



# BeyondTheBoundary

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ICC Development  
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## EUROPE SET TO TAKE ON THE WORLD IN 2007

2007 will certainly be the most significant year so far in the history of European cricket.

Not only will there be, for the first time, three European Associates participating in the ICC Cricket World Cup, but five countries will take part in various tournaments in the new ICC World Cricket League, while there will be places at stake for three (or arguably, four) further World Cups.

For Cricket World Cup 2007 qualifiers Ireland, The Netherlands and Scotland, the First Division of the WCL in Nairobi in February will be part of their preparations for the Caribbean, but with two places in the first-ever Twenty20 World Cup for the top two teams in that tournament, these matches will be even more important.

Later in the year Denmark and Italy will play in the Second and Third Divisions of the WCL, to be held in Windhoek and Darwin respectively, and success there could be the first step towards participation in the qualifying tournament for the 2011 World Cup.

In the women's game, Ireland, The Netherlands and Scotland are already guaranteed a place in the qualifying tournament, to be held in Lahore in November, for the 2009 Women's World Cup, with Ireland seeded first in one of the two groups. For the other two, rankings in this year's European Championship, taking place in The Netherlands in August, will determine their programme for the Lahore tournament, the top two from which will make it to the World Cup.

The leading European Associates face an equally tough task at under-19 level, where at the European U19 Division 1 in Belfast, Europe's No. 1 will qualify, and the second ranked will have an opportunity to qualify through a play-off with Asia's No. 2. Ireland will start as favourites after

their clean sweep of the under-age tournaments in 2006, but The Netherlands and Scotland will be looking to raise their game and book their tickets to Malaysia.

In the Intercontinental Cup, meanwhile, Scotland and Ireland will travel to the Gulf to take on the UAE before the World Cup, looking to secure a spot in the final for the second time. Scotland currently lead the group, and a win for them in January would take them to a final clash with Canada,

▼ Scotland v Ireland at Division 1 2006



▲ Ireland U19's James Hall & Paul Stirling at the 2006 U19 Championships

while Ireland will be hoping that the Scots leave them an opening for their visit the following month.

2007 will see a further stage in the development of this competition, with a two-year, global round-robin format replacing the pool system. This summer's schedule will include six matches for the Europeans, Scotland visiting Ireland and then hosting the Dutch, while Bermuda will visit both Ireland and The Netherlands, the Dutch will play in Canada, and Scotland will open the competition, at home to the UAE.

The European season will also feature another full programme of under-age tournaments, from under-23 to under-13. There will be Second Division tournaments at under-23, under-19 and under-15 levels, with Guernsey, Jersey and La Manga, Spain making their debut as ECC tournament venues. In the wake of the successful experiment with two-day cricket in the 2006 under-19 competition, this year's under-17 First Division tournament, in Dundee in August, will also involve this form of the game.

Another of last year's innovations, the European XI-MCC match, will also be taken a stage further, with the return fixture scheduled for Lord's on 7 June. This game shows every sign of becoming a showpiece for European cricket, and its arrival at the sport's most historic venue is another important landmark.

With the European Third Division tournament set for Antwerp in August, no fewer than nineteen countries, from Finland to Spain, from Ireland and the Isle of Man to Cyprus and Israel, will be taking part in European competition in the course of the year. And with a programme extending from mid-January to the end of November, followers of European cricket will certainly not be starved of games to follow!

### Contents

- 2 Denmark joins HPP  
Roger Knight made OBE

---

- 3 U15 International Tournament in Rome  
Belgium's ICC Intro Course

---

- 4 Scotland joins County 2nd XI tournament  
Jersey apply to be an Associate  
Women's World Cup takes shape

---

- 5 Spanish Cricket on the up



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## DENMARK ADDED TO ICC HP PROGRAM

From the 1st April 2007, Denmark will become part of the ICC High Performance Program (HPP) joining Scotland, Ireland, Bermuda, Kenya, Canada and the Netherlands. The overall goal of the HPP is to close the gap between the Associate nations and the Full member nations.

The ICC Development Committee recently decided that the HPP for April 2007 – March 2009 would comprise the Top 10 Associate & Affiliate members from the regions and that this would be based purely on senior playing team global rankings.

As their relevant ranking will not change in the short term, the ICC Development Committee confirmed the first two of these extra four countries to be Namibia and Denmark.

The final two spots will be filled by the finalists of the World Cricket League Division 3 event in May/June 2007.

The additional funding which Denmark will receive to help it achieve these aims can be put towards initiatives such as specialist coaching for national squads, overseas tours, hosting tours, high performance facilities and resources, and player placements overseas or in academies.

Danish Cricket Association Vice Chairman, Thomas Kentorp, says that the program will be a resounding benefit to Danish cricket.

"The Danish Cricket Association really appreciate that we have been admitted into the ICC High Performance Program for 2007.

In the last two ICC Trophy qualification tournaments for the World Cup - in Toronto 2001 and in Ireland 2005 - Denmark was runner up for a participation place in both South Africa 2003 and the CWC West Indies 2007. One more win in either of these ICC Trophy tournaments and Denmark would have been playing cricket against the best teams in the world.

This status as the 'nearly' team we will like to change in the next couple of years, and the ICC High Performance Program will be the main tool and incentive to improve the cricket standard in Denmark."

Kentorp also remarks that the program will greatly impact on Denmark's performance in the ICC World Cricket League.

"The Denmark team will participate in the WCL Division 2 tournament in Namibia in November 2007, and the ICC High Performance Program means that we can arrange warm up matches for our National team.

The Kenya A Team visited Denmark in July 2006 and Kenya has asked Denmark to return the visit to their country in 2007 in order to play a few matches in conditions similar to Namibia.

Other options for the 2007 season will be matches in Holland against Denmark's 'old enemy'".



▶ Roger Knight



### ECC Chairman Roger Knight appointed OBE and also honoured by MCC

Less than two weeks after receiving an OBE in the New Year's Honours List, Roger Knight has been awarded Honorary Life Membership of Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC).

It is due recognition for Knight's tireless work as the Club's Secretary & Chief Executive, a role that spanned 13 years and ended in autumn 2006. During that time the Club transformed its facilities at Lord's, launched its worldwide MCC Spirit of Cricket initiative, and admitted women members.

Commenting on his award, Roger Knight, who is continuing to serve cricket as Chairman of the European Cricket Council, said: "I am delighted to have received such an honour.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed my time with MCC, relished all the varied challenges and I shall miss the total commitment that it demanded.

"Now I am looking forward to the new challenge of chairing the European Cricket Council. I shall also keep close links with education as a governor of two schools. First, though, I am enjoying a break in New Zealand."

Knight has been congratulated on his OBE by MCC's Chairman, Charles Fry, who said: "Roger thoroughly deserves this award, for his decades of service to cricket - as a player, a captain and, for thirteen years, as an outstanding Secretary & Chief Executive of the Club.

"I am delighted that Roger has accepted the Committee's offer of Honorary Life Membership of MCC, which he served so well and for so long."

A left-hand batsman and right-arm medium-pace bowler, Knight – now 60 – played for Cambridge University, Gloucestershire, Sussex, Surrey and the Minor Counties, totaling 19558 runs and 369 wickets at first-class level.

◀ Denmark's Carsten Pedersen hits 65 not out at Division 1 in 2006



◀ Henrik Hansen bowling for Denmark at Division 1 in 2006

For a review of  
European Cricket in 2006  
please go to  
[www.ecc-cricket.com](http://www.ecc-cricket.com)

## U15 INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT IN ROME

On the 28 & 29 October, the fourth annual "International Friendship Tournament", hosted by Capannelle CC, took place in Rome. This year the festival had been organised at an Under 15 level with four 11-a-side teams: the U12 Mid Glamorgan Welsh squad, Carshalton C.C. coming from London, Smit and obviously Capannelle.

The overseas teams flew in on Friday bringing with them a large party of parents and supporters who, despite the desire to visit the city of Rome, came to watch all the games.

The matches started in the early morning and the weather gifted us with a bright, warm and cloud-free weekend. All the teams played against one another, competing with great enthusiasm, with Capannelle the winning team.

On Saturday night the teams celebrated together with a dinner during which speeches were made by the organisers and the teams representatives, and club souvenirs were exchanged and many photos taken.

On Monday morning the teams attended a special meeting: they had been received in the Capitoline Hill (seat of Rome's city government) by the Head of Youth Department Mr. Touadi and Mr. Foschi, on behalf of the mayor of the Rome and the city government, who expressed their interest and pleasure



at the tournament, stressing the importance of sport as a social and cultural connector. The boys and their parents had also been allowed to visit the building and admire the ancient ruins, which are usually closed to the public.

In all, the International Friendship tournament was a great success. The boys enjoyed themselves both on and off the field and played a very high standard of cricket together with an extraordinary sense of fairplay.

Many thanks to the Capannelle organisers: president Mrs. Franca Beranger, Mr. Francis Alphonsus Jayarajah, Mr. John Garforth and Leandro M. Jayarajah, who made the event possible; to the team managers, to all the people who helped acting as umpires and scorers; and finally many thanks to all the parents who have been extremely interested in the boys' activities and contributed to create a warm environment.

For the match reviews, please go to: [www.ecc-cricket.com](http://www.ecc-cricket.com)

▲ All the teams at the U15 International Friendship Tournament

### Belgium runs Intro Course

14 PE-teachers from school all over Flanders attended the ICC Cricket Introductory Course at the Schepersinstituut in Mechelen on 9<sup>th</sup> December latest.

The first theoretical session covered the Long Term Development of the Sportsman in an attractive home-made PowerPoint presentation. After that the teachers went to the gym where the teachers had a go at a wide variety of basic cricket techniques and short format games all aimed to be used during the gymsessions at school.

The enthusiasm and dedication was second to none and all participating teachers left with a lot of newly acquired skills and ideas under their belt. This will surely rub off on their pupils and will make sure that the in-school effort started off by Fazil, will continue when he's not around.

A nice bonus was the presence of Martin Gregson, Chairman of the Belgian Association of Cricket Coaches and 5 Level I Coaches, 4 of which native Flemings, who assisted Fazil with the organization of the practical part of the day. The School programme has proven its value and will expand further in the New Year when more schools will join this part of the development programme

▲ Participants at the Belgium Intro Course in Mechelen



## NEWS IN BRIEF..

### Scotland joins County 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Tournament

Scotland's second tier of international cricketers will play at least six three-day matches in next season's English County 2nd XI Championship. Scotland A has been accepted for the first time into the established county second-string tournament, with away matches against Derbyshire (May 9-11), Nottinghamshire (May 22-24), Lancashire (May 30 to June 1), Yorkshire (June 5-7), Leicestershire (June 19-21) and Durham (July 25-27).

The news means that Scotland A cricketers will play at least 18 days of high-level cricket during the 2007 domestic season - in addition to the three one-day matches in the European U23 Championships at the beginning of July at venues in the west of Scotland. Scotland's participation in this England & Wales Cricket Board competition was negotiated by National Coach Peter Drinnen, in the wake of 'friendly' matches last season against Durham and Lancashire. Drinnen has always believed there was a major gap in the promotional ladder for Scottish players trying to make the leap from club to country.

"It is one of the most significant developments for Scottish cricket in the past five years," he said. "It will give youngsters aspiring to represent their country at the highest level an unrivalled chance to raise their standards and show their skills in longer games, in advance of winning their full caps."



▲ Scotland's U23 Squad in 2006

### Jersey applies for Associate membership

Jersey has submitted an application to the ICC to become Europe's 11<sup>th</sup> Associate member country.

The decision follows the Associate/Affiliate Members' Formal Meeting at Annual Conference in July 2006, where it was noted that the previously problematic interpretation of the "playing standard" criterion had to be dealt with immediately. Subsequently the ICC "playing standard" criterion for Associate membership applications was reviewed at a Special Associate and Affiliate Representative's Committee meeting in November and a new definition was established and adopted. This new criterion was then unanimously supported by the ICC Development Committee at its meeting on 5 & 6 December 2006.

Jersey are now required to play a bi-lateral series with an Associate country ranked in the top 19, and will play Italy in March. If Jersey wins at least one game in the three match series, they will meet the new criteria and its application will be considered at the next ICC Annual Conference in June 2007.



▲ Another boundary for David Morfee, in action for Jersey at the 2006 Division 2 Championship

### Women's World Cup takes shape

Ireland, Scotland and the Netherlands are set to fight for a place in the Women's World Cup 2009.

With successful first-ever Regional qualifying events being staged throughout the world, the ICC Women's World Cup Qualifier global tournament has begun to take shape.

The host for the event, to be held in November 2007 has been confirmed as Lahore, Pakistan. The groupings of the eight competing countries have been agreed as follows:

Group A: South Africa, The Netherlands or Scotland, Bermuda, PNG

Group B: Ireland, Pakistan, Zimbabwe, The Netherlands or Scotland

The grouping of The Netherlands and Scotland will be settled by the outcome of the European Women's Championship to be held in the Netherlands from the 14-17 August 2007.

The Top 2 will qualify for the ICC Women's World Cup in Australia in 2009 and join Australia, India, England, New Zealand, West Indies and Sri Lanka.



▲ Ireland Women's U21 squad in 2006

## SPANISH CRICKET ON THE UP

Junior cricket is on the up in Spain at present with a lot of effort being put in to the Spanish junior cricket section.

Recently junior cricketers have visited Belfast to play in an indoor international tournament, six local Juniors Matt Winter, Joel Brook, Christian Munoz Mills, Brad Seekings, Jake Sunderland and Ben Girling were invited to train with the Spanish senior side coached by county coaches from Durham, one Junior, Christian Munoz Mills, represented the Spanish National side against Isle of Man and performed well above expectations. With all this going on, 50 Children aged between 10 & 14 from El Limonar School in Villamartin were invited to a day's coaching at La Manga Club.

Neil Brook, Director of Junior Cricket Spain, and George Wambeck, Director of Cricket Spain, both said they are very encouraged how junior cricket is developing. The time & effort that has gone into developing these youngsters mean they are starting to see Juniors moving into senior cricket representing Spain.

A plan has been put together for 2007 which they hope will develop Spanish Cricket to new heights for the future. The first phase of the plan was to start junior coaching at La Manga Club's first class facilities in November. This will give a second coaching centre and help local youngsters who have trouble getting to the other facility in Albir near Benidorm.

Phase 2 of the plan will be to train 8 coaches to Level 1 standard and some existing coaches to Level two, in doing this they can allocate coaches to each age group at both centres to allow them to concentrate on age groups. Phase 3 of the plan will be to start inviting youngsters



who have achieved a high standard to the European Centre of Excellence and European Academy run by the ECC at La Manga in the spring.

The final phase will be to hold the ECC European Under 15 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Championship 2007 at La Manga in August which will be a fantastic boost for Spanish Cricket.



▲ El Limonar School players at La Manga

◀ Spanish U14 Indoor Team

### Coming Up

ECC Coaching Conference Preview

ECC Announce the Umpires' & Referees' Panels

ICC World Cricket League Division 1—update & results

ICC Intercontinental Cup - UAE v Scotland

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