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EUROPE WIN 4 GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

Cricket Ireland, The Israel Cricket Association and The Deutscher Cricket Bund have won a record four awards at the Pepsi ICC Development Programme Annual Awards 2009.

Ireland were double winners receiving awards in the Volunteer of the Year Award category which went to Jim Bennett for his dedication and contribution to the game and The Photo of the Year; taken by Rob O'Connor. The photo captures the match winning run-out and is a great illustration of the passion and promise of youth cricket.

Cricket Ireland President Arthur Vincent paid tribute to both saying: "This is great news for Irish cricket and I am delighted for both winners. Jim Bennett is a dedicated and tireless volunteer for Irish youth cricket. He is quite simply a fantastic servant to the cause of cricket in the country and the award is richly deserved. Rob O'Connor is involved with Irish cricket at many levels, and is a superb photographer. His image captures for me the essence and the sheer exuberance and enjoyment of young cricketers playing the game. It is a great honour for both to have won these prestigious awards and a marvelous reflection on the healthy standard of cricket here."

This was followed by the Israel Cricket Association winning the Best Spirit of Cricket Initiative in partnership with UNAIDS and UNICEF for their programme which promoted co-existence and tolerance amongst those caught up in the Israel-Arab conflict in the Negev Desert.

Stanley Perlman, President of the Israel Cricket Association says: "The ICA is very honoured to receive this prestigious ICC Global Award. Much effort has gone into our programme with the Bedouin community introduc-



▲ Bedouin girls team with ICA Coach Herschel Gutman

ing a brand new sport to them and encouraging social interaction between Jewish and Bedouin children."

The fourth award went to Deutscher Cricket Bund who picked up the Best Women's Cricket Initiative award for 2009.

ICC Regional Development Manager-Europe, Richard Holdsworth congratulated all winners: "This is a fantastic achievement for the Europe region, to win a record four Global awards proves how much excellent develop-

ment work all the countries are doing and how far we have come. Cricket Ireland, Deutscher Cricket Bund and Israel Cricket Association should be very proud of their achievements; however so should all countries in what was a great 2009.

This year's judging panel featured current ICC President David Morgan, alongside former ICC presidents Ehsan Mani, Malcolm Gray and Ray Mali. Keith Bradshaw, the Secretary and Chief Executive of Marylebone Cricket Club, completed the line-up.

The full list of Global winners:

- Best Overall Cricket Development Programme – **Namibia Cricket Board**
- Best Women's Cricket Initiative – **Deutscher Cricket Bund**
- Best Junior Cricket Initiative – **Cricket Association of Nepal**
- Best Cricket Promotion and Marketing Programme – **Cricket PNG**
- Best Spirit of Cricket Initiative in Partnership with UNAIDS & UNICEF – **Israel Cricket Association**
- Photo of the Year – **Cricket Ireland** (Rob O'Connor)
- Volunteer of the Year – James Bennett (**Ireland**) & S Gopalkrishnan (**Indonesia**)
- Lifetime Service Award – **Binaya Raj Pandey (Nepal)**

Contents

- 2 Jersey at WCL 5
ECB Sky Sports Coach Awards
- 3 Spring Update from the Rock
Portugal's first junior girls involvement
- 4 Cricket's I/Cup visits Leinster Schools
- 5 KNCB & Scotland announce fixtures v Bangladesh
Obituary: Clarissa Crawford Pilkington

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JERSEY RELEGATED FROM WCL DIVISION 5



USA and Nepal promoted to Division 4

Fiji and Jersey relegated while Bahrain and Singapore stay in Div.5

The United States of America (USA) and Nepal will participate in the Pepsi ICC World Cricket League Division 4 (WCL Div. 4) in August after the Americans defeated the host by five wickets according to the Duckworth-Lewis Method in Kathmandu, Nepal recently. While the victory gave the Americans the top spot in the six-team contest, Nepal secured the second position on a better run-rate after it was tied with Singapore on points.

Singapore defeated Jersey by seven wickets in 26 overs at the Army Ground to relegate the Channel Island to Division 6 where it will be joined by Fiji which lost to Bahrain by 95 runs. Jersey's top order put up a spirited effort including a half-century from opener Matt Hague but the side was all out for 192. It took Singapore's captain and vice-captain to see them through to the end with Buddika Mendis returning unbeaten on 85 while Aurora concluded the game on 45. Mendis also walked away with the Man of the Match award after recording figures of 3-18.

A disappointed Jersey coach Craig Hogan said: "We absolutely got what we deserved. We didn't do anything together for 50 overs during the tournament. We couldn't bat well for 50 overs and you can't continuously lose your last six wickets for 20 or 30 runs and you can't go for 50, 60 or 70 runs in the power play. There are fundamental basic things that we haven't done and we have got what we deserved. We have to work a bit harder and value our wickets a bit. When things don't go your way you just have to scrounge and fight and we didn't do that."

The final saw Nepal triumph over USA and Jersey ended a disappointing week on a high after finishing fifth with a five-wicket win over Fiji. Batting first, Fiji made 258-7, its highest total in the competition, with Iniasi Cakacaka (78) and Jo Rika (75) featuring in an excellent 161-run stand for the second wicket. Jersey's Ryan Driver was once again in fine form with

the ball taking 4-58 to finish the event with 11 wickets from six matches. In reply, Driver followed up his fine bowling performance with a superlative 78 from 104 balls as Jersey romped to victory with five balls to spare. Driver received good support from Peter Gough who contributed 58 not out from 57 balls.

ECB Sky Sports Coach Awards Europe Region 2010 winners announced

The European winners of the Sky Sports Coach Awards 2010 have been announced with three different countries being recognised.

Cricket Ireland, Gibraltar Cricket Association and Swiss Cricket Association all have winners for this year's awards that recognise individuals who have made a significant contribution to the support and development of coaches and coaching in cricket.

Ryan Eagleson of Cricket Ireland was honoured with the Outstanding Contribution and Services to Cricket Coaching Award. Eagleson's work has led to a recent upsurge in growth and development in the game in Ireland and particularly Northern Ireland. He led a new regional development squad coaching programme for age groups Under 11 to Under 15, organising the entire programme from facilities to coaches, participants to administration and acting as lead coach in selected sessions. This new programme has led to increased numbers of participants and the introduction of new coaches, adding fresh ideas and approaches.

The Outstanding Coaching Award was awarded to Switzerland's Ivo Favotto. Favotto has had a huge impact on Swiss cricket in 2009 in his tireless efforts of organising matches, tournaments and events for young

players; he has attracted new participants and provided new goals for experienced players, including organising a special coaching session at the Brit Oval indoor nets with a variety of elite coaches during a 2009 summer tour in England.

The final award goes to Mark Bacarese of Gibraltar for Young Coach of the Year Award. Bacarese works tirelessly on all school programmes to help develop the game in Gibraltar. He is also committed to out-of-hours sessions within the District programme that have been used to set-up the initial junior teams. Bacarese is always available to work with players to assist them to improve and is now regularly booked out with players for coaching in small groups and on a one-to-one basis.

ICC Regional Development Manager Europe, Richard Holdsworth who chaired selection of the winners said: "Ryan Eagleson continually goes the extra mile, forever giving up his time, to maintain his commitment to leaving a lasting legacy; this includes taking a tutor and assessor course to share with future coaches. His work at national level with Ireland Under 17 and Under 19 has also been documented and he thoroughly deserves the recognition of this award for all his continual hard work.

"Ivo Favotto has been outstanding in 2009; he has ensured that young players have the opportunity to play cricket on a regular basis so that they are capable of playing competitively against their peers in other European countries.

"Young Coach of the Year Award was thoroughly deserved by Mark Bacarese who is an integral part of the Development Staff in Gibraltar; he has great enthusiasm for cricket and determination to see opportunities given to everyone who wants to take part. His hard work has also accelerated the improvement in his coaching style and reflects his dedication to the game."



Mark Bacarese of Gibraltar

SPRING UPDATE FROM THE ROCK



Above and below left: Gibraltar Girl's U15 players

Gibraltar reports on a busy start to 2010.

Despite the unusually prolonged and heavy rain that has been a feature of this winter in Gibraltar, cricket has been running a pace. In addition to more Middle schools joining the already busy schools programme, we have started looking towards Easter touring sides and the coming summer.

The Under 14s and 15s that will be part of the summer NatWest Junior League are back in the nets after school twice a week. We are hopeful that at least one team from the Soto-grande area will be coming over to take part in pre-season games at Europa. This link will allow for some competitive matches and the chance to hit the junior season running after Easter. Meanwhile the Under 11s and 13s are training indoors on Monday evenings and can't wait for the sun to come out so that they can move outdoors once again. These sessions also allow our qualifying 'Coach Award' candidates access to complete their task-books and develop their coaching styles.

The Girl's Under 15 squad is similarly enjoying continuing net sessions in preparation for their tour to take part in the Malvern Festival later this year. This is very much a growing area of cricket participation in Gibraltar and it is hoped that this team will continue to play, adding in some of the older girls, as we anticipate our first Women's team in the next year or two. The girl's will also be taking part in the NatWest Junior League this summer to boost their game awareness prior to their first ever representative tour.

Many of our potential Under 17s are taking advantage of curriculum time sessions in the nets and on the bowling machine in readiness for the season. The access allowed by Bay-side School is greatly appreciated and gives us the opportunity to run an 'Emerging Player' style programme. Many of these pupils are taking GCSE and AS exams this year and the

added value of them being able to gain video evidence of playing and analysis skills in support of those qualifications is of great benefit. It will also mean that they are better prepared for the season and especially the Calpe Development League that we plan to run specifically for them on Sundays in order to identify those likely to perform well in the European Division 2 Tournament.

The senior players have been training on a self-reliant basis until now, some having ad hoc nets and others fitness training with the other sports teams that they play for. As this is a particularly busy year for Gibraltar's senior team, with the Euros in Guernsey and the World Cricket League in Kuwait, a 30-strong training squad has been named and sessions have now commenced. In addition to the usual mix of drills and nets, indoors and out, we are adding a third session to add to the fitness aspect on Sunday evenings.

Ongoing attendance and improvements in core skills and overall fitness will be monitored and will form a crucial part of selection, especially for the 'A' squad that we will send to Guernsey. This is a great opportunity to see how some of the players who have just missed out on selection in previous years perform in competition, as well as allowing some of the more experienced age group players to stake a claim for Kuwait next winter.

With an ex-Royal Gibraltar Regiment PTI and a 'Conditioning Advisor' onboard, it has been great to see a bit of competition in the fitness testing, although some are probably a little tired of the Australian accent on the 'bleep test.' It is also interesting that some of the younger element need a bit of work in this area if they don't like seeing some of the older guys power past them! The ability to perform basic skills over a prolonged period by a fitter squad can only be of benefit on tour, especially if the conditions are a little more arduous than the players are used to.



In support of the packed nature of representative cricket for 2010 a comprehensive fixture list of touring teams, domestic competition for both senior and junior teams, Twenty20

games and training trips to Morocco and Spain has been produced. Although some elements are still not completely confirmed, it is hoped that there will be enough on offer to allow all our players the chance to enjoy playing more cricket this year than some of them have known before. 2010 is a year of great demands but also allows us to see exactly how healthy a state our cricket is in. The pathway that has been developed over the last few years will need to operate as smoothly as possible if the results that we believe we are capable of are to be achieved.

Portugal's first junior girls involvement at the Colégio de São Mamede

A year ago, a school in São Mamede in the centre of Portugal, were doing a project on England and came across the game of cricket, and started asking their teacher questions about the game, which he could not answer. Finally, they approached the Portuguese Cricket Federation and they were asked to go and demonstrate the game to the children involved. At the end of June 2009, with two players, the secretary and Kwik cricket equipment, the Federation travelled the 150 kms. north of Lisbon and put on a cricket demonstration which resulted in getting over 50 children to join in and play. Following the demonstration, the feedback was positive and the school were keen on starting their own 'cricket club', but needed permission from the school board, and asked the Federation for assistance.

Most things in Portugal take time, and getting permission from the school board was no exception. Finally they got approval and the Federation was asked to help with their cricket coaching. Two coaches volunteered and on the 14th January 2010 they started coaching 14 children, five of whom are girls – the first girls to be involved in junior cricket in Portugal. Finally, it's a step in the right direction in a Portuguese school in the middle of rural Portugal.



Above: A coaching session at the Colegio de Sao Mamede

CRICKET'S I/CUP VISITS LEINSTER SCHOOLS



Following the successful journey of rugby's Heineken Cup throughout schools in the province, cricket is currently enjoying its own promotional drive with Ireland's Intercontinental Cup currently visiting cricket playing secondary schools in the Leinster region.

Staff and students have photographs taken with the trophy and are given an explanation of what the tournament is, what teams participate, and a briefing of Ireland's excellent run of results in the competition over the past six years.

The tournament is organised by the International Cricket Council (ICC) as part of its global cricket development, helping associate countries prepare for eventual promotion to Test status. Top competitors include Ireland, Kenya, Namibia, Canada, The Netherlands, Zimbabwe, Scotland and Afghanistan.

Cricket continues to be introduced to new schools around the province through the union's coaching scheme. Coláiste Pobail Caisleán Cruacha (Castleknock Community College) is the latest new entry into the 2010 schools programme. Youth international Tho-

mas Anders is a pupil at the school, and coaching sessions are being held each week to prepare them for their entry this year at Minor (U14) level.

The schedule below shows Ireland's Intercontinental Cup results in recent years.

Above: Cricket Ireland's Cricket Development Manager, Brian O'Rourke, with students from Kings Hospital School with the Intercontinental Cup

2004	NETHERLANDS	WON	Deventer
2004	SCOTLAND	LOST	Castle Avenue
2005	SCOTLAND	WON	Aberdeen
2005	NETHERLANDS	DRAWN	Stormont
2005	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	DRAWN	Windhoek, Namibia
2005	KENYA	WON	Windhoek, Namibia
2006	NAMIBIA	WON	Castle Avenue
2006	SCOTLAND	DRAWN	Mannofield, Aberdeen
2007	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	WON	Abu Dhabi
2007	CANADA	WON	Leicestershire
2007	SCOTLAND	DRAW	Stormont
2007	BERMUDA	WON	Castle Avenue
2008	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	WON	Abu Dhabi
2008	NETHERLANDS	WON	Rotterdam
2008	CANADA	DRAW	Malahide
2008	NAMIBIA	WON	Windhoek, Namibia

ICC Associate Mem-



KNCB and Cricket Scotland announce Bangladesh fixtures

The Netherlands and Cricket Scotland have announced details of two One Day International fixtures against Bangladesh which are to take place later this summer. Scotland will play the Bangladesh team in one ODI whilst acting as the neutral venue for an ODI between Bangladesh and The Netherlands the following day.

The games will take place at Titwood, Glasgow on Monday July 19 and Tuesday July 20, following Bangladesh's tour of England. Prior to the games in Scotland, Bangladesh will be in Ireland, where they will play two ODIs on Thursday and Friday, 15 and 16 July.

The Netherlands CEO Richard Cox sees the game as an important benchmark for the side saying: 'This is an exciting opportunity to play an ICC Full Member in Scotland at the end of what will have been a long tour for the exciting Bangladesh squad. This game will be a big test for our side and they will be relishing the opportunity to play Bangladesh whose footsteps we hope to follow in years to come.'

'The game will come on the back of the ICC World Cricket League to be held in the Netherlands in June and we therefore hope to be well and truly ready for the challenge.'

ICC Europe Regional Development Manager Richard Holdsworth welcomed the fixtures saying, 'Bangladesh agreeing to play Ireland, Scotland and the Netherlands in one day internationals this summer is a great news for Europe and these countries. Now that all three High Performance countries have a number of professional contracted players it is a hugely important they have regular competition with the full member countries.'

Ticket details will be announced in due course.

The fixtures in full are as follows:

Thursday July 15: Ireland v Bangladesh (Belfast)

Friday July 16: Ireland v Bangladesh (Belfast)

Monday July 19: Scotland v Bangladesh (Glasgow)

Tuesday July 20: Netherlands v Bangladesh (Glasgow)

Obituary: Clarissa Crawford Pilkington

Clarissa Crawford Pilkington a key figure in the development and progress of Irish Women's cricket has sadly died after a short illness.

As a player, Clarissa played cricket in each of her nine decades and as a Coach and Administrator was at the forefront of the development and progress of women's cricket. She founded Dublin University Women's team in 1946, was involved in the re-emergence of the Leinster Women's Cricket Union in 1976, the formation of Leinster Schoolgirls league in 1979 and the formation of the Irish Women's Cricket Union in 1982.

A Past President of the Leinster Women's Cricket Union and of the Irish Women's Cricket Union, Clarissa did more for women's cricket in Ireland than any other person. Clarissa was inducted into the Leinster Cricket Union Hall of Fame in 2006 and was presented with an ICC-Europe Lifetime Service Award in 2007.

Joe Doherty, Chair of Cricket for Cricket Ireland said, "She had a pleasant, polite and elegant demeanour, she will be fondly remembered by all who came into contact with her, especially her many friends and followers in women's cricket."



Above: Clarissa Crawford Pilkington receiving her ICC Development Programme Lifetime Service Award from ECB Chief Executive David Collier in 2007

DATES FOR THE DIARY

26 March - Lord's

European Cricket Committee

6-12 April - La Manga, Spain

European Centre of Excellence

14-20 April - La Manga, Spain

European Women's Academy

22-23 April - Lord's

European Governance & Admin Forum & ECC AGM

28 May - Lord's

European Presidents' Day (England v Bangladesh)

11 June - Lord's

ECC Board Meeting

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