



# BeyondTheBoundary

The official newsletter of the European Cricket Council  
in association with ICC Development Program

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ICC Development  
Program - Europe

## DENMARK TRIUMPH AT INDOORS

Denmark won the 2008 ICC European Indoor Championship in Finland during 8-10 February, defeating old foes Portugal in a thrilling encounter. The Danes scrambled a two wicket win off the penultimate delivery, overhauling the Portugal total of 132.

Hamid Shah was their hero in the decider, making an unbeaten 28 as he shared in a match winning partnership with Taha Ahmed (25\*), after they were precariously placed at 65 for 3.

For Paulo Buccimazza, the captain of Portugal, there was the consolation of being awarded the Player of the Tournament accolade. He finished the leading run scorer in the competition, and once again in the final showed his quality making an unbeaten 38.

The strength of the Danish squad meant that they went through the whole competition unbeaten – 8 games in total. Skipper Finn Kleissl marshalled his squad superbly, and their disciplined bowling, backed up by athletic fielding, was a powerful combination which ensured their deserved success.

The host nation Finland finished a very encouraging third, and was just reward for the hard work the side put in to prepare for their debut as a host nation. They can be very proud of their efforts, and in wicket-keeper Jonathan Scamans they had one of the star performers in the event.

Belgium will be pleased by their 4th place finish, and in Jamie Farniloe and Simon Newport had two players who shone. They had the biggest margin of victory in the games – 117 runs over Hellas (Greece).

France improved considerably as the competition progressed and thanks

to wins over Hellas and Luxembourg, clinched the 5th position. They came dramatically close to recording the highest ever European Indoor score when they totalled 158 for 1 – just 1 short of the 159 made by Hellas in 2002. Their main performer was the talented Arun Ayyavooraju, who performed consistently throughout.

Luxembourg steadily improved as the competition went on, and they will have been delighted at the recognition for their sporting behaviour by the winning of the 'Spirit of Cricket Award'. Skipper William Heath was just pipped for the Player of the Tournament, but he did record the highest individual score over the 3 days, with an undefeated 41.

Hellas finished 7th, but there were moments of encouragement for their very young and inexperienced team. Their main contributor was Spyridon-Marios Kavvadias, who turned in some determined all-round performances.

ICC Europe Regional Development Manager Richard Holdsworth was delighted at the success of the Championships saying, "It's been an amazing few days of cricket, finished off

with a nail-biting final. The facilities here have been exemplary, with two pitches playing superbly. The players have all learnt a lot and improved as a result. This is what it's all about – it's primarily a development tournament. This is by far the youngest group of players we've had in the ten years, and that's encouraging, as it means that there are better, younger players being put forward by their Associations. I am also thrilled by the fantastic web coverage which has resulted in over 50,000 visitors to our website over the weekend - a great promotion for the game in Europe."

Below: Paulo Buccimazza receives his award from ECC Chairman Roger Knight



Below: Denmark with the trophy and Richard Holdsworth & Roger Knight



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## SCOTLAND TAKE THE LEAD IN PARTICIPATION

The number of people actively participating in cricket outside the Test-playing countries increased 17 per cent in 2007, according to the results of the annual research carried out by the ICC Development Program.

The data, collated and verified from 33 Associate and 58 Affiliate Members, reveals that male and female participation numbers in 2007 were recorded at 338,051, up from 289,209 in 2006. In comparison to the 2002 figures – when there were 144,047 participants – this demonstrates a 135% increase over the past five years, reflecting the success of the ICC Development Program.

The 338,051 cricketers included 73,060 participating in senior competitions and 264,991 at junior level in either competitions or involvement programs. All participants recorded are aligned to competitions or activities conducted under the auspices of their respective National Cricket Bodies.

Scotland is one ICC Associate Member that has benefited from the ICC's Development Program. It recorded 25,476 participants in 2007 compared to 9,649 in 2002. Figures from 2007 included 4,035 playing senior cricket and 21,441 involved at junior level.

Andy Tennant, Cricket Scotland's Head of Cricket, said: "Cricket Scotland is delighted that our significant investment in grass roots participation continues to bear fruit. In 2007 we had over 2,500 more boys and girls involved in our national introductory program which totalled over 16,000 participants, aged 7-9 in our schools. The number of primary schools with links to clubs also increased by 100 to 398. This also benefited our junior club membership which increased by 15% to nearly 4,500. Cricket Scotland plans to continue expanding its Community Development team in 2008 by adding at least four more young Community coaches to the staff already in place. This demonstrates our long term commitment to the growth of cricket in Scotland".

It is not just the number of players that is increasing globally either. Other areas measured annually include numbers of grounds, as well as qualified coaches and umpires, all of which are steadily growing:

Grounds – 5% increase in 2007,

45% increase since 2002. Qualified Coaches – 5% increase in 2007, 143% increase from 2002. Qualified Umpires – 7% increase in 2007. 141% increase from 2002.

With many Associate and Affiliate Members aiming to take the step from largely volunteer structures to more professional administrations, the number of full time and part time paid staff is also measured annually. 119 full time and 268 part time staff are now employed within these Members, representing a rise of 31% during 2007.

ICC's Global Development Manager Matthew Kennedy said: "These are impressive figures and confirm that the ICC Development Program is heading in the right direction. These figures are also evidence of the dedication and commitment of cricket-lovers around the world. It is a tribute to the local workers who have shown enormous devotion – in many instances unpaid – to the development of cricket within Associate and Affiliate Member countries. Together with our Members we will now look to build upon these results to ensure that the growth and improvement of cricket outside of the ICC's Test-playing nations in sustained in the long term".

Besides the 10 Full Members, ICC has 33 Associate and 58 Affiliate Members.

## A memorable day for Irish Cricket

ICC Europe Regional Development Manager Richard Holdsworth has spoken of his sense of pride after Ireland recorded a famous win over Test playing nation Zimbabwe in the Plate Championship Play-off Final at the Under 19 World Cup in Malaysia. Ireland finish 13<sup>th</sup> in the World, maintaining the position they have held in the previous two U19 World Cup campaigns.

In a reduced overs game, a superb opening spell from Andrew Britton (4-14) helped the Irish restrict Zimbabwe to just 99/9 in 27 overs.

In reply, Ireland strolled to victory with 6 wickets spare, as James Hall (32) top scored for the Irish. They made 100 for the loss of just 4 wickets in 23.2 overs.

In the group stages of the competition, Ireland had lost all three games and also lost against West Indies in the Plate quarter-final. However, they went on to beat Bermuda by 69 runs in the Plate Play-off semi-final before moving on to their victory against Zimbabwe.

Holdsworth said, "After a difficult start, the Irish boys have kept going until the end. To beat a Test playing nation is a great achievement, and to finish 13th in the world, shows Ireland's playing strength at this level. Their improvement as the tournament has progressed is evident, and the fact that they have been better this week is a testament to their fortitude. They haven't been helped that they have come into this competition from a Northern hemisphere winter."

Irish Cricket Union Chairman David Williams said "I'd like on behalf on Irish cricket to pass on my congratulations to Captain Greg Thompson and his squad. To beat a Test nation is a wonderful achievement, and to do so in such a comprehensive manner is especially pleasing. It's yet another memorable day in Irish cricket - for an Associate country to beat a Test country is something we can all be proud of."



Below: Ireland in action at the U19 World Cup



## HUNGARY CRICKET'S FIRST SEASON REVIEW

When Andy Grieve, David Brown and Andrew Leckonby convened a meeting at Beckett's Irish Bar in downtown Budapest in March of this year, it was difficult not to be amazed by their naked ambition. With around 15 in attendance, talk of a cricket league and international matches seemed like little more than a pipe dream. Yet the awards evening held in Budapest in October celebrated a successful first season with a full house and not one but two ambassadors in attendance.

Throughout the spring and summer of 2007, the trio worked hard to bring their idea to life. Brown set up a team in his village, while Grieve continued training the students at the school he teaches. They were joined by four other XI's - two works teams and two outfits founded at open training days in a Budapest park. Friendlies were arranged in May and June, then on 15th July the six teams embarked on the 15-match Hungarian Cricket League, played on two football pitches over the course of the summer with around 100 players taking part.

A trip to Yorkshire was followed by Slovenia and they came away with the runners-up trophy in the Mezica Tournament - a huge shock and one that Grieve is particularly proud of.

At the awards evening he praised the school he teaches at, Comenius Bilingual School in Székesfehérvár, who have supported cricket at the school financially and where double-bay nets have recently been installed. His school team took part in the Czech Schools Indoor Cricket Tournament in Prague in November, while in February 12 of his school-girls went to Germany for the 2nd European Girls Tournament. A further trip to Slovenia, this time for the adult national team, was also a taster of things to come. Although the team was given a cricketing lesson by the experienced home side, it hasn't put them off organising more international matches - Slovakia, Romania and the Czech Republic are being lined up for 2008. They have also booked their place in the Prague International Cricket Cup in August. Two trips to Vienna, for the Viennese World Cup and for a club match, completed the amazing adventures of 2007.

There is genuine belief and enthusiasm from everyone involved that 2008 will be even bigger. With 170



registered players already, having ten teams in the league is a major goal (8 are already in the pipeline), as that is the government requirement to get official recognition. Most of the first batch of players were expats, but 2008 will see cricket being introduced at two of the universities in Budapest.

"Just recently the BME University in Budapest confirmed the official coaching of their students within their curriculum," says Brown. "The coaching will begin in September 2008 and has the potential to give over 10,000 students, aged between 18 and 22, the chance to learn and play cricket. This is a massive step forward towards concreting the future of cricket here in Hungary. Already this year, we had Hungarians playing at a good standard and with the recent BME development, without doubt other naturally gifted Hungarians will be discovered." Another university is opening its doors to cricket in March, so Brown has organised a tutor from ICC Europe to come and conduct the ICC Introduction to Cricket course.

The Hungarian Cricket Association is looking for sponsors to help them invest in improving cricket facilities and in subsidising the national team. Meanwhile, former Hungary soccer captain János Bánfi has offered to make space for cricket when his children's coaching school Buda Juniors finds a new training ground. And the cricket bandwagon didn't stop for winter either, a suitable venue in Budapest having been found for indoor training.

What will 2008 bring? More cricket, that's for sure.

▲ Above left:  
Hungarian Cricket Co-founders Andy Grieve and David Brown

Hungarian National side v Slovenia

Above right:

Betty Timmer, Chair of ICC Women's Committee, with Caroline de Fouw

### Netherlands' de Fouw shares Player of the Tournament

The Netherlands' Caroline De Fouw and Sana Mir of Pakistan shared the Player of the Tournament Award at the ICC Women's World Cup Qualifier. Both were outstanding all week for their sides.

South Africa were the winners of the competition, beating Pakistan in the final by 8 wickets, and these two sides now seal their places at the Women's Cricket World Cup in Australia in 2009, the first to be played under the ICC banner.

Following mixed fortunes for the European sides in the group stages, Ireland faced Netherlands in their final fixture for the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> place play-off. The Irish got the better of the Dutch, winning by 66 runs, and claiming 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Cecilia Joyce captured the Player of the Match Award for her excellent 65, while Clare Shillington made a valuable contribution of 58. The Netherlands started well and at 102-1 looked set to challenge Ireland's total. But a flurry of wickets, with Ciara Metcalfe and Heather Whelan doing most of their damage, meant the Dutch fell well short of their target.

Elsewhere Zimbabwe took fifth place with a 161 run defeat of Scotland.

Final placings: South Africa, Pakistan, Ireland, Netherlands, Zimbabwe, Scotland, PNG, Bermuda.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Richard Skyrme in Luxembourg

The Luxembourg National Sports Stadium was the venue for an ECB Coaching Assistant course (Level 1) on February 15-17 led by Richard Skyrme. Ten candidates arrived on the Friday afternoon and immediately showed enthusiasm and focus for the course ahead. The 'coaches' worked hard from the start and went home happy and tired on the Friday night. The Safeguarding and Protecting Children workshop was undertaken on Saturday morning and then it was into the sports hall, with the determination and work ethic obvious from all the 'coaches.' The Saturday passed very quickly, with the modules looking at some technical points of batting and bowling, plus the how-to-coach skills that are so needed by coaches today. The 'coaches' finished the day exhausted but satisfied with the challenge of the next day.

The Sunday morning disappeared very quickly with a chance to have a practice run at delivering a coaching session and at 12-00pm Deepak Gianchandani (the organiser of the course on Luxembourg's behalf) arrived with ten children for the assessment. The sessions progressed through the afternoon and eventually the ten candidates had completed their tasks.

There are now ten more Coaching Assistants in Luxembourg and Anthony, Richard, Roger, William, John, Simon, Nigel, Johan and Saravara all deserve their success. They worked hard as a group and all entered into the spirit of the weekend. Thanks must go to William Stock and Deepak Gianchandani for looking after Richard on the weekend.



▲ Course candidates in Luxembourg

### Speed pays tribute to Wright

The Chief Executive of the International Cricket Council, Malcolm Speed, has praised recent changes in the way the game is run in Ireland. And he says the changes should maintain in the years ahead what he calls Ireland's "winning culture".

Mr Speed's views are contained in a letter of thanks to John Wright who has stepped down as Honorary Secretary of the Irish Cricket Union.

The Chief Executive recalled when the two men sat together as Ireland defeated Bangladesh in the Super Eight stage of the ICC World Cup in Barbados last April. He wrote: "When I sat with you I must admit I felt proud that the ICC Development Program and all the ICU's hard work was bearing fruit on the world stage." Malcolm Speed describes the appointments of a full-time National Coach in 1995 and a Chief Executive in 2003 as "crucial developments".

He writes: "It is no coincidence that since then, Ireland has been a much more consistent force among the other top Associates, making the final of the ICC Trophy in 2005 and twice winning the ICC Intercontinental Cup as well as occasionally upsetting the 'big boys'". And for John Wright, there was this personal tribute: "There is no doubt that your efforts over many years have formed a significant part of the successes that Ireland has enjoyed in recent years."



▲ Malcolm Speed with John Wright

### Danish Umpires Learn the Ropes

An ICC European Introductory Umpiring course was held last weekend, on the 23rd and 24th February, in Denmark.

Seven prospective umpires attended the course which held at the cricket pavilion encompassed within the picturesque grounds of Glostrup Cricket Club, just twenty minutes from the centre of Copenhagen.

The course was organised by Danish umpire Niels Bagh, who welcomed the course tutor, Ray Holyer, to Denmark to instruct the trainee umpires, who were a mix of ages and had varying levels of umpiring experience.

The two days of presentations and lectures were dispersed with some excellent food and stimulating cricket dialogue and according to tutor Holyer, there is no doubt that all the participants now have a much clearer understanding of the Laws.



▲ Ray Holyer and Niels Bagh

## 2ND EUROPEAN GIRLS' TOURNAMENT IN GERMANY

Eight teams attended the 2nd European Girls' Indoor Tournament held in Brandenburg an der Havel, Germany, on 16 & 17 February.

Two girls' club teams travelled from England, Thornbury CC and Shirehampton CC, while from the Netherlands came the Dutch U16 team and from Hungary the Pusta team. Germany provided three teams, Oldenburg CC, Reinickendorfer Fuchse Radiomultikulti Cricket team and Schwerin BBCCC. There was also a President's International Team composed of players from Bavaria, Oldenburg and Hungary.

The teams were divided into two groups of four teams, playing to a format of eight players per team and the games were restricted to eight overs per innings. Following the group games on Saturday, Sunday saw the group qualifiers and then the top four teams played a second round of qualifying games.

The final saw the two English teams pitted against each other, with victory only coming off the penultimate ball of the match. It was a hard-fought game with some telling bowling, fine stroke-play and athletic fielding from both teams. This kept the spectators enthralled and vociferous throughout the whole game. Although Thornbury won the game by 8 wickets, it was a much closer game than the score suggests.

Final Placings: Thornbury CC, Shirehampton CC, Netherlands U16, Oldenburg CC, PIT, Hungary, Schwerin, MCR

The tournament was a definite success for the development of girls/women's cricket on the European continent, linking up girls' cricket in four European countries, an initiative started by Wraye Wenigmann (DCB), Ian Moss (Glos CCC) and Carsten Hofinghoff (Oldenburg).



### DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 17 March**  
*European Cricket Committee*
- 27-29 March**  
*Governance & Admin Forum*
- 4-6 April**  
*Umpires & Referees Seminar*
- 7-12 April**  
*European Centre of Excellence*
- 12-17 April**  
*European Women's Academy*

▲  
*Participants at the 2nd European Girls' Indoor Tournament in Germany*

### Coming Up

- European Academy in India
- Governance & Admin Forum

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