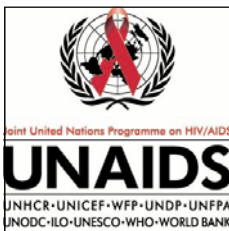


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**REGIONAL AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED**

The ECC have announced the regional winners of the 2005 ICC Development Program Annual Awards, with Cricket Scotland leading the way with two awards.

**Best Overall Cricket Development Program**  
Cricket Scotland

**Best Cricket Promotional Program**  
Cricket Scotland / Lloyds TSB Scotland

**Best Women's Cricket Initiative**  
German Cricket Association

**Best Junior Cricket Initiative**  
Finnish Cricket Association

**Photo of the Year**  
Matthew Allen (Switzerland)

**Best Spirit of Cricket Initiative**  
Isle of Man Coaches Association (Lloyds TSB)

**Volunteer of the Year**  
Patrick Henderson (Switzerland)

**Lifetime Service Award**  
Ted Vorzanger (Belgium)

The winners were selected by ICC European Development Program personnel from the many entries received and will now be nominated for the global award in their relevant category. The list of esteemed global judges consists of Ehsan Mani (ICC President), Malcolm Gray (former ICC President), Dr Ali Bacher (former South African captain and Tournament Director of the ICC Cricket World Cup 2003) and Roger Knight

(Secretary & Chief Executive of the Marylebone Cricket Club and member of the ICC Development Committee). The global awards will be announced on 30 March 2006.

The ICC European Development Manager, Richard Holdsworth, congratulated all of the award winners on their achievements. "I commend all of the award winners for their contribution and enthusiasm to the game and I hope that these awards will inspire others to follow their example". "There are many thousands of volunteers working in cricket in Europe's 27 member countries and although these awards only recognize some of those people, cricket is indebted to all of them for the passion and commitment they give to the sport"

The ICC Development Program Annual Awards promote excellence in cricket development and recognise exceptional perform-

ance and service to the game in the ICC's Associate and Affiliate Member countries. Nominees have come from a range of levels, which highlights the positive impact cricket is making throughout the European region.

"The success of the Development Program Awards over the last three years has attracted interest from partners keen to support the development of the sport in emerging countries. This year, cricket equipment manufacturer Kookaburra will join established awards partner Flicx International in rewarding the global winners," said Matthew Kennedy, ICC Global Development Manager.

The Regional Award Winners will each receive an ICC trophy and a certificate of recognition from ICC Chief Executive, Malcolm Speed and will be put forward for the Global Awards.

*Photo of the Year by Mathew Allen (Switzerland)*

**ODI'S FOR EUROPE'S TOP THREE**

The International Cricket Council (ICC) have announced a dramatic increase in the programme of One-Day International (ODI) cricket for the six Associate Member countries that will participate in the ICC Cricket World Cup 2007.

The six sides – Bermuda, Canada, Ireland, Kenya, The Netherlands and Scotland – are expected to play at least 64 ODI matches before the ICC Cricket World Cup begins in March 2007,

including scheduled matches against Full Member countries.

For Europe's top three Associate High Performance Countries this means 32 ODIs between now and the ICC Cricket World Cup.

The schedule will begin with five ODIs for Kenya in Zimbabwe from 25 February and all six countries will have tasted ODI action before the end of June this year.

The pre-World Cup schedule includes home matches for Ireland against England; Scotland versus Pakistan and The Netherlands v Sri Lanka. In addition, all six associate members will contest the inaugural ICC World Cricket League Division One tournament in Kenya in January 2007.

For the full article and fixture list see [www.ecc-cricket.com](http://www.ecc-cricket.com)

# WOMEN'S CRICKET SET FOR GROWTH

Eight new women's cricket initiatives across Europe, including projects in Finland, Switzerland, Germany and Spain, are set to benefit from a total of US\$15,000 in funding. The money, a one-off payment made to all five ICC regions, will be used in Europe to create an awareness of women's cricket and develop the game at all levels.

Among the schemes set to benefit are Project Phoenix in Finland, a plan to revive the women's game there, and plans to establish a women's league in Germany, three teams in Switzerland and growth from the grass roots in Spain. And further along the development path, the money will help fund the European Cricket Council (ECC) European Women's Cricket Academy, in association with Loyds TSB Scotland, for the top three Associate countries – Scotland, Ireland and the Netherlands.

One of the Members set to receive the funding, Affiliate Member Finland, currently has just 15 senior women's players and just one female coach and one umpire. However, Finland does have 447 girls involved at a junior level and, according to spokesperson Maija Scamans, the money will be crucial in reviving the game there. "After a strong start some years ago women's cricket has been in hibernation in Finland and we hope the impact of the project will be huge," she said. "One of the long term objectives is to lay the foundations to offer cricket as an option to school-

age girls and create a path to the senior game as well as offering it as an alternative – especially indoors – to the nationwide women's sport of Finnish baseball".

The total of US\$15,000 for the eight projects comes from an ICC Women's Cricket Development Grant and Richard Holdsworth, the ICC European Development Manager, said the cash injection continued an exciting 12 months for the women's game following the merger of the International Women's Cricket Council (IWCC) and the ICC in 2005.

"The projects that will be funded thanks to this money will help to increase the profile of the women's game and ensure its long term sustainability," he said. "It is important for all 27 European Member countries to include girls and women in the game of cricket to make it an all-inclusive sport. "These new initiatives are a major boost for the game and we hope this will be the start of a significant increase in women's participation in Europe".

The projects selected are:

**Denmark** – Establishment of eight junior women's cricket teams and a nationwide Kwik Cricket competition starting in April 2006.

**ECC/Scotland/Ireland/The Netherlands** – ECC European Women's Cricket Academy, in association with LoydsTSB Scotland and hosted by Cricket Scotland from 7 – 11 August

2006.

**Finland** – Project Phoenix, to revive women's cricket in Finland (initially in Greater Helsinki) through extensive advertising and recruiting, beginning in Spring 2006.

**Germany** – To enhance and promote the role of women in all aspects of cricket, to establish a women's team in each state and to promote an active and sustainable women's league nationwide with a minimum of five teams participating in limited-over matches, and seven-a-side and indoor tournaments.

**Jersey** – To promote women's cricket in a safe environment, to enhance their skills, introduce them to hardball cricket and ultimately to produce junior girls and women's cricket teams to compete home and away. 10 sessions have been scheduled from January – April 2006.

**Spain** – To establish and develop women's cricket in Spain. Coaching began in February with the long-term plan of regular sessions culminating in regular matches during the summer.

**Scotland** – U/21 Development Series, a series of matches against district standard U14 and U16 boy's teams. The plan is also to improve the standard of women's cricket. The series will take place during the summer, prior to the European Women's U/21 Championships.

**Switzerland** – The Swiss Young Ladies Cricket Initiative, providing girls with access to equipment and facilities with the aim of establishing three teams, in Zu-



Irish Women's Squad celebrate

*"These new initiatives are a major boost for the game and we hope this will be the start of a significant increase in women's participation in Europe"*

Richard Holdsworth



Action from the Cyprus Six-a-Side Tournament

## CYPRUS WINTER SIX-A-SIDE

Winter cricket arrived in Cyprus with the sixes tournament held on a sunny but cool January day. Eight teams took part, playing in a round robin tournament in groups of four with the winners of each group battling it out in a final.

On paper Sri Lanka A were favourites in group A, playing against Fellows, Wsba and Moufflons, but it turned out a much closer competition. Wsba lost all their three games, Moufflons won one lost two, Fellows and Sri Lankan A both were two wins apiece with a tie in their own game. A one over shoot out saw the Sri Lankan A through to the final.

In group B all four teams were

evenly matched and as it turned out three teams ended with two wins apiece, Lions, Corfu Tavern and Sri Lanka B. Only the unfortunate Himalayans failed to win a game. In the count of runs Lions had scored the greater number in their games and so pushed out Sri Lankan B and Corfu Tavern, to go through to play Sri Lanka A in the final.

So a final was set up between the old rivals. In the game between the two in the league and in the 20/twenty last year Lions had been the victors. This time the Lions were skittled out in two short overs having scored only 17. Sri Lankan A glided past their total in two overs with

the loss of just one wicket, albeit to a stunning catch at deep point.

It was an exciting tournament, with three or four games going to the wire. In fact Fellows and Sri Lanka A tied on 58 after their five overs. The average score for an innings was about 35, the highest was 87 scored by Sri Lanka A in their game against WSBA, the lowest was 8 for the Himalayans in their game against the Lions.

Thanks to everyone and especially Sri Lankan A who generously declined to take their prize money and so we have 175 pounds saved towards sending the Cyprus team to the ECC European Championship 4th Division in August.



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## SWEDEN'S LATEST NEWS

Eight clubs will participate in the national league competition this year, one more than last year. Two clubs have been excluded for disciplinary reasons (Stockholm CC and Landskrona CC) but despite this, three new teams join the league: Malmöhus CC and Sigtuna CC rejoin the league after a long absence, and Jinnah CC (in southern Stockholm) continue to grow at such a rate that they have spun off yet another club, XI Stars CC.

Two new teams who are not ready for the league yet were formed at the end of 2005, both in Lund (southern Sweden): Lund CC and Lund Academic Cricket Society (LACS). The latter is intended to source players from Lund University, and has been started by an ex SACS-player. This means that there are now three active University teams in Sweden: Lund, Uppsala and Stockholm (including the Karolinska Institute and the Royal Technical

College). Hopefully both clubs will be able to compete in the national league in coming seasons.

The SCF have raised umpiring compensation to 400 kronor (31 British pounds) per match in an effort to both raise umpiring standards and numbers volunteering as neutral umpires for national league matches.

New SCF chairman Rashid Waraich, who plays for 2005 National League runners-up Botkyrka CC, claimed at the AGM that he intends to develop Swedish cricket and will start with the standard of umpiring in the League. Accusations of biased umpiring and poor decisions are hardly a Swedish problem. Whilst bias is often simply a product of ignorance of the Laws of cricket, it is generally accepted that at amateur level at least one neutral umpire will lead to more enjoyable cricket. Unfortunately, as reported in a recent article in The

Wisden Cricketer everyone might want neutral umpires but no one wants to actually do the job themselves. Rashid believes that unbiased, competent umpiring is a fundamental pillar of the game and has personally taken charge of the League umpire pool. Under this system each team in the League is required to submit a list of at least four candidates who can umpire in games. The SCF will pay the umpires 200 kronor per match, and each team is also required to pay 100 kronor each, making a total of roughly 42 Euro per match and double the amount available in 2005. Rashid hopes that the increased remuneration will encourage more players to volunteer.

The SCF has also stamped down on clothing for the 2006 season. Whites are an absolute requirement, and coloured kit is now forbidden.

A review of the 2005 season can be found on [www.ecc-cricket.com](http://www.ecc-cricket.com)

[www.ecc-cricket.com](http://www.ecc-cricket.com)



2005 League Champions  
Jinnah CC



U19 CWC  
Scotland's Peter Drinnen,  
Kasim Farid & Tino Weeraratna

Photo: B. Chambers

## GOVERNANCE FORUM AT LORD'S

The ECC's Governance, Administration and Management Forum will take place on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> March 2006 at Lord's.

This biennial Forum provides an invaluable opportunity to enhance communication and understanding between the Europe Office and ECC member countries, and, indeed, between those member countries themselves, providing a platform for the sharing of successful ideas and good practices. Attendance will benefit individuals, their associations,

and the development programmes within their countries, and will also enhance the European Development Program's ability to respond to the needs of the membership of the ECC.

A wide ranging series of sessions will form the basis of the Forum, led by EDM Richard Holdsworth and including presentations from Matthew Kennedy, ICC Global Development Manager and Nick Mariner, ECB's National Development Manager (Strategy). Country presentations will be

from Roddy Smith (Scotland), George Poulimenos (Hellas), Ken Farmiloe (Belgium), Fredrik Lindahl (Finland) and Chris Minty (Jersey)

A number of ECC suppliers will be promoting their products and services at the Forum, including Kookaburra Readers, Notts Sports, Albion C&D and Flicx UK.

## ICC UNDER 19 CRICKET WORLD CUP

Ireland finish 13<sup>th</sup> and Scotland 15<sup>th</sup> in their Under 19 World Cup campaigns.

Ireland ended their ICC Under 19 Cricket World Cup campaign with a second successive win, this time against Uganda in the Plate Championship play-off final. Eoin Morgan's side restricted the Africans to 165-8 after Uganda won the toss and then knocked off the required runs for the loss of four wickets. Morgan was the man who steered his side home with an unbeaten 60 as Ireland secured the victory with 14.1 overs in hand.

The win meant Ireland finished as the 13th ranked of the 16 teams in action. Ireland's previous win saw them bounce back after the disappointment of losing to New Zealand to defeat Namibia by 6 wickets at the NCC ground in Colombo.

A man of the match performance by all-rounder Patrick Ochan helped Uganda to their first victory of the ICC Under 19 Cricket World Cup and sent Scotland home without a win. Uganda reached 214-9 after being sent into bat by Scotland captain Kasim Farid and then bowled their opponents out for 145.

"We batted poorly and conceded too many extras again - that has been the story of the tournament for us," lamented Farid afterwards. "Without all those extras and if we had batted in pairs then we would have had a chance. "In the last couple of games we have not played like we can and as we did against Sri Lanka in our opening match. "But we are still a developing country and we have developed during this tournament. Maybe in the future good things can come from this."



U19 CWC  
Irish Captain Eoin Morgan in  
action v England

Photo: B.Chambers



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**ICC European Development Program**

European Cricket Council  
The Clock Tower  
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@ecc-cricket.com  
+44 (0)20 7616 8637

**European Development Officer**

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

**Project Officer**

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

**Project Officer**

**Jenny Thornton**  
jenny.thornton@ecc-cricket.com  
+44 (0)20 7616 8639

**Accounts Officer (P/T)**

**Denise Farrell-O'Neill**  
denise.oneill@ecc-cricket.com

**Umpires Consultant (P/T)**

**Graham Cooper**  
graham.cooper@ecc-cricket.com



Ole Mortensen



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## CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE & ACADEMY

Next month the ECC Centre of Excellence and European Cricket Academy take place at La Manga Club in Spain. La Manga is one of the world's finest all-round sports and leisure clubs located in Murcia on Spain's south-eastern Costa Cálida. The club boasts a two-pitch cricket centre with 4-bay net and wonderful fitness facilities which are based at the Las Lomas Spa.

The Centre of Excellence will once again be run by Philip Hudson (EDO) and Richard O'Sullivan. The C of E has developed considerably over the last few years and this years programme will focus on player development. 15 countries will be represented, 19 players and 13 leaders. The ECC coaching staff will also include Fazil Mahmoud (Holland) and Kelum Perrera (Italy) who have been invited to attend as part of the ECC's Coach Education programme. The Centre of Excellence will take place from the 11-14 April.

In 2006 the European Cricket Academy will include two programmes for the first time. The training programme will be run from the 17-23 April while

the playing programme will follow in June. Fixtures for the Academy XI have been arranged including 2 one-day games against England U17's to be played at Loughborough University. The ECC have put together an extremely strong coaching team which includes Richard Cox (Warwickshire CCC Academy Director), Roland Lefebvre (KNCB Cricket Manager) and Gordon Lord (ECB Elite Coach Manager).

**Centre of Excellence Squad:**

- Lukas Dobner (Austria)
- Jamie Farmiloe (Belgium)
- Shalin Shah (Belgium)
- Ali Imtiaz Ahmed (Denmark)
- Sonny Nielsen - Denmark
- Madhu Bandari (Finland)
- Jonathan Houghton (France)
- Tanzeel Tariq (Germany)
- Haris Bhatti (Germany)
- Jonathon Clarke (Guernsey)
- James Mullen (Guernsey)
- Michael Patelis (Hellas)
- Robin Russell (Ireland)
- Andrew McBrine (Ireland)
- Steven Slack (Isle of Man)
- Edoardo Mazzi (Italy)
- Dylan Sarnellie (Italy)
- Vinoo Tewarie (Netherlands)
- Dennis Coster (Netherlands)

- Oliver Hairs (Scotland)
- Craig Ramsey (Scotland)
- Christian Mills (Spain)
- Peter Crook (Switzerland)

**ECC European Cricket Academy Squad:**

- Zishan Shah (Denmark)
- Mark Bacarese (Gibraltar)
- Jamie Nussbaumer (Guernsey)
- Eoghan Delany (Ireland)
- James Hall (Ireland)
- Richard Keaveney (Ireland)
- Fintan McAllister (Ireland)
- Gavin McKenna (Ireland)
- Kelum Perrera (Italy)
- Stephen de Bruin (Netherlands)
- Alexei Kervezee (Netherlands)
- Olivier Lodder (Netherlands)
- Scott Dagleish (Scotland)
- Scott MacLennan (Scotland)
- Calum Macleod (Scotland)

### Jenny Thornton

ECC are pleased to announce that as from March 6, Projects Officer Jenny Thornton became full-time with the Europe Office. Jenny has previously been working part-time for 6 months and previous to that worked with ICC Development at Head Office.

## DENMARK BRINGS ON NEW COACHES

The Danish House of Sport in Broendby near Copenhagen recently hosted the first Danish Cricket ECB Level 1 course for over four years. Over two weekends 11 candidates from Danish clubs were educated in the art of group coaching by Ole (Stan) Mortensen an ECC/ECB tutor and former Denmark and Derbyshire CCC fast bowling legend.

On the assessment day Ole was assisted by ECC coach Richard O'Sullivan who on a flying visit was able to witness not only the

excellent facilities provided by the House of Sport but also the high degree of commitment and ability demonstrated by the candidate coaches.

It was evident from the quality of the coaches' demonstrations and their organisational and presentation skills during their group coaching sessions that they had worked extremely hard over the previous three days of the course. This is the first part of a comprehensive program of coach education in Denmark and Dan-

ish cricket is committed to increasing its school/club youth programs. The education shown by their newest qualified coaches will pay dividends at the clubs which are the hotbed of any country's development.

This successful L1 assessment coincided not only a visit from the current Danish professional cricketer Amjad Khan (Kent CCC) but also with Denmark winning the ECC Indoor Championship at Lords, so a positive day for Danish Cricket all round.

## PRAGUE BOHEMIANS SIXES 2006

On the 26 & 27 August 2006, the Prague Bohemians CC in Prague, Czech Republic, are organising a six-a-side tournament with a difference.

They are aiming to get 12 teams from 12 different countries to compete in what will be known as the Prague Bohemians Sixes 2006 - mini world cup. So far they have bookings from club

teams from England, Slovakia, Poland, Netherlands, Ireland, Germany, and Czech Republic plus other interest, however we still need several teams from different countries to fill out all spots.

The Prague Bohemians Sixes 2006 will be a fun/social event, with two groups playing off for finals spots on the Sunday. Plenty of social events are planned to

make the weekend flow smoothly, washed down with the best cold Czech beer available. With 12 teams from 12 countries, this event is a mini world cup for club teams who want to play cricket and have a good time.

For further information, contact [Scott.P@praguebohemianscc.cz](mailto:Scott.P@praguebohemianscc.cz)