

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

P2
Conference Photos
Europe Supports World Aids Day

P3
The Pope attends Umpire Course. Well, not really.
Costa Del Sol Ladies make History
Flood-lit Cricket comes to Spain

P4
Leinster Mid-Term Coaching sFocus see Overseas Exam Success
Kanga Cricket in Denmark

P5
ECC Championship Dates
Web Forum in Antwerp
Richard Cox in Cyprus

COACHING & DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Surrey and England cricketers Mark Ramprakash and Martin Bicknell led sessions at the ICC's European Development Program's inaugural Coaching and Development Conference held at the MCC Indoor Cricket School from 29 November to 3 December.

The conference was the first of its type to be run in the region and provided an opportunity for a team of 37 talented coaches and development officers from European Associate, Affiliate and Prospective member countries to meet and discuss different coaching practices and learn new coaching skills.

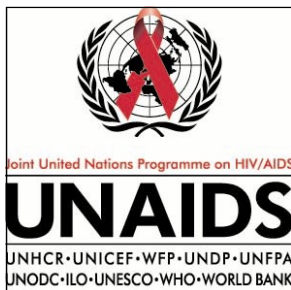
The main content of the Conference was the recently launched ICC Introduction to Cricket Course Instructor Training Course. All regions of the ICC Development Program have agreed to implement a uniform training methodology aimed at developing a high standard of local instructors within countries to run this new ICC course.

The overall aim of the ICC Introduction to Cricket Course is to provide participants with a basic understanding of the game of cricket, a basic education in three key components of the game (playing/coaching, umpiring and scoring) and the skills and resources to conduct a cricket session with children. Participants who attended the instructor training at Lord's will be able to conduct this course back in their home countries

when accredited.

Throughout the conference attendees were also involved in active sessions and informative lectures on many different areas of the game. As well as the two former England players, sessions were run by highly experienced ECB Staff Coaches and ECB Performance and Development staff including (continued on page 2)

Conference Delegates



Supported by:



cricket without boundaries

SCOTLAND WIN ICC INTERCONTINENTAL CUP

A spectacular second-innings collapse by Canada enabled Scotland to win the inaugural ICC Intercontinental Cup final in Sharjah by an innings and 84 runs with more than a day to spare.

Facing a first-innings deficit of 177 after Scotland declared on 287 for 8, Canada crashed to 24 for 8 (with one man, Sunil Dhaniram, retired hurt) before a last-wicket stand of 69 allowed them to salvage some pride. Asim Butt (4 for 10) and John Blain (4 for 28) ripped through Canada's batting with ease, exploiting helpful conditions to the full. The pair effectively wrapped up the match in a devastating 11 overs before Umar Bhatti (41) and Ashish Patel (25*) stopped the rot. Bhatti was the only one of the Canadian players who emerged from the day with any credit. Earlier, he took four of the five Scotland wickets which fell,

including three in one over, finishing with 4 for 49. Scotland began the day on 180 for 3. Gavin Hamilton (115) and Ryan Watson (57) extended their fourth-wicket stand to 118 before five wickets fell for 15 as Scotland pressed for quick runs ahead of the declaration.

Scotland captain, Craig Wright:

We played fantastic cricket over the five days play we had here,

first against Kenya and then against Canada. It's a team victory, and everybody has contributed in both matches, with not just individuals performing but every member of the team contributing and playing exceptional cricket. This victory is important for Scotland as we want to prove we are the strongest Associate member country and a win in emphatic style sends a strong message.



CONFERENCE continued...

Performance Manager Keith Tomlins and England U15 Coach David Parsons. MCC Head Coach and former England player Clive Radley ran a session on playing against spin bowling with England & Surrey player Mark Ramprakash, and Stuart Barnes (Gloucestershire Assistant Coach & Academy Director) and Richard Cox (Warwickshire Director of Cricket) also ran sessions on academies and batting respectively. From Europe, former Dutch World Cup Captain Roland Lefebvre and Technical Director Peter Drinnen from Scotland presented. Nineteen countries were represented by active coaches who have qualified through ECB's Coach Education Scheme in Europe over the last seven years. The week-long conference was kindly supported by MCC who allowed the coaches full use of the excellent facilities of the Indoor School



Above: Peter Drinnen's wicketkeeping session

Left: Umpiring session with Graham Cooper



Clive Radley
(Middlesex & England)
Photo: Polly Hancock



Mark Ramprakash
(Middlesex, Surrey & England)
Photo: Polly Hancock

EUROPE SUPPORTS WORLD AIDS DAY

As part of international cricket's partnership with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and to coincide with World Aids Day on 1st December, red awareness ribbons were worn by all attendees at the European Coaching and Development Conference at Lord's between 29th November and 3rd December.

EDM Richard Holdsworth commented "The Coaches from 19 ICC member countries on this course have been trained to deliver a session on Aids Awareness at all future coach education training courses in their countries. This will hopefully increase the global awareness of the epidemic".

Further initiatives from the European Region will see all players wearing red ribbons at European tournaments in the 2005 season and HIV/AIDS awareness literature will be distributed at the Region's events.

This initiative was one of a number that took place to coincide with World Aids Day. Regional events were co-ordinated through the ICC Development Program and in addition to the European Conference initiatives included the distribution of HIV/AIDS literature in the Africa Region, discussion on HIV/AIDS issues at a coaching seminar in Mexico, and local media initiatives to highlight the impact of HIV/AIDS in the East Asia-Pacific Region.

ICC Global Development Manager Matthew Kennedy said that the activities were part of the ICC Development Program's ongoing campaign to support HIV/AIDS awareness. "The fight against HIV/AIDS is a global problem which affects every single country and it is important that the awareness of this epidemic is raised throughout the ICC's membership base."

World Aids Day is commemorated around the world on 1st December. It celebrates progress made in the battle against the epidemic and brings into focus remaining challenges. The red ribbons are a sign of solidarity with the millions of people around the world living with HIV/AIDS.



Delegates wearing UNAids red ribbons
Photo: Polly Hancock



cricket without boundaries

THE POPE ATTENDS UMPIRE COURSE

- well, not quite.

Ray Holyer visited Rome during the weekend of November 19-21 2004, where he stayed in the Hotel Bonus Paster in the Vatican City, to run an ECC Introductory Umpiring Course.

15 keen umpires attended (but, alas, no Pope) and treated Ray to 2 long days in the classroom, teaching them the laws and umpiring techniques. Although, the ECC's aim is to start the course on the Friday evening this was not possible here because of the long distances involved in getting the umpires to Rome. This meant that the

course was condensed into 1.5 days – a feat that required hard work on everyone's part. The 15 attendees varied in experience from well seasoned umpires to some who were just starting out on the road of officialdom.

The highlight of the weekend was the Scoring exercise where the umpires quickly learnt how difficult it is to score a game and how important it is to work as a team with the Scorers. Ray's biggest problem was the lack of English speaking students and the work had to be translated as he went along. The major source of help here was the course content that is

presented in a visual format i.e. as many photos as possible are used to explain the laws. Ray's other headache was how to fit in 15 exams during Sunday afternoon. Despite making a mammoth effort he only managed 14 exams before he had to leave for home. The final examinee will take the exam at the next course in the new year.

Following the results of these exams it is hoped to run the next level course (ECC/ACU&S GL6 Part 1) before the start of next season. This will then bring Italy's umpires into line with other European countries, several of whom have ECC qualifications under their belts.

www.ecc-cricket.com



Ray Holyer

FLOOD-LIT CRICKET COMES TO SPAIN

The first '20 Over' floodlit cricket tournament took place at the Campoamor ground on Saturday 6th November with four teams - Campoamor Cricket Club, Valencia Cricket Club, Sporting Alfás Cricket Club and The Intellectuals Cricket Club (Alicante) all doing battle to see who would become the first 'Into Spanish Properties' champions.

The day started well with the home side achieving two convincing victories in their games against SACC and the Intellectuals. In the game against Alfás, Campoamor gained their first ever victory against the Spanish League Champions. Having won the toss and elected to bat the Campoamor opening pair of Juan Rodríguez and Neil Brookes put on an opening partnership of 112 off

just 11 overs. Neil was eventually bowled for 43 while Juan went on to score 61 before he was run out. Campoamor eventually went on to reach 185 for 5. Alfás gave a spirited reply and with the score on 174 for 8 they needed to score just 12 runs from the final over to win the match. Enter Campoamor skipper George Wambeek who bowled the final over for just 4 runs. Highlight of the Alfás innings was a superb 61 from teenager Jimmy Morgan.

The home side's second game was a rather more one-sided affair. The Intellectuals won the toss and decided to bat, but were bowled out for just 80 runs. Campoamor knocked off the runs needed for the loss of just two wickets with Juan Carlos on 30 and Neil Brookes 21. The day's third game was a

close match between Alfás and Valencia which saw Alfás (171 for 3) fall to Valencia (175 for 4) with one over to go. With the light fading the final of the 'Into Spanish Trophy' got underway at about 7pm but with the lights on it was almost like playing in sunshine. Valencia won the toss and only managed the modest total of 137 all out in the 18th over. Unfortunately as Campoamor took the field to start their reply the heavens opened and after just one over the game was sadly abandoned.

We all look forward to next year when hopefully the matter will be decided. The day was followed by a dinner at the excellent club house (Campoamor Golf Club) and all involved in this event are to be congratulated for a very successful day.



Campoamor CC



G.Wambeek (Campoamor) & Faran (Valencia)

COSTA DEL SOL LADIES MAKE HISTORY

The first ever "All Ladies" Cricket match to be held on the mainland of Kingdom of Spain took place on Sunday 28th November at the Grasseuropa Cricket Ground in Cartama between the Provinces of Malaga and Cadiz. It was a brilliant day in every aspect. The match was played after the "P.G Tips" Junior Under 14 League matches with a Mens League match also taking place on the adjacent ground.

The "All Ladies" match was arranged mainly for the mothers of the boys and girls involved in the Malaga Youth Cricket Development Programme and their friends want-

ing participation. Organised in conjunction with Les Gibbons, Chairman of "The Los Boliches Junior Cricket Supporters Club" by Greg Gomez, the Region's Cricket Development Officer; the match was very keenly contested and some outstanding performances were a marvellous advertisement for women's cricket.

A 14 a side match was necessary, such was the huge turn out by the Ladies. Each team batted in pairs and started on 100 runs, with 6 runs deducted for the loss of a wicket. The Province of Cadiz won the toss and elected to bat. The second pair of Jaqui Morgan and Lindsey Moore had

the crowd on their feet with a brilliant aggressive 52 run partnership that was the highlight of the Cadiz innings. More good batting displays followed which contributed to an innings total of 241 runs.

It was the Cadiz bowling attack combined with the excellent catching and fielding that finally decided the match. Malaga put up a determined fight to the very end and gave good account through batting stars Elizabeth Raneses and Sarah Clough. Cadiz bowling sensation Hannah Dunning's 3 for 7 helped do the damage as Malaga finished their innings short of the Cadiz total. An Historic Day to remember.



cricket without boundaries

LEINSTER MID-TERM COACHING

Following on from a two day camp over the Easter holidays the Autumn half-term provided another opportunity for Brian O'Rourke, the Leinster Cricket Development Officer, to develop talented Leinster U12's and U14's at the excellent North County indoor centre facility. Once again he enlisted the help of ECC coach Richard O'Sullivan, who along with a number of local coaches (Fintan McAllister, Bryn Thomas, Reinhardt Strydom & Alan Caren) assisted Brian in providing a comprehensive and challenging programme.

The highlight for the local youngsters was the appearance of Niall O'Brien a locally

developed player and coach who has starred for Kent County Cricket Club this season, when in the absence of Geraint Jones due to England commitments, he kept wicket and batted with distinction in what was his first full professional season.

With this level of expertise Leinster Cricket was able to provide a two-day wicket-keeping seminar in parallel with the squad coaching. Young players from across the province were treated to insights into keeping wicket and all left with practical routines to aid self-improvement.

With a continued program of

development at this level and role models such as Niall emerging it can only encourage the game to further flourish in Leinster.

The weeks activities finished with a 6-hour 'Young Leaders' Coaching Course. The participants, all aged between 15 and 20, were given advice on how best to introduce cricket to primary school age children and how to organise fun game activities related to cricket.

www.ecc-cricket.com



Niall O'Brien's Wicketkeeper Clinic

SFOCUS SEE OVERSEAS EXAM SUCCESS

Over the weekend of November 26-28th, sFocus, Switzerland's umpires organisation, hosted an Overseas Training Course for 6 of its members and 3 visitors from France. The weekend was arranged by sFocus to prepare them for the ACU&S Overseas Exam, which they are hoping to take before Christmas.

Graham Cooper was the ECC Instructor and he led a very keen class of umpires through their paces during the course of 2.5 days. As well as formal

PowerPoint presentations there were several discussion topics that helped to cement existing knowledge in the minds of the students. There was plenty of other formal and informal discussion and the umpires went away fully prepared for the examination ordeal.

The class were particularly impressed with the hotel that was chosen for some of the umpires to stay in since this was also the hotel that some of the exhibitors at a local exhibition were staying –nothing ex-

citing there I hear you say, but the exhibition concerned was the Erotica Exhibition that has been travelling Europe for the past month or so. Suffice to say that we shall never be able to envisage Father Christmas in quite the same light ever again, having seen a very attractive young lady dressed as the great man – fish net tights and more (or should that be less!!!).

Despite these distractions the whole weekend went off as planned and we wish the umpires all the very best in their exam.

KANGA CRICKET TAKES OFF IN DENMARK

The last U9 and U11 youth cricket carnival off the season is always held at the beautiful national ground of Svanholm Park. A record number of 16 youth teams had turned up to compete and the grounds were buzzing with cricket activity. Many of Svanholm CC's senior players had turned up to umpire and help make this a special day for all the youngsters.

Over the last 5 years the recruitment of new young cricketers and girls have struggled for many Danish cricket clubs as the competition with the higher profiled media sports such as soccer and European handball has been extremely difficult. A few years ago the competition for the youngest age groups, the U11, were changed in and around Copenhagen. Instead of playing one long 2-hour match

per week with a hard ball, clubs took turns in organising 3 hour cricket carnivals every second or third Sunday. The rules were based on the Australian Kanga Pairs but with only 6 players per team and the rules were modified to get higher participation for everyone to suit the maximum participation of typical Danish kids.

Each team of 6 players gets 12 three-ball overs. The fielders rotate anti-clockwise every over as the bowler can only bowl from one end. The pitch has been shortened to 15 m so the batting pairs are almost able to run a single off every ball if they hit it. Each pair faces 12 deliveries no matter how many times they get out, but you subtract 3 runs from the team total every time the fielding sides gets a wicket. The real fun is the intro-

duction of a free hit from wides and no balls. The keeper places the ball on a batting tee, which the batter then tries to smash out of the ground instead of the bowler re-bowling the delivery or adding extra points for the sundry. As the matches only last 40-50 minutes each team normally plays 3 games per carnival. The increased activity as well as the small number of players per side has resulted in more fun and enjoyment for every player. As each player bats and bowls against many different players during the day, players are more likely to be successful and hit the ball or the wicket at one point of their many chances to bat and bowl.

The modifications to the game for the youngsters has lead to fewer players dropping out of the sport than in the past.



Medal presentation at Svanholm CC



cricket without boundaries

ICC European Development Program

The Europe Office
Lord's Cricket Ground
London NW8 8QN

T: +44 (0)20 7616 8635
F: +44 (0)20 7616 8634

European Development Manager

Richard Holdsworth
richard.holdsworth@icc-cricket.com
+44 (0)20 7616 8637

European Development Officer

Philip Hudson
philip.hudson@icc-cricket.com
+44 (0)20 7616 8636

Project Officer

Louise Kent
louise.kent@icc-cricket.com
+44 (0)20 7616 8638

Accounts & Project Officer

Denise Farrell-O'Neill
denise.oneill@icc-cricket.com
+44 (0)20 7616 8639

Umpiring Consultant (P/T)

Graham Cooper
graham.cooper@icc-cricket.com
+44 (0)20 7616 8633

The Europe Office wishes everyone a Happy Christmas and very best wishes for the New Year and 2005 Season



cricket without boundaries

ECC CHAMPIONSHIP DATES 2005

We are pleased to announce the final tournament dates for 2005. Please note that changes from the dates issued in the last Newsletter are shown in bold:

12-13 February	ECC European Indoor Championship	Denmark
21-27 February	ICC WCQS Division 2 (Italy)	Malaysia
1-14 July	ICC Trophy	Ireland
19-21 July	ECC European U17 1 st Division Championship	Denmark
19-21 July	ECC European U13 1 st Division Championship	Ireland
25-29 July	ICC European U19 WCQ Division 1 Championship	Scotland
25-30 July	ICC European U19 WCQ Division 2 Championship	Scotland
26-28 July	ECC European U15 1 st Division Championship	Holland
29-31 July	ICC Intercontinental Cup – Holland v Scotland	Holland
8-12 August	ECC European U15 2 nd Division Championship	Italy
9-11 August	ECC European U23 Championship	Holland
13-15 August	ICC Intercontinental Cup – Scotland v Ireland	Scotland
13-21 August	ECC European Affiliates Championship	Belgium
14-19 August	ECC Women's European Championship	Wales
23-25 August	ICC Intercontinental Cup – Ireland v Holland	Ireland

WEB FORUM IN ANTWERP

A number of European cricket administrators gathered in Antwerp recently for a Web Forum with the aim of considering the various uses of IT in cricket.

being developed for member countries by ECC and John Elder, together with associated content and tournament management systems.

contacts and the hope is that many countries will take up this option.

Below: John Elder & Mike Bailey (Austria)

Organised by John Elder of Ultsterweb, ECC's Webmaster, the two day conference had a number of themes including cricket statistic databases, mobile cricket IT, tutorials on the Duckworth/Lewis method, and digital image processing. Discussion also took place on the National Website project

The group will continue as an online forum to share information, ideas and discuss new developments to keep up to date with cricket related IT opportunities.

Information on new National Board websites and ECC funding have been sent to all main



RICHARD COX IN CYPRUS

Richard Cox recently took the opportunity to return to Cyprus to discuss the forthcoming ECC Level 1 course to be held there next spring whilst at the same time conducting a coaching session at one of the world's most unique cricketing locations. Local cricket fanatic Costas Makrides has built his own cricket net on the side of a hill in a remote location known as Choirokoitia which is between Larnaca and Lefkara (home of the Cyprus lace industry).

was followed by a short session on close to the wicket fielding during which the lads worked on hand eye coordination and catching techniques. Richard Steenhuis will also be visiting the UK in December to take part in the inaugural ICC "Introduction to Cricket" Instructors Course during the EDP's Coaching & Development Conference.

as local ex-pats and servicemen from the 3 forces bases.

Further details can be obtained from Steve Carr on carrs@cylink.com.cy or on telephone 00 357 99696685.

The cricket net on a hill

The coaching session was organised by local cricket secretary (Cyprus CA) Richard Steenhuis, who was keen to take the opportunity of Cox's presence to further develop the best 4 players that Cyprus boast as part of their emerging development programme. Due to the nature of the location the boys were able to take part in a Coaching net session with Cox paying particular attention to alignment in the bowling action and were able to see considerable improvement in the boys during the session. This

The Cyprus Cricket season is to be completed in early December - the semi final of the Cyprus CA Twenty/20 semi finals held at Oroklini playing fields will be played in a 20 overs aside format between Himalayan CC and Sri Lankan CC whilst in the other half of the draw Palm Court CC meet The Lions. Intercollege are already through to the semi final stages – Finals Day 5th December – Happy Valley

Finally the chairman of the Cyprus CA, Steve Carr and Cox were able to meet to discuss the forthcoming ECC Level 1 to be held in the first two weekends of March 2005 for aspiring Cypriot coaches as well

