for tsunami relief



National squad practise in Muscat



Al Emarat, a future site for Omani cricket turf



Oman's leading all-rounder Hemin Desai



Coach Rajender Singh tells his captain how Bhutan could have been bowled out for less than 67 in the 2006 ACC U-15 Challenge Cup Final

Country Profiles



Qatar



Population: 863, 051 (2005 estimate)
Population Aged 0-15: 23.7%
National Coach: Aruna de Silva
National Captain: Omer Taj
Cricket clubs:
Grounds:
Turf wickets: 0
Women's cricket: Yes
Playing Season: September - April

ACC Member since 2000

Recent Achievements:

- 2005 **Participants, ICC World Cricket League Division 2**
- 2006 **ICC Development Awards, Asia Region, Volunteer of the Year: Malik Nazar Mohammad**
- Quarter-Finalists, ACC Trophy**

Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

- Coaches : **Level I – 8, Level II – 2**
- Umpires : **Level I – 38, Level II – 2**
- Curators : **Module 1 – 4; Module 2 – 3; Module 3 – 2; Advanced – 1**



Qatar are one of those countries currently girding their loins in Asia as they seek to capitalise on the talent and resources they have available.

Along with quality seasoned batsmen, they have one of the best young talents in fifteen year-old Tamoor Sajjad. Lacking bowlers however, they invariably struggle in the latter stages of every tournament.

The absence of turf for practise and match-play is another handicap for them as players currently practise almost exclusively on matting and cement wickets. An attempt made in 2005 to produce turf wickets on reclaimed land from the Doha Golf Club wasn't successful. Efforts continue unabated to secure turf facilities and news in February 2007 that land has been provided by the government for a cricket centre in Salwa, has been very positively received by the Qatar Cricket Association.



David v Goliath: Qatar's Tamoor Sajjad takes on UAE's Ali Asad, 2006 ACC Trophy. Sajjad made 53 with five 4s and two 6s.



The 2006 ACC Trophy squad



Muhammad Jahangir during the 2006 ACC Trophy. He was the tournament's third-highest run-scorer with 364 runs.



Local cricket in Qatar



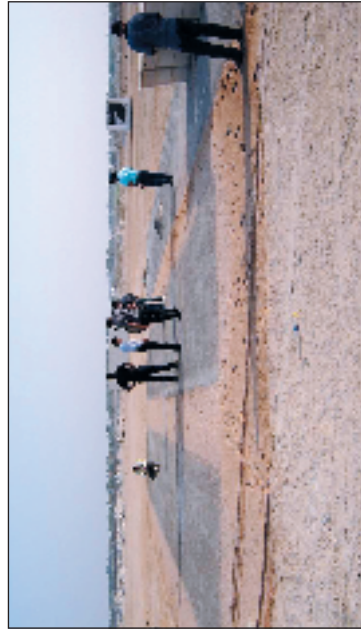
Tamoor Sajjad after shining for the seniors in the 2006 ACC Trophy led the 2006 ACC U-15 Challenge Cup batting averages.



The national squad in training



Fahad Ghulam at the 2006 ACC U-15 Challenge Cup. He was second in the batting averages.



Clay strips being laid in Doha's Westbay

Country Profiles



Saudi Arabia

Population: 27,091,731 (2005 estimate)
Population Aged 0-15: 38.2%
National Coach: Nadeem Babar
National Captain: Naved Nawas
Cricket clubs:
Grounds: 9
Turf wickets: 0
Women's cricket: No
Playing Season: October - April
ACC Member since 2003



Suhrab Kisingatakam

Recent Achievements:

- 2006 **Fifty-two 6s struck during the ACC Trophy, a tournament record**
- 2007 **SCC Development Manager Nadeem Nadiwi appointed as Asia Region Affiliates representative at the ICC Annual Conference**

Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

- Coaches : **Level I – 10**
- Umpires : **Level I – 4; Level II – 1**
- Curators : **Module 1 – 2; Module 2 – 2; Module 3 – 1**



Given anything like an in-depth bowling attack and athleticism, Saudi Arabia would have caused a couple of major upsets in the 2006 ACC Trophy. Their batsmen had Malaysia and the UAE on the ropes only to find that no matter how many runs they scored, no matter how quickly, the fact that their bowlers and fielders would haemorrhage runs in the field would undo all the batsmen's strokeplay.

It's not an uncommon failing at this level but Saudi Arabia were left ruing their lack of physical preparation for the ACC Trophy for they undoubtedly have the batsmen to take on any attack on a good wicket.

Cricket is receiving active royal patronage in the kingdom and the Saudi Cricket Centre are active in reaching out to as many as possible who wish to play the game.

Currently just bubbling under the ranks of the top 10 in ACC rankings, should they breakthrough into the elite and manage to combine wicket-takers and run-savers with this current generation of batsmen, Saudi Arabia will be established on the cricketing map.



The inauguration of the Saudi Cricket Academy, May 2005



The massed ranks of Riyadh's young cricketers

Saudi Arabia



Prince Faisal, Deputy Governor of Al Baha with a delegation from the ACC and SCC



Mohammad Adil bowling to the Maldives, 2006 ACC U-15 Challenge Cup



Saudi youth take guard in Jeddah



Basim Qadir hits out against China, 2006 ACC U-15 Challenge Cup



Sarfraz Ahmed, second in the averages of the 2006 ACC Trophy



Thailand's Ishan Kalra bowling to Saudi Arabia's captain Abdul Samad, 2006 ACC U-15 Challenge Cup

Country Profiles



Singapore

Population: 4,425,720 (2005 estimate)
Population Aged 0-15: 18%.
National Coach: Venkatramanan
Margasahayam
National Captain: Chaminda Ruwan
Clubs: 48
Grounds: 12
Turf wickets: 7
Women's cricket: Yes
Playing Season: Year-round
ACC Member since 1983



Recent Achievements:

- 2002 Hosts, ACC Trophy
- 2006 Fifth, ACC Trophy
- 2007 Winners, ICC Development Awards, Asia Region: Best Overall Cricket Development Program
- Winners, ICC Global Development Awards: Best Overall Cricket Development Program
- Qualifiers for ICC World Cricket League Division 5



Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

- Coaches : Level I – 29; Level II – 5
- Umpires : Level I – 69; Level II – 5
- Curators : Module 1 – 4; Module 2 – 3; Module 3 – 2; Advanced – 2



'A strong team on the field depends on a strong team off the field' is the recognised mantra of cricket development and it is one that is evident in Singapore. Their administration is one of the finest in the world and their national team is making significant progress up the ladder.

They're not world-beaters or even Asia beaters yet but they keep doing just enough in all the ACC tournaments to justify their opponents' respect. If anything they're like the New Zealand of ACC cricket, always there or thereabouts but never quite present at the final reckoning.

An influx of seasoned new players is adding to the strength of the team and if Singapore can master the transition of junior cricketers to the senior ranks then they'll have a truly competitive team.

The Singapore Cricket Association are actively engaging with the state in order to seek further state support and funding. They are emphasising cricket's virtues as a character and team-spirit builder in order to do so, knowing full well that these will appeal to the nation-state.



Age-group coaching at Kallang

Singapore



SCA President Imran Khwaja



250 children from 11 primary schools took part in the 2006 SCA Carnival



Singapore has a very active schools cricket program



Singapore's captain Chaminda Ruwan advancing with his country



Singapore at the 2006 ACC Trophy



Glenn Meyer takes on Oman's Hemin Desai, 2006 ACC Trophy. Singapore won by 75 runs.

Country Profiles



Thailand

Population: 65,444,371 (2005 estimate)
Population Aged 0-15: 22%
National Coach: Mohideen Kader
National Captain: Zeeshan Khan
Cricket clubs:
Grounds: 13
Turf wickets: 5
Women's cricket: Yes
Playing Season: Year-round

ACC Member since 1996



The Royal Bangkok Sports Club

Recent Achievements:

- 2005 ICC Associate Member
- 2006 Finalists, ACC Emerging Nations Tournament
- Winners, ICC Development Awards, Asia Region: Best Spirit of Cricket Initiative
- Winners, ICC Global Development Awards: Best Spirit of Cricket Initiative
- Third, ACC U-15 Challenge Cup

Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

- Coaches : Level I – 14; Level II – 2
- Umpires : Level I – 28; Level II – 5
- Curators : Module 1 – 4; Module 2 – 2; Module 3 – 4; Advanced – 1



Thailand have progressed considerably since the ACC took an interest in them and now stand as one of the true exemplars of cricket development. The game has spread across the country, spreading from Bangkok to Chiang Mai and Khon Kaen in the north and east, to Phuket in the south.

Once the game was taken to the indigenous population, Thai youth cricketing activity has flourished. Local Thai boys make up the bulk of the age-group squads and a number have played for the seniors already. Women's cricket is a significant part of development activity.

Facilities are in place in Bangkok and Chiang Mai to host multi-venue tournaments and the award of ICC Associate status in 2005 was due recognition of the potential that Thailand shows for cricket. Potential that is, to a large extent, being realised.

Greater exposure to competitive cricket will raise playing standards and allow them to climb the ACC tournament rankings.



U-13 cricketers from Khon Kaen and Hua Hin



Khon Kaen's U-16 cricketers



Thailand's captain Zeeshan Khan bowling against Qatar, 2006 ACC Trophy



CAT President Ravi Sehgal



Thailand celebrate a wicket, 2006 ACC Trophy



Some of the 2006 U-15 squad



Cricketers of Petchabun in north Thailand with Roger Binny



U-15 Training, 2006



Country Profiles



UAE



Population: 4,496,000 (2005 estimate)
Population Aged 0-15: 25.3%
National Coach: Abey Kuruvilla
National Captain: Arshad Ali
Cricket clubs:
Grounds: 55
Turf wickets: 5
Women's cricket: Yes
Playing Season: September - April
ACC Member since 1984

Recent Achievements:

- 2000-2006 **Winners, ACC Trophy**
- 2004 **Semi-Finalists, ICC Intercontinental Cup**
- 2005 **Winners ACC Fast Track Countries Tournament**
- Semi-Finalists, ICC Intercontinental Cup**
- 2006 **Finalists, ACC U-15 Elite Cup**
- Winners ACC Fast Track Countries Tournament**

Personnel qualified from ACC Courses:

- Coaches : **Level I – 10; Level II – 3**
- Umpires : **Level I – 20**
- Curators : **Module 1 – 3; Module 2 – 2; Module 3 – 2**



The UAE are peerless in Asia when it comes to senior-level cricket. They have the best players and the best grounds as well as deep-rooted cricket patronage. Carrying all before them in the ACC Trophy since 2000 (Bangladesh were the winners in 1998), they have always had the best-balanced and the best-prepared sides on display.

In three-day ACC cricket, only Nepal have beaten them (in 2005 in Kathmandu) and that with what the UAE would say was a second-string UAE side. In the return fixture in Sharjah in 2006, the UAE gained revenge with a 98-run victory.

There are many reasons, socio-economic ones notwithstanding, why the UAE have the best team in Asia. One of the key factors in their players' performance however, is the UAE's competitive domestic format. It's easy for the national team to play at their best in international fixtures because they have to play at their best in domestic ones.

At age-group level other countries tend to find the UAE beatable but even there, such is the depth of their talent pool, they remain one of the strongest teams.



Ali Asad bowls during the 2006 ACC Trophy Final



Sheikh Zayed Stadium, Abu Dhabi



ECB Administrator Mazhar Khan



UAE captain Arshad Ali



Walid Bukhatir with Mazhar Khan at the unveiling of the new Al Dhaid ground, November 2006



UAE perennial Khuram Khan



The ACC Development Officers at a junior training session in Sharjah



THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

Company No: LL 03608

(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007**

Company No: LL 03608

THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

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Company No: LL 03608

THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

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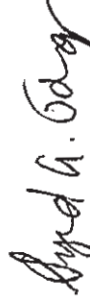
STATEMENT BY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

We, Jayantha Dharmadasa and Syed Ashrafuul Huq, two of the Executive Board Members of THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL, state that, in the opinion of the Board, the financial statements set out on pages 3 to 24 are drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Council as at 31 March 2007 and of the results and cash flows of the Council for the financial year ended on that date in accordance with the MASB Approved Accounting Standards in Malaysia for Entities Other than Private Entities.

Signed on behalf of the Executive Board in accordance with their resolution dated 26 May 2007.



JAYANTHA DHARMADASA
PRESIDENT



SYED ASHRAFUL HUQ
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

STATEMENT BY OFFICER PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNCIL

I, Thusith Perera, being the person primarily responsible for the financial management of THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL, hereby state that the financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2007 set out on pages 3 to 24 are, in my opinion, correct.



THUSITH PERERA
FINANCE MANAGER

26 May 2007

**REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL**

(Incorporated in Labuan, Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited
by Guarantee)
(Company No. LL 03608)

We have audited the financial statements set out on pages 3 to 24. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Council's Executive Board Members. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on these financial statements and to report our opinion to you, as a body, in accordance with Section 117 of the Offshore Companies Act, 1990 and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility to any other person for the content of this report.

We conducted our audit in accordance with approved auditing standards in Malaysia. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the Executive Board Members, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standards, the MASB Approved Accounting Standards in Malaysia for Entities Other than Private Entities so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Council as at 31 March 2007 and of its results and cash flows for the financial year ended on that date.



PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS
(No. AAL-0017)
Chartered Accountants

Labuan
26 May 2007



SRIDHARAN NAIR
(No. 2656/05/08 (J))
Partner of the firm

Company No: LL 03608

THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007**

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2007</u> USD	<u>2006</u> USD
Revenue	4	391,311	718,162
Operating expenses		(2,683,327)	(700,777)
Other operating income		49,345	9,352
(Deficit)/surplus before taxation	5	(2,242,671)	26,737
Taxation	8	(81)	(802)
(Deficit)/surplus for the financial year		(2,242,752)	25,935
Accumulated fund as at 1 April		6,860,379	6,834,444
Accumulated fund as at 31 March		<u>4,617,627</u>	<u>6,860,379</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

Company No: LL 03608

THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2007

	Note	2007 USD	2006 USD
NON-CURRENT ASSET			
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	9	74,446	90,787
CURRENT ASSETS			
Receivables, deposits and prepayments	10	1,231,802	437,608
Cash and bank balances	11	18,035,720	16,731,689
		<u>19,267,522</u>	<u>17,169,297</u>
LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	12	2,311,703	4,604,587
Advance received for Asia Cup 2008		1,650,000	1,650,000
Advance from the ICC	13	6,500,000	-
Provision for Gratuity		173,475	113,664
Current tax liability		-	802
Funds from Test playing nations	14	-	100,000
		<u>10,635,178</u>	<u>6,469,053</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>8,632,344</u>	<u>10,700,244</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>8,706,790</u>	<u>10,791,031</u>
REPRESENTED BY:			
Accumulated fund		4,617,627	6,860,379
Development fund		313,618	3,930,652
ICC special fund for Asian Region	16	3,775,545	-
		<u>8,706,790</u>	<u>10,791,031</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

Company No: LL 03608

THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007**

	Note	Accumulated fund USD	Development fund USD	ICC special fund for Asian Region USD	Total USD
<u>31 March 2007</u>					
At 1 April 2006		6,860,379	3,930,652	-	10,791,031
Deficit for the financial year		(2,242,752)	-	-	(2,242,752)
Net outflows	15	-	(3,617,034)	-	(3,617,034)
Net inflows	16	-	-	3,775,545	3,775,545
At 31 March 2007		<u>4,617,627</u>	<u>313,618</u>	<u>3,775,545</u>	<u>8,706,790</u>
<u>31 March 2006</u>					
At 1 April 2005		6,834,444	8,647,101	-	15,481,545
Surplus for the financial year		25,935	-	-	25,935
Net outflows	15	-	(4,716,449)	-	(4,716,449)
At 31 March 2006		<u>6,860,379</u>	<u>3,930,652</u>	-	<u>10,791,031</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

Company No: LL 03608

THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007

	<u>2007</u> USD	<u>2006</u> USD
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
(Deficit)/surplus for the financial year	(2,242,752)	25,935
Adjustments for:		
Furniture, fixtures and equipment		
- Depreciation	22,673	17,672
- Loss on disposal	-	3,498
Gratuity	59,811	113,664
Interest income	(391,311)	(265,193)
Taxation	81	802
Deficit before working capital changes	<u>(2,551,498)</u>	<u>(103,622)</u>
(Increase)/decrease in receivables	(812,465)	292,039
Increase in advance from the ICC	6,500,000	-
Increase in advance received for Asia Cup 2006	-	1,650,000
(Decrease)/increase in payables	(2,292,884)	783,058
Decrease in development fund	(3,617,034)	(4,716,449)
Increase in ICC Special Fund for Asian Region	3,775,545	-
Cash flows from operations	<u>1,001,664</u>	<u>(2,094,974)</u>
Tax paid	(883)	(5,305)
Net cash flows from operating activities	<u>1,000,781</u>	<u>(2,100,279)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Interest received	409,582	199,440
Purchase of furniture, fixtures and equipment	(6,332)	(81,339)
Proceeds from disposal of furniture, fixtures and equipment	-	8,886
Net cash flows from investing activities	<u>403,250</u>	<u>126,987</u>

Company No: LL 03608

THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007 (CONTINUED)**

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2007</u> <u>USD</u>	<u>2006</u> <u>USD</u>
CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Settlement of funds from Test playing nations		(100,000)	-
Net cash flow from financing activities		(100,000)	-
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		1,304,031	(1,973,292)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		16,731,689	18,704,981
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	11	18,035,720	16,731,689

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

Company No: LL 03608

THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007

1

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND GENERAL INFORMATION

The principal activities of the Council consist of developing, coordinating, regulating and promoting the game of cricket in the Asian region.

The Council is a company limited by guarantee which was incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, on 31 January 2003.

The address of the registered office of the Council is as follows:

Brumby House
Jalan Bahasa
P.O.Box 80148
87011 Labuan F.T.

The address of the secretariat of the Council is as follows:

8th Floor, Wisma Antah
Off Jalan Semantan
Damansara Heights
50490 Kuala Lumpur

The Executive Board Members of the Council as at 31 March 2007 are as follows:

Mr. Jayantha Dharmadasa, President
Mr. K.H. Imran, Vice President
Mr. Sharad Pawar, Executive Board Member
Dr. Nasim Ashraf, Executive Board Member
Mr. M. Abdul Aziz ndc, Executive Board Member
HRH Tunku Tan Sri Imran Ibni Tuanku Ja'afar, Executive Board Member
Mr. Kangadaran Mathivanan, Executive Board Member
Mr. Mazhar Khan, Executive Board Member
Mr. Ravi Sehgal, Executive Board Member
Mr. Manzur Ahmed, Executive Board Member
Mr. Syed Ashrafu'l Huq, Ex officio
Mr. Mahmudur Rahman, Ex officio
Mr. Niranjan Shah, Ex officio
Mr. Salim Altaf, Ex officio
Mr. Duleep Mendis, Ex officio

Company No: LL 03608

THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007 (CONTINUED)

2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been used consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the financial statements.

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the Council have been prepared under the historical cost convention and comply with Financial Reporting Standards, the MASB Approved Accounting Standards in Malaysia for Entities Other than Private Entities in all material respects.

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with the Financial Reporting Standards in Malaysia requires the Executive Board Members to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reported financial year. Although the estimates are based on the Executive Board Members' best knowledge of current events and actions, actual results could differ from those estimates.

(i) Standards, amendments to published standards and interpretations that are effective:

The new accounting standards, amendments to published standards and IC Interpretations to existing standards effective and relevant for the Council's financial year beginning on 1 April 2006 are as follows:

- FRS 101 Presentation of Financial Statements
- FRS 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
- FRS 110 Events after the Balance Sheet Date
- FRS 112 Income Taxes
- FRS 116 Property, Plant and Equipment
- FRS 121 The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates
- FRS 132 Financial Instruments: Disclosure and Presentation
- FRS 136 Impairment of Assets

All changes in accounting policies have been made in accordance with the transition provisions in the respective standards and amendments to published standards. All standards and amendments adopted by the Council require retrospective application other than:

- FRS 116 The exchange of property, plant and equipment is accounted at fair value prospectively

The adoption of the above new FRS does not have any significant financial impact on the results of the Council.

THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007 (CONTINUED)**

2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(a) Basis of preparation (continued)

- (i) Standards, amendments to published standards and interpretations that are effective: (continued)

The accounting standards that are effective but not applicable to the Council's financial statements are as follows:

- FRS 2 Share-based payments
- FRS 5 Non-Current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations
- FRS 102 Inventories
- FRS 128 Investments in Associates
- FRS 131 Interests in Joint Venture
- FRS 133 Earnings Per Share
- FRS 140 Investment Property
- Amendments to FRS 119 2004 Employee Benefits – Actual Gains and Losses, Group Plans and Disclosures – in relation to the “asset ceiling” test.
- IC 107 Introduction to Euro
- IC 110 Government Assistance - No specific relation to Operating Activities
- IC 112 Consolidation - Special Purpose Entities
- IC 113 Jointly Controlled Entities - Non Monetary Contributions by Ventures
- IC 115 Operating Leases - Incentives
- IC 121 Income Taxes - Recovery of Revalued Non-Depreciable Assets
- IC 125 Income Taxes - Changes in the Tax Status of an Entity or its Shareholders
- IC 127 Evaluating the Substances of Transactions Involving the Legal Form of a lease
- IC 129 Disclosure - Service Concession Arrangements
- IC 131 Revenue - Barter Transactions Involving Advertising Services
- IC 132 Intangible Assets - Web Site Costs

THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007 (CONTINUED)

2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(a) Basis of preparation (continued)

- (ii) Standards, amendments to published standards and interpretations to existing standards that are not yet effective and have not been early adopted:

The new standards, amendments to published standards and interpretations that are mandatory for the Council's financial periods beginning on or after 1 April 2007 or later periods, but which the Council has not early adopted, are as follows:

- FRS 117 Leases (effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 October 2006). This standard requires the classification of leasehold land as prepaid lease payments. The Council will apply this standard from financial periods beginning on 1 April 2007.
- FRS 124 Related party disclosures (effective for accounting period beginning on or after 1 October 2006). This standard will effect the identification of related parties and some other related party disclosures. The Council will apply this standard from financial periods beginning 1 April 2007.
- FRS 139 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement (effective date yet to be determined by Malaysian Accounting Standards Board). This new standard establishes principles for recognising and measuring financial assets, financial liabilities and some contracts to buy and sell non-financial items. Hedge accounting is permitted only under strict circumstances. The Council will apply this standard when effective.

(b) Furniture, fixtures and equipment

Furniture, fixtures and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses, if any. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items.

Depreciation on furniture, fixtures and equipment are made on a straight line basis to write off the cost of each asset to its residual value over its estimated useful life. The annual depreciation rates are as follows:

Furniture and fixtures	%
Office equipment	10
Motor vehicles	20
Computers	20
	33

Residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance sheet date.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007 (CONTINUED)**

2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(b) Furniture, fixtures and equipment (continued)

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as separate assets, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised. All other repairs and maintenance costs are charged to the income statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amount and are included in profit/(loss) from operations.

At each balance sheet date, the Council assesses whether there is any indication of impairment. Where an indication of impairment exists, the carrying amount of the asset is assessed and written down immediately to its recoverable amount. Refer to accounting policy Note 2(g) on impairment of assets.

(c) Revenue recognition

The Council's revenue consists of sponsorship and advertising income, sale of commercial rights, sales of tickets and interest income, which are recognised on an accrual basis.

(d) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks and short term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

(e) Employee benefits

(i) Short term benefits

Salaries and other staff related expenses are accrued in the financial year in which the associated services are rendered by employees of the Council.

(ii) Defined contribution retirement plan

A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the Council pays fixed contributions to the national pension scheme, the Employees' Provident Fund ("EPF"). The Council's contributions to EPF are charged to the income statement in the period to which they relate. Once the contributions have been paid, the Council has no further payment obligations.

(iii) Staff gratuity

Gratuity is due to an employee, whose employment has been discharged or who has resigned or died after a minimum of one year's continuous service. A provision for gratuity is made to match the rendering of the services by the employees.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007 (CONTINUED)

2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(f) Foreign currencies

The financial statements of the Council are presented in United States Dollar ("USD"), which is the Council's functional and presentation currency.

Foreign currency transactions are accounted for at exchange rates prevailing at the transaction dates. Foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities are translated at exchange rates prevailing at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences arising from the settlement of foreign currency transactions and from the translation of foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities are included in the income and expenditure account.

(g) Impairment of assets

The Council assesses at each balance sheet date whether there is objective evidence that an asset is impaired. An asset is impaired and impairment losses are incurred if, and only if, there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the asset (a 'loss event') and that loss event (or events) has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the asset that can be reliably estimated.

Assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to amortisation and are tested annually for impairment. Assets that are subject to amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there is separately identifiable cash flow (cash-generating units). Non-financial assets other than goodwill that suffered an impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

The impairment loss is charged to the income statement and any subsequent increase in recoverable amount is recognised in the income statement.

(h) Income taxes

Current tax expense is determined according to the tax laws of the jurisdiction in which the Council operates and includes all taxes based upon the taxable profits.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007 (CONTINUED)

2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(i) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Council has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, when it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, and when a reliable estimate of the amount can be made. Where the Council expects a provision to be reimbursed (for example, under an insurance contract) the reimbursement is recognised as separate asset but only when the reimbursement is virtually certain. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses.

Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole. A provision is recognised even if the likelihood of an outflow with respect to any one item included in the same class of obligations may be small.

Provisions are measured at the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation using a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessment of the time value of money and the risk specific to the obligation. The increase in the provision due to passage of time is recognised as interest expense.

(i) Financial instruments

Description

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to both a financial asset of one enterprise and a financial liability or equity instrument of another enterprise.

A financial asset is any asset that is cash, a contractual right to receive cash or another financial asset from another enterprise, a contractual right to exchange financial instruments with another enterprise under conditions that are potentially favourable, or an equity instrument of another enterprise.

A financial liability is any liability that is a contractual obligation to deliver cash or another financial asset to another enterprise, or to exchange financial instruments with another enterprise under conditions that are potentially unfavourable.

Financial instruments recognised on the balance sheet

The particular recognition method adopted for financial instruments recognised on the balance sheet is disclosed in the individual accounting policy note associated with each item.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007 (CONTINUED)

2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(i) Financial instruments (continued)

Fair value estimation for disclosure purposes

The face values, less any estimated credit adjustments, for financial assets and liabilities with a maturity of less than one year are assumed to approximate their fair values.

The fair values for financial assets and liabilities with a maturity of more than one year are estimated using a variety of methods and assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at each balance sheet date including estimated discounted value of future cash flows, quoted market prices or dealer quotes.

3 CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with FRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates and exercise of judgment by management in the process of applying the Council's accounting policies.

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

There are no critical estimates and judgments made for the financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2007.

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THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007 (CONTINUED)

4	REVENUE	2007 USD	2006 USD
	Income from Afro-Asia Tournament 2005	-	452,969
	Interest income	391,311	265,193
		<u>391,311</u>	<u>718,162</u>

5 (DEFICIT) / SURPLUS BEFORE TAXATION

The following items have been charged / (credited) in arriving at (deficit) / surplus before taxation:

	2007 USD	2006 USD
Tournament expenses	-	132,727
Furniture, fixtures and equipment		
- Depreciation	15,686	14,579
- Loss on disposal	-	3,498
Rentals	13,043	12,128
Auditors' remuneration (Note 6)	2,500	3,143
Staff costs (Note 7)	262,043	274,209
Net foreign exchange loss – realised	1,492	303
Gain on disposal of motor vehicle under operating lease	-	(7,000)

6 AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

	2007 USD	2006 USD
PricewaterhouseCoopers Malaysian firm:		
Statutory audit	<u>2,500</u>	<u>3,143</u>

7 STAFF COSTS

	2007 USD	2006 USD
Salaries	226,068	225,971
Staff gratuity	26,897	43,792
Defined contribution retirement plan	3,117	2,487
Other staff related expenses	5,961	1,959
	<u>262,043</u>	<u>274,209</u>

Included in salaries is an amount of USD 89,666 paid to an Executive Board Member (i.e. Chief Executive) during the financial year. None of the other Executive Board Members received any remuneration.

Company No: LL 03608

THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007 (CONTINUED)

8	TAXATION	2007 USD	2006 USD
	Current taxation	81	802

Onshore income of the Council is exempted from income tax for a period of 10 years commencing from Year of Assessment 2003 up to Year of Assessment 2012 under Section 127 (3A) of the Income Tax Act, 1967. Income tax on offshore income of the Council is taxed under the Labuan Offshore Business Activity Tax Act, 1998.

9 FURNITURE, FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT

2007	Furniture and fixtures USD	Office equipment USD	Motor vehicles USD	Computers USD	Total USD
Cost					
At 1 April 2006	18,524	3,415	75,819	20,418	118,176
Additions	577	-	-	5,755	6,332
At 31 March 2007	19,101	3,415	75,819	26,173	124,508
Accumulated depreciation					
At 1 April 2006	(4,339)	(1,291)	(7,582)	(14,177)	(27,389)
Charge for the financial year	(1,881)	(683)	(15,163)	(4,946)	(22,673)
At 31 March 2007	(6,220)	(1,974)	(22,745)	(19,123)	(50,062)
Net book value					
At 31 March 2007	12,881	1,441	53,074	7,050	74,446

THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007 (CONTINUED)****9 FURNITURE, FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT (CONTINUED)**

2006 Cost	Furniture and fixtures		Office equipment	Motor vehicles	Computers	Total
	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD
At 1 April 2005	18,524	2,567	20,641	15,746	57,478	
Additions	-	848	75,819	4,672	81,339	
Disposals	-	-	(20,641)	-	(20,641)	
At 31 March 2006	<u>18,524</u>	<u>3,415</u>	<u>75,819</u>	<u>20,418</u>	<u>118,176</u>	

10 Accumulated depreciation

At 1 April 2005	(2,335)	(546)	(7,431)	(7,661)	(17,973)
Charge for the financial year	(2,004)	(745)	(8,407)	(6,516)	(17,672)
Disposals	-	-	8,256	-	8,256
At 31 March 2006	<u>(4,339)</u>	<u>(1,291)</u>	<u>(7,582)</u>	<u>(14,177)</u>	<u>(27,389)</u>
Net book value	14,185	2,124	68,237	6,241	90,787

10 RECEIVABLES, DEPOSITS AND PREPAYMENTS

	2007 USD	2006 USD
Advances to Cricket Boards and Associations		
- Afghanistan Cricket Federation	2,921	14,842
- Bahrain Cricket Association	8,532	3,598
- Bangladesh Cricket Board	312,476	-
- Board of Control for Cricket in Bhutan	6,869	15,513
- Brunei Darussalam Cricket Association	23,750	10,457
- Chinese Cricket Association	-	4,230
- Hong Kong Cricket Association	10,501	18,644
- The Board of Control for Cricket in India	312,476	-
- Kuwait Cricket Association	3,115	-
- Malaysian Cricket Association	75	17,884
- Cricket Control Board of Maldives	4,235	-
- Myanmar Cricket Federation	2,825	-
- Pakistan Cricket Board	312,476	-
- Qatar Cricket Association	7,447	15,421
	<u>1,007,698</u>	<u>100,589</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007 (CONTINUED)

10	RECEIVABLES, DEPOSITS AND PREPAYMENTS (CONTINUED)	2007 USD	2006 USD
	Asia Cup 2004 – Sri Lanka Cricket	-	148,119
	Other advances and receivables	208,105	178,823
	Deposits and prepayments	15,999	10,077
		<u>1,231,802</u>	<u>437,608</u>

11	CASH AND BANK BALANCES	2007 USD	2006 USD
	Short-term deposits held with HSBC bank	17,675,685	15,987,206
	Bank balances:		
	- HSBC Bank (A/C No. 201-254562-101)	23,530	107,847
	- HSBC Bank (A/C No. 201-254562-725)	128,315	99,591
	- HSBC Bank (A/C No. 201-254562-102)	8,938	96,483
	- HSBC Bank (A/C No. 201-254562-726)	25,484	406,540
	- HSBC Bank (A/C No. 201-254562-710)	32,270	32,220
	- HSBC Bank, Labuan (A/C No. 801-001074-101)	72,240	-
	- HSBC Bank, Labuan (A/C No. 801-001074-102)	66,372	-
		<u>18,032,834</u>	<u>16,729,887</u>
	Cash on hand	2,886	1,802
	Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>18,035,720</u>	<u>16,731,689</u>

The weighted average rate of fixed deposits effective during the financial year was as follows:

	2007 %	2006 %
Short-term deposits with a licensed bank	<u>4.75</u>	<u>3.89</u>

Short-term deposits with a licensed bank have an average maturity period of up to 70 days (2006: 56 days).

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007 (CONTINUED)**

12	PAYABLES	2007 USD	2006 USD
	Amount due to Cricket Boards and Associations		
	- Bangladesh Cricket Board	-	3,645
	- Chinese Cricket Association	88,889	-
	- Cricket Association of Nepal	2,103	106,869
	- Cricket Australia	103,464	170,371
	- UAE Emirates Cricket Board	-	670
	- Kuwait Cricket Association	-	10,000
	- NZ Sports Turf Institute	-	7,050
	- Saudi Cricket Centre	1,703	22,776
	- Singapore Cricket Association	2,746	2,157
	- Sri Lanka Cricket	-	72,925
	- Cricket Association of Thailand	33,392	2,983
	- The Board of Control for Cricket in India	-	21,036
		<u>232,297</u>	<u>420,482</u>
	Payable to International Cricket Council	63,540	-
	Provision for other expenses of Asia Cup 2004	-	17,600
	Prize money payable Asia Cup 2004	-	87,000
	Funds to ACC members from Asia Cup 2004	413,626	3,010,000
	Funds received from ICC Championship Trophy 2004	-	510,000
	Funds received for Afro-Asia Cup 2005	32,270	306,212
	Tsunami aid fund	-	45,000
	Interest payable	-	93,129
	Financial grant for non Test playing countries 2006	1,500,000	-
	Accrued expenses	69,970	115,164
		<u>2,311,703</u>	<u>4,604,587</u>
	13 ADVANCE FROM THE ICC	2007 USD	2006 USD
	Payable within one to two years	<u>6,500,000</u>	<u>-</u>

Advance from the ICC represents funds received from the International Cricket Council for the development activities under the ICC/ACC agreement.

The amount will be utilised for development activities within one to two years time.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007 (CONTINUED)

14	FUNDS FROM TEST PLAYING NATIONS		
	Sri Lanka Cricket	2007 USD	2006 USD
		-	100,000
		-	100,000
15	ACC DEVELOPMENT FUND FUND STATEMENT	2007 USD	2006 USD
	INFLOWS		
	Contributions from the ICC	15,000	-
	Interest income	211,616	187,355
	Foreign exchange gain	-	2,270
	Contribution from the ACC	395,000	-
		<u>621,616</u>	<u>189,625</u>
	Reversal of over provisions	12,998	-
		<u>634,614</u>	<u>189,625</u>
	OUTFLOWS		
	<u>Personnel expenses</u>		
	Salaries	306,057	288,133
	Provision for gratuity	58,349	69,872
	Travel subsistence	93,035	76,196
	Development Officers' travelling expenses	83,938	70,588
	Development Manager's travelling expenses	23,370	13,403
	<u>Development programs</u>		
	Tournaments		
	- ACC Trophy U15	580,856	378,604
	- ACC Trophy U17	-	320,999
	- ACC Trophy U19	-	495,018
	- ACC Premier League	297,164	198,282
	- Emerging teams tournaments	-	165,067
	- ICC – Under 19 World Cup	41,003	-
	- Intercontinental Cup	102,000	4,808
	- ACC Trophy 2006	529,969	-
	Coach assistance	314,867	308,427
	Promotional expenses	8,666	16,596
	Consultancy fees – Cricket Australia	125,000	126,728

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THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007 (CONTINUED)

15 ACC DEVELOPMENT FUND FUND STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

	<u>2007</u> USD	<u>2006</u> USD
New territories	7,371	44,211
Administration and cricket management course	-	91,622
Cricket academies	3,150	5,769
Curators courses	53,487	103,491
Curator visits	18,470	29,814
High performance tours	9,512	153,684
Level I coaching courses	71,186	292,817
Level II coaching courses	89,884	169,775
Elementary coaching courses	96,605	-
Level I coach educator course	82,421	67,562
Level I coaching and umpiring course	238,481	-
Sports medicine and fitness seminar	64,951	77,251
Umpires workshops and seminars	-	329,555
Regional umpiring course	144,316	69,279
Level II umpiring course	92,523	138,918
Specialist coaching course	89,570	58,196
High Performance ICC	32,800	-
Women's cricket expenses	17,158	-
Meeting expenses	35,683	7,718
Development capital expenditure:		
- Fitness equipment	-	3,351
- Cricket equipment	125,166	250,335
- Ground equipment	60,827	201,322
- Ground development	133,530	172,771
- School cricket development	111,400	-
Office expenses	105,883	102,265
Auditors' remuneration	3,000	3,647
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	<u>4,251,648</u>	<u>4,906,074</u>
NET OUTFLOWS	<u>(3,617,034)</u>	<u>(4,716,449)</u>

16 ICC SPECIAL FUND FOR ASIAN REGION

	<u>2007</u> USD	<u>2006</u> USD
Funding from ICC	3,885,047	-
Utilisation for China Project	(109,502)	-
	<u>3,775,545</u>	<u>-</u>

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THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007 (CONTINUED)

17 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Fair values

The carrying amounts of financial assets and liabilities of the Council at the balance sheet date approximated their fair values.

18 GUARANTEE BY MEMBERS

Under Clause 9 of the Memorandum of Association, every member undertakes to contribute (if found necessary upon the winding up of the Council) a sum of not more than USD3.00 in the case of every Full Member and USD1.00 in the case of every Associate Member.

19 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Foreign currency exchange risk

The Council is not significantly exposed to foreign exchange risk as a significant portion of its assets and liabilities are maintained in the same currency.

Interest rate risk

The Council's income and operating cash flows are substantially independent of changes in market interest rates.

Credit risk

The Council has no significant concentrations of credit risk.

Liquidity and cash flow risk

Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash to meet the operating needs and obligations of the Council.

20 APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements have been approved for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Executive Board on 26 May 2007.

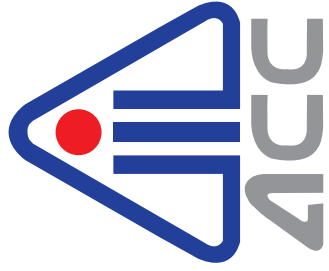
Company No: LL 03608

THE ASIAN CRICKET COUNCIL

(Incorporated in Labuan F.T., Malaysia, under the Offshore Companies Act, 1990, as a Company Limited by Guarantee)

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007

	<u>2007</u> USD	<u>2006</u> USD
INCOME		
Interest on bank deposits	391,311	265,193
Income from Afro-Asia Tournament 2005	-	452,969
Foreign exchange gain	-	2,352
Gain on disposal of motor vehicle operating lease	-	7,000
	<u>391,311</u>	<u>727,514</u>
Reversal of over provisions	49,345	-
	<u>440,656</u>	<u>727,514</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Tours and tournaments	-	132,727
U-19 Afro-Asia Cup	395,000	-
Contributions to ACC Development fund	187,445	-
Special grant - China	1,500,000	-
Financial grant to non Test playing countries	235,146	230,417
Staff costs	26,897	43,792
Provision for gratuity	11,678	10,062
Communication expenses	4,972	4,155
Insurance expenses	541	559
Newspapers and periodicals	4,421	3,649
Office maintenance	4,421	3,649
Official accommodation	11,669	16,285
Official travel subsistence	13,154	12,710
Official travelling expenses	43,946	40,624
Visa fees	965	350
Printing and stationery	3,833	3,359
Rents and rates	15,988	14,240
Vehicle rent and fuel expenses	5,130	6,084
Meeting expenses	187,505	134,899
Legal and professional charges	5,058	6,750
Auditors' remuneration	2,500	3,143
Bank charges	2,773	2,377
Hire-purchase rent	-	3,988
Exchange loss	1,492	2,655
Depreciation	15,686	14,579
Courier and postage	1,905	1,654
Entertainment	4,032	6,099
Website maintenance	1,591	2,122
Loss from disposal of fixed assets	-	3,498
	<u>2,683,327</u>	<u>700,777</u>
Total expenditure	<u>(2,242,671)</u>	<u>26,737</u>
(Deficit)/surplus before taxation	(81)	(802)
Taxation	<u>(2,242,752)</u>	<u>25,935</u>
Net (deficit)/surplus for the financial year	<u>(2,242,752)</u>	<u>25,935</u>



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