

A photograph of a baseball player in a yellow uniform and cap, reaching up with both hands to catch a white baseball. The player is looking up at the ball. The background is dark, with a white rectangular frame visible behind the player. The text 'ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2006-2007' is in the top right, and the ICC logo is in the bottom right.

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2006-2007





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The following introduction was written shortly before Percy Sonn, ICC President 2006-7, sadly passed away, aged 57.

President's Report

It has been a year since I took over from Ehsan Mani as President of the ICC and no matter what anyone says, no one could argue that the past 12 months in the world of cricket have been dull.

In that time we have seen a lot of cricket with two major ODI tournaments taking place as well as the usual compliment of Test series and the occasional Twenty20 International thrown in for good measure.

It was great to be back in India for a major international event, the ICC Champions Trophy 2006, which was won by an outstanding Australian team, who were also the deserved winners of the ICC Cricket World Cup 2007.

When I look back on the event in the Caribbean there are plenty of positives that can be taken and also some areas where we know we could have done better. Of course, there are some things that have happened which were entirely beyond our control. Without question the saddest and most shocking of those things was the tragic death of Pakistan national coach Bob Woolmer, who passed away during the event.

Bob was a real cricket enthusiast, the sort of person who inspires others with his passion for the game. He had been a fine player for Kent and England but it was probably as a coach that he will be most remembered. He is missed by thousands of cricket-lovers in Pakistan, South Africa, England and elsewhere and our thoughts remain with his family in Cape Town and many friends.

With a set-back like that early in the piece, the ICC CWC was always going to be a difficult event and there were several issues with the event, most of which have been debated and discussed at length.



Percy Sonn

For me, though, it was very satisfying to see the magnificent stadia that were built for the event. The West Indies now has facilities for staging major international cricket tournaments that are the envy of the rest of the world.

Looking ahead to the next year, it is going to be another busy one for the ICC with two more major events planned. In September the eyes of the world will be on South Africa for the inaugural ICC World Twenty20. This will involve 12 teams playing a short, sharp tournament across three venues (in Durban, Johannesburg and Cape Town) in what should be a spectacular demonstration of this exciting, thrill-a-minute form of the game.

Then, early next year, there will be a chance to get a sneak preview of the world's next stars as the ICC Under 19 Cricket World Cup will take place in Malaysia. Many of today's top players got their first taste of the big time at this tournament and, with an eye on the future, it is always interesting to see which teams do well at that level. With other events such as the ICC World Cricket League Division 2 (in Namibia), ICC Intercontinental Cup (global round-robin format), ICC Women's World Cup Qualifier (in Lahore), not to mention the ICC Awards in September, it is going to be another bumper 12 months for cricket fans.

ICC Executive Board and IDI Board of Directors

As well as the ICC President and Chief Executive, the ICC Executive Board and the Board of Directors of ICC Development (International) Ltd (IDI) – the ICC’s commercial arm – comprises the Presidents and Chairmen of the ICC’s 10 Full Member countries, plus three representatives from Associate Member countries. These forums are the key policy bodies for international cricket.

The IDI Board is responsible for the major financial and commercial policies relating to global cricket, while the ICC Executive Board takes recommendations from the Chief Executives’ Committee and oversee the affairs of the ICC.

In addition to the 13 Directors pictured below, the following Directors served on the Board during the year:

Ehsan Mani (Chairman)

Bangladesh – **Mohammad Ali Ashgar** (Full Member representative)

Pakistan – **Shaharyar Khan** (Full Member representative)

UAE – **Mazhar Khan** (Associate Member representative)

Full Members



Australia
Creagh O'Connor



Bangladesh
M Abdul Aziz



England
David Morgan



India
Sharad Pawar



New Zealand
Sir John Anderson KBE



Pakistan
Nasim Ashraf



Sri Lanka
Jayantha Dharmadasa



South Africa
Ray Mali



West Indies
Ken Gordon



Zimbabwe
Peter Chingoka

Associate Members



Israel
Stanley Perlman



Kenya
Samir Inamdar



Malaysia
HRH Tunku Imran

Chief Executive's Report

The passing of our President, Percy Sonn, on 27 May has been deeply distressing for the entire ICC family.

Though only President of the ICC for 11 months, Percy's imprint on the organisation and world cricket has been immense. He was one of the architects of change in South Africa at the end of the apartheid era and brought a sharp mind and even sharper wit to the ICC Boardroom. His passion for the spirit and diversity of the sport has inspired us all to bring greater focus to these special features of the great game of cricket.

Percy was proud that some of the game's greatest players supported our promotion of the Spirit of Cricket at the ICC Champions Trophy in India and was an unstinting believer that the diverse small countries that comprise the West Indies had earned the right to host the ICC Cricket World Cup.

No other major sport could even consider hosting its biggest event across nine Caribbean countries and we knew it was going to be an unprecedented and complex undertaking when we awarded the CWC to the West Indies.

The event mobilised the largest volunteer workforce in Caribbean history and - from the feedback received from players - has had a dramatic impact on the cricket facilities in all the host countries. The thousands of people who helped ensure the excellent venues were ready on time and the extremely challenging logistics were handled with professionalism should be proud of their contributions.

Of course there are many lessons to be learned from the event, including lessons for us at the ICC. We have our first opportunity to show that we have taken on board the learning from the CWC when we stage the inaugural ICC World Twenty20 in South Africa in September.



Malcolm Speed

The CWC also brought to an end a long-term partnership between ICC and the Global Cricket Corporation (GCC) that - when it was signed back in 2000 - was the most valuable commercial partnership in cricket history.

This ground-breaking union has been pivotal in helping ICC and its Members expand cricket's reach at the same time as sustaining existing structures and I would like to thank GCC and the broadcasters and sponsors they brought on board for supporting our vision for the game.

In July 2006 we launched a new strategic plan which saw a subtle shift of direction for the ICC. Over the coming years we will prioritise the strengthening of the sport across our existing Membership base and ensure good service is at the core of our operations.

To help us lead the sport in the years ahead I am delighted that we now have in place a tremendously enthusiastic new broadcast partner in ESPN STAR Sports whose long term commitment to the ICC's major events through to 2015 will give our Members even greater capacity to develop the game.

With increased funding around the corner it is imperative that all of us involved in administration keep the interests of the game in our hearts. It was watching the exploits of legends like Richie Benaud, Garry Sobers and Wes Hall at the Melbourne Cricket Ground that hooked me four-and-a-half decades ago. We owe it to future

generations of cricket fans to make sure we provide the right environment for players to flourish and spectators to enjoy Test match, One-Day International and Twenty20 cricket.

I am pleased that we have been able to reconstitute our Cricket Committee to better-represent the on-field stakeholders of the game and it was interesting to note this committee's concerns regarding the volume of international cricket. It is important that our Members consider all of the game's stakeholders - from the stands to the middle - when they are drawing up their international cricket schedules.

Cricket in Zimbabwe has again been a prominent issue this year with the national team having withdrawn from Test cricket and the Australian government's decision to prevent Cricket Australia from sending a touring team. There remain several issues that still need to be addressed in that country.

It has been Australia's year on the field with them emphatically regaining the Ashes in between a brace of triumphs in our two biggest events - the ICC Champions Trophy and CWC. Australia's women also marched to victory in a quadrangular tournament in India, the major event in a period of great progress for women's cricket.

The game said farewell to three of its all time greats in Brian Lara, Glenn McGrath and Shane Warne. While, below the top tier, Ireland's cricketers made history - and

plenty of new friends - throughout their Caribbean adventure and China took its first tentative steps on the international stage in a junior tournament in Thailand.

Our sadly departed former President was a true cricket enthusiast and enjoyed all of these highlights.

Percy wasn't the only exceptional servant of the game to pass away in the last year.

Sir Clyde Walcott was one of the greatest West Indians ever to stand at the batting crease. That he went on to have a long and distinguished second career as an administrator - including serving as the first non-English Chairman of the ICC from 1993 to 1997 - speaks volumes of his dedication to the game.

The shock I felt on hearing of Bob Woolmer's tragic death during the CWC will remain with me forever. Bob was one of cricket's deepest thinkers and greatest innovators and his contribution to the development of the sport in his time as the ICC's High Performance Manager serves as part of his strong cricket legacy.

It is because of the contributions of great men like Percy, Sir Clyde and Bob that cricket today is stronger than it has ever been. It is played and watched by more people, in more countries than at any time in its history. At times cricket can seem incredibly complex, on and off the field, but in essence it is a simple game of bat and ball that has shown tremendous capacity to build bridges between diverse continents, countries and communities. We will not lose sight of that.







Delivering cricket's major events



ICC Cricket World Cup
WEST INDIES 2007

ICC Cricket World Cup

Australia became the first team in ICC Cricket World Cup (CWC) history to capture three back to back titles. Their outstanding performances throughout the tournament, which saw them win eleven matches without losing a game and keep up an unbeaten record which stretches back to 1999, confirmed their status as one of the greatest teams of all time.

In a final which was interrupted by rain, Australia won the title by 53 runs (Duckworth/Lewis method), with Adam Gilchrist's 149 off 104 balls, the highest score in a CWC Final, helping him take the Man of the Match Award.

During the course of the event, there were many memorable individual performances on the field of play, which delighted crowds in the stadia and the millions watching at home.

Spectacular hitting dominated the tournament, most notably when Herschelle Gibbs became the first man in an ODI to hit six sixes in one over against the Netherlands, Matthew Hayden scored the fastest hundred in CWC history off 66 balls against South Africa and Brendon McCullum's 50 off 20 balls against Canada was also a record. India made a record team score in a CWC, with 413 against Bermuda, the Australia-South Africa group match was the highest match aggregate in CWC history and the 18 sixes in the South Africa-Netherlands match was also an ODI record.

But there were also moments of individual brilliance with the ball, with Lasith Malinga becoming the first to take four wickets in four balls in an ODI and the fifth player to take a CWC hat-trick.



The organisation of the tournament presented many challenges, not least the logistical issues of delivering matches in nine different countries. Crowds in the Caribbean were disappointing at times, but those who did experience the five star stadia, helped create some memorable moments in the stands, with Ireland's 'Blarney Army' creating scenes which will forever live in the memory, particularly after their defeat of Pakistan.

The tragic death of Bob Woolmer overshadowed the tournament, but his legacy to international cricket from his role as ICC High Performance Manager, and the expertise that he shared with the leading Associate countries during his time in the job, reaped its rewards with the performances of Ireland at the event. And Bangladesh's rise as a Full Member country was confirmed, when they achieved fantastic victories over India in the Group Stages and over South Africa in the Super Eight.

Leading stars said farewell to the international stage, with the retirement from international cricket of two legends of the game, Brian Lara and Glenn McGrath, while Inzamam-ul-Haq bowed out of ODI cricket as the second highest run scorer of all time.

Captions

- 1 Sri Lankan bowler Lasith Malinga became the first bowler to take four wickets in successive balls in ODI history during the event.
- 2 Adam Gilchrist celebrates his century against Sri Lanka in the CWC Final.
- 3 A packed house at the Kensington Oval in Barbados for the CWC Final 2007.
- 4 Herschelle Gibbs hit an incredible six sixes in one over against The Netherlands.





McGrath was outstanding, ending the tournament with a CWC record 26 wickets, which helped him capture the Man of the Tournament Award. He also broke Wasim Akram's record for the most wickets in the event's history, finishing his career with 71 CWC wickets from 1996 to 2007.

The competition was conducted in fantastic spirit, with player behaviour throughout the tournament being outstanding, while off the pitch teams played an important role in raising awareness of HIV/AIDS by supporting the ICC's partnership with UNAIDS, UNICEF and the Caribbean Broadcast Media Partnership on HIV/AIDS.

While there will be many lessons learnt from the event, the Caribbean has been left with a collection of world class stadia and practice facilities which will serve cricket players and fans from across the world for years to come. There will be a tremendous opportunity to build on this legacy at the next major international tournament in the region for the ICC Champions Trophy 2010.



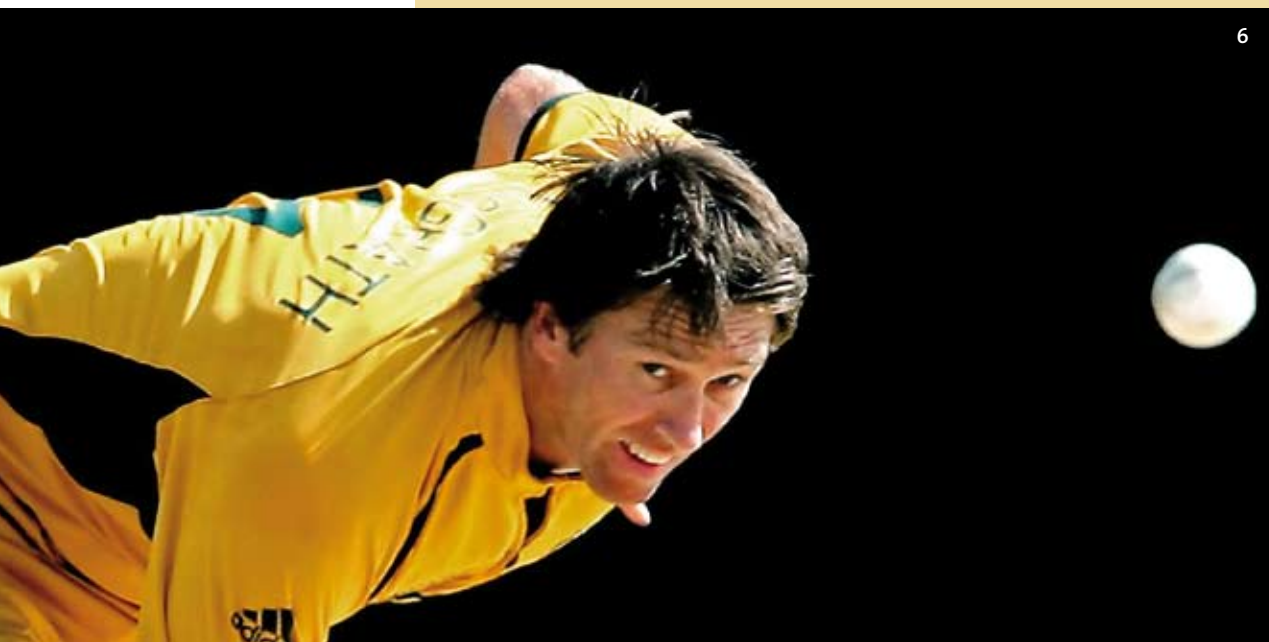
Captions

5 Brian Lara does a lap of honour following his final international appearance.

6 Glenn McGrath was named Player of the Tournament and broke the record for most wickets in a tournament.

7 Mohammad Ashraful of Bangladesh celebrates his side's famous victory against India in the Group Stages.

8 Pakistani cricketers observe a minute's silence in remembrance of Bob Woolmer.



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Captions

- 1 Australia celebrates winning their first ever ICC Champions Trophy title.
- 2 Man of the Tournament Chris Gayle scored three centuries during the event.
- 3 Indian fans cheer on the host nation in their disappointing campaign.



ICC Champions Trophy

It was described by the late ICC President Percy Sonn as an 'outstanding' tournament and it was certainly the most closely fought in the ICC Champions Trophy's history.

No team went through the event unbeaten and it was laden with some wonderful individual and team performances.

Damien Martyn's consistency with the bat, Glenn McGrath's return to form with the ball, Chris Gayle's three thrilling centuries, Jerome Taylor's hat-trick for the West Indies against Australia and Kevin Pietersen's face-saving innings in England's last game kept spectators at the venues and the millions watching on TV entertained.

Once the first round had been safely negotiated by Sri Lanka and the West Indies, who both beat Bangladesh and Zimbabwe, the groups were filled and the remaining six teams joined the tournament.

When Sri Lanka came up against a Pakistan side missing three key players, they were expected to continue the good form they showed early on, with opener Upul Tharanga particularly to the fore. But Pakistan put in a top-class performance in the face of adversity, winning the match by four wickets.

The West Indies then established themselves as one of the form teams beating Australia by 10 runs in a thrilling encounter, in a game which turned on Taylor's hat-trick.

Australia beat England and hosts India, who both had disappointing tournaments, to progress to the semi-final where they defeated New Zealand by 36 runs, who had to rely on Jacob Oram and Daniel Vettori to help them recover from 35-6. In the other semi-final the West Indies saw off the challenge of South Africa thanks to some fine batting by Chris Gayle, whose third century in the event helped his side to a comfortable six wicket victory.

The final was affected by rain and having bowled out the West Indies for just 138, Australia passed the revised Duckworth-Lewis target having lost just two wickets. Captain Ricky Ponting became the first Australian to lift the ICC Champions Trophy, and there was some consolation for the West Indies when Chris Gayle was named as Player of the Tournament.





Captions

- 1 Australian cricketers Shane Warne, Glenn McGrath, Justin Langer and Adam Gilchrist celebrate their victory over England in the Ashes.
- 2 Makhaya Ntini of South Africa was one of the leading fast bowlers during the year.
- 3 Muttiah Muralidaran took an incredible 90 Test wickets during 2006.
- 4 Mohammad Yousuf broke the record for most Test runs in a calendar year.



LG ICC Test Championship

It was an absorbing twelve months of Test cricket, with Australia securing their place at the top of the LG ICC Test Championship table for the third year in a row by winning all seven Test matches they played.

Pakistan and India moved closer towards England in the rankings, who held on to second place, while Sri Lanka and South Africa remained within striking distance in the chasing pack.

Shane Warne, who along with Glenn McGrath and Justin Langer played in his final Test match at Sydney when Australia completed its 5-0 Ashes series whitewash over England, became the first player in Test history to take 700 wickets when he dismissed Andrew Strauss in front of a near capacity crowd at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Boxing Day. McGrath, who played an integral role in the Ashes series which was watched by an incredible 813,000 spectators, bowed out of cricket with 563 wickets – the third most in Test history.

It was also a successful year for batsmen – most notably for Mohammad Yousuf who achieved more hundreds – nine – and scored more runs – 1788 – in a calendar year than any other player in the history of the game. Kumar Sangakkara and Mahela Jayawardene made cricketing history when they compiled a record Test partnership of 624 for the third wicket against South Africa in Colombo, while Adam Gilchrist's 57-ball hundred at Perth against England was the second fastest Test century of all time, just one ball slower than Viv Richard's spectacular hundred against England in 1986.

Ricky Ponting finished the year at the top of the LG ICC Test Batting Rankings, while Muttiah Muralidaran, who took 90 wickets in the calendar year, the second most in cricketing history, topped the Bowling Rankings. South Africa's Jacques Kallis, who won the Man of the Match Award at Cape Town following his side's match against Pakistan, joined Shane Warne and Wasim Akram in having won the most MOM Awards of all time, 17, while his South African colleague Mark Boucher moved to the brink of breaking Ian Healy's record of most Test match dismissals.

LG ICC ODI Championship



South Africa topped the LG ICC ODI Championship at the annual cut-off date for the first time since the rankings were introduced, edging Australia into second place by the narrowest of margins. The Proteas were rewarded with \$175,000 for the achievement of being top of the table on 1 April 2007, while Australia pocketed \$75,000 as runner-up. With both sides finishing on 127 points, it was only when their ratings were re-calculated past the decimal point that they could be separated, with just 0.199 of a ratings point being the difference.

It was an exciting period for ODI cricket, with both the ICC Cricket World Cup and ICC Champions Trophy taking place during the 12 month period (both of which are covered in more detail in other sections of this report).

It was a golden age for batting with seven international stars who have scored 10,000 ODI runs or more – Sachin Tendulkar, Sanath Jayasuriya, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Sourav Ganguly, Brian Lara, Rahul Dravid and Ricky Ponting – in action during the course of the year. Of these players it was Ponting who was most dominant in the LG ICC Player Rankings but he ceded top spot at various stages of the year to his Australian teammate Michael Hussey and England's Kevin Pietersen.

There was also notable success amongst the leading bowlers, with Shaun Pollock, Shane Bond and Muttiah Muralidaran topping the LG ICC Player Rankings. Shahadat Hossain, Jerome Taylor, Shane Bond and Lasith Malinga also enjoyed their moments of glory during the course of the year, all joining the small group of players to have taken ODI hat-tricks. There were some classic matches too, most notably New Zealand's remarkable one wicket victory over Australia in Hamilton, which saw the second highest match aggregate in the history of ODI cricket.

Sri Lanka also showed outstanding form with the bat, scoring the highest ODI total of all time when they hit 443-9 against the Netherlands, as well as an amazing eight wicket win over England when they reached their target of 324 off just 37.3 overs.

Away from 50 over cricket, there was also continued growth and interest in the Twenty20 format of the game, with the first ICC World Twenty20 event due to take place in South Africa in September 2007.

Captions

- 1 South Africa's ODI team received \$175,000 for topping the LG ICC ODI Championship table at its annual cut-off date.
- 2 England's Kevin Pietersen enjoyed a brilliant year with the bat.
- 3 Mike Hussey of Australia topped the ODI batting rankings during the year.
- 4 Shaun Pollock was a constant threat with the bat and ball for South Africa.

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ICC Awards

The ICC Awards, presented by Hyundai in association with FICA, were held at a glittering ceremony in Mumbai during the ICC Champions Trophy 2006. These Awards form a vital part of the ICC's commitment to celebrating the heroes and role models amongst players and match officials in the game.

Ricky Ponting was named Player of the Year, Test Player of the Year and was selected in both the ICC World Test and ODI Teams of the Year, by an esteemed panel comprising many of the greats of the game. He was joined on the winners' list by Australian team-mate Mike Hussey, who took the ODI Player of the Year award, while England's Ian Bell was named Emerging Player of the Year.

Australia's Karen Rolton became the first Women's Player of the Year and Sri Lanka's Mahela Jayawardene was named as Captain of the Year, rewarding his efforts in their 5-0 whitewash over England in an ODI series.

For their part, England took the Spirit of Cricket Award for the second year running while it was a hat-trick for Simon Taufel who won the Umpire of the Year Award for the third successive year.

The full team list for the World ODI Team of the Year was Adam Gilchrist (Aus, wicketkeeper), MS Dhoni (Ind), Ricky Ponting (Aus), Mahela Jayawardene (SL, captain) Yuvraj Singh (Ind), Michael Hussey (Aus), Andrew Flintoff (Eng), Irfan Pathan (Ind) Brett Lee (Aus), Shane Bond (NZ), Muttiah Muralidaran (SL) and Andrew Symonds (Aus) was named 12th man.

The World Test Team of the Year was Matthew Hayden (Aus), Michael Hussey (Aus), Ricky Ponting (Aus), Rahul Dravid (Ind, captain), Mohammed Yousuf (Pak), Kumar Sangakkara (SL, wicketkeeper), Andrew Flintoff (Eng), Shane Warne (Aus), Makhaya Ntini (SA), Muttiah Muralidaran (SL), Glenn McGrath (Aus) and Brett Lee (Aus) was selected as 12th man.

Captions

- 1 Australian skipper Ricky Ponting was named Player of the Year at the ICC Awards.
- 2 Mahela Jayawardene was chosen as Captain of the Year.

- 3 Ricky Ponting, Michael Hussey, Brett Lee and Glenn McGrath were all selected in the World ODI and Test Teams of the Year.



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Captions

- 1 Kenyan players celebrate winning the inaugural ICC World Cricket League Division One in Nairobi.
- 2 William Porterfield of Ireland was one of two players to score two centuries during the event.
- 3 David Obuya was named Man of the Match in Kenya's eight wicket win over Scotland in the Division One Final.



ICC World Cricket League

The inaugural ICC World Cricket League Division One tournament took place in Nairobi in January, launching a multi-tiered event which will provide competitive one-day cricket for the sport's developing nations. Bermuda, Canada, Ireland, the Netherlands and Scotland joined the host nation Kenya in this event in which all the matches had official ODI status. It proved to be a resounding success, with some outstanding cricket on display, and brought unprecedented media attention to the leading Associate Member countries.

As well as being timed to provide vital preparation ahead of the ICC Cricket World Cup, the event also rewarded the top two sides with qualification for the ICC World Twenty20 in South Africa in September 2007.

It was the hosts that claimed the title with a comprehensive eight wicket victory over Scotland in the final, avenging an earlier defeat in the Group Stage to the same

opposition. There were several thrilling finishes including Kenya's one wicket win over Ireland, which saw the last pair put on 55 to complete an astonishing comeback; Scotland's remarkable recovery over the Netherlands, where they took three wickets in the final over to grab an unlikely victory; and a last ball win for Scotland over Ireland.

Ten centuries in the Group Stages illustrated that it was a batsman's tournament, with Ashish Bagai (Canada), whose 345 runs earned him the Man of the Tournament accolade, and William Porterfield (Ireland) scoring two centuries each in the Group Stages. Of the bowlers Peter Ongondo (Kenya), Ryan ten Doeschate (the Netherlands), Andre Botha (Ireland) and Craig Wright (Scotland) all took ten wickets or more.

Altogether there are five global divisions in the ICC World Cricket League which sit on top of a regional tournament structure that opens the qualifying pathway to the ICC Cricket World Cup to almost all ICC Members.

ICC Intercontinental Cup

The ICC's first class cricket tournament for leading Associate Members, the Intercontinental Cup, continued to go from strength to strength. For the first time matches were played over four days, rather than three days, providing an invaluable opportunity for teams to develop their technical skills and game plans, which undoubtedly had a positive impact on players in both the short and long forms of the game.

Teams were also split into two global groups of four teams, with the winners of each group progressing to the Final.

Canada finished on top of Group B having got off to a flying start. Outright victories over Kenya and Bermuda at the Maple Leaf ground near Toronto in late July and early August were enough to ensure top spot, although they did lose by seven wickets to the Netherlands in their final group game.

On the other side of the draw in Group A, it always looked like it would be between 2005 winners Ireland and the 2004 champions Scotland. Their match in Aberdeen was a rain-affected draw but with Scotland taking more out of it in terms of points, it was always going to be difficult for Ireland to get ahead.

Both sides beat Namibia comfortably but then Scotland left the door open for Ireland when it was unable to beat the United Arab Emirates in Sharjah in January. A comprehensive victory over the UAE in Abu Dhabi the following month was enough for Trent Johnston's team to progress to the final.

Having bowled Canada out for just 92 at Leicester in the Final, 146 from man of the match Jeremy Bray led Ireland to 352, before Kyle McCallan's five wicket haul helped dismiss Canada for 145. Ireland's victory, by an innings and 115 runs, was a fantastic effort, although the game will also be remembered for Canada's Umar Bhatti achieving the unusual feat of taking a hat-trick of lbws.

From 2007, teams will play a minimum of seven four-day matches as part of a two year round-robin format.



Captions

- 1 Ireland's players celebrate winning the Intercontinental Cup at Leicestershire's Grace Road ground.
- 2 Umar Bhatti of Canada is mobbed by his colleagues after claiming a hat-trick.





Optimising commercial rights and
properties for the benefit of Members



Captions

- 1 Michael Atherton and Ian Smith were two of the commentators at the ICC Cricket World Cup 2007.
- 2 A fan enjoys the party atmosphere at the event.
- 3 John Davison of Canada carries out a post match interview.
- 4 Andrew Symonds arrives at the ICC Awards 2006, which are presented by Hyundai.

Commercial Programme

The ICC works on behalf of its Members to generate revenues to help grow the game across the world. One of the key ways it does this is through its successful commercial programme.

In the past 12 months, the ICC's long-term partnership with the Global Cricket Corporation (GCC) concluded with two final events, the ICC Champions Trophy 2006 and the ICC Cricket World Cup 2007.

These events, organised by the ICC in partnership with Local Organising Committees in the respective countries, saw high-quality operations in a number of areas including event management, venue dressing and branding, broadcasting and media services, sponsor servicing and support, as well as publications and merchandise.

The ICC would like to thank its commercial partners, with whom it has enjoyed an excellent working relationship with during the course of these deals.

Through the work of GCC, ICC events were broadcast across the globe with a series of high profile former players employed as commentators for the events. In addition, Sportsbrand has continued to produce the weekly ICC Cricket World TV show which showcases the week's cricket news. It is currently broadcast in 92 countries of which 86 are ICC Members.

The ICC's partners for the ICC Champions Trophy and CWC were LG Electronics, Pepsico, Hutchison and Hero Honda, while Indian Oil, Cable & Wireless and Visa were official sponsors. For the ICC Cricket World Cup Scotiabank, Johnnie Walker, Red Stripe and Standard Bank were also official sponsors, with GL Events and BMW being official suppliers.







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Emirates is the official airline of the ICC and the naming rights sponsor of the Emirates Elite and International Panels of ICC Umpires and the Emirates Elite Panel of ICC Match Referees, while LG Electronics sponsored the LG ICC Player Rankings as well as the ODI and Test Championships, the official rankings systems for teams and for individual players.

Hyundai was the presenting sponsor of the ICC Awards, for which Swarovski was the official trophy provider, while SET Max acted as official broadcaster for this event.

The ICC remains committed to showcasing the game on the internet. The official ICC website, icc-cricket.com, continues to attract visitors from across the cricketing world, with most visits from India, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. Indya.com provided event websites for both the ICC Champions Trophy 2006 and the ICC Cricket World Cup 2007, the latter attracting 5.7 billion hits during the course of the event. The ICC also worked with Codemasters, the ICC's computer game licensee, in support of the latest 'Brian Lara Cricket 2007' game.

As the official photographer, Getty Images provided ICC with photographic images for use on the ICC website and in all ICC publications. The agreement also allowed access for ICC Members to photographs for non-commercial use.

The agreements with GCC and valued commercial partners have created significant revenues, which the ICC has been responsible for managing and distributing to its Members.

Captions

- 1 Kevin Pietersen attempts a catch against Australia at the CWC 2007.
- 2 Event broadcasters prepare for a post match presentation.
- 3 Mark Benson of the Emirates Elite Panel of Umpires with Sreesanth of India.
- 4 West Indians Jerome Taylor and Brian Lara celebrate the wicket of Ricky Ponting at the ICC Champions Trophy 2006.



Commercial Programme 2007-15

As part of its commitment to increasing revenues on a sustainable basis for its Members, the ICC opened negotiations this year for its broadcasting and sponsorship rights from 2007-15.

Included in the new eight-year period are 18 ICC tournaments with two ICC Cricket World Cups, in Asia (2011) and Australasia (2015), and a minimum of three ICC Champions Trophy tournaments, as well as the first two ICC World Twenty20 events. There are also Cricket World Cup qualifiers, four ICC Under 19 Cricket World Cups, and, for the first time, the Women's Cricket World Cup, with two tournaments scheduled for 2009 (Australia) and 2013 (India) in the cycle.

After an open and transparent tendering process, the ICC Board agreed in December that ESPN Star Sports, jointly owned by New Corporation and the Walt Disney Company, would be the ICC's new audio-visual partner.

The ICC has also been working to create and sell sponsorship packages to global partners, which successfully optimise the rights for feature events and other key ICC assets. These sponsors will play a vital role in promoting ICC events and programs, bringing the game to a wider audience and creating new opportunities and experiences for fans. With growing media convergence and evolution likely over the next eight years this sponsorship will engage fans via a variety of platforms, including television, internet, mobile, radio, print and at venues themselves.



To help effectively resource the organisation to be able to deliver outstanding service to commercial partners, the relationships between the ICC and its commercial partners will be managed in house for the first time.

These deals provide an essential and secure finance base for the game. The revenues generated will be reinvested into the game, amongst Member countries, to ensure the long-term development of cricket across the globe.



Captions

- 1 A cameraman at the ICC CWC 2007.
- 2 Fans in Pakistan follow the action from the CWC 2007 on television.
- 3 Tony Cozier carries out a post match interview with Dwayne Bravo.





Promoting and protecting the game and its unique spirit



The Spirit of Cricket

The ICC's vision of success is that cricket will capture and inspire people of every age, gender, background and ability while building bridges between continents, countries and communities.

Central to this ambition is promoting the Spirit of Cricket, an ethos on how the game should be played and viewed both on and off the field.

The Spirit of Cricket, enshrined through the Laws of the Game, was defined as part of the ICC's Strategic Plan 2006-10. This definition states:

Cricket enjoys a unique mix of attributes in international sport. It is underpinned by rich traditions and high values; it is played under a guiding principle of respect; it evokes passion, commitment and excitement; it is truly multi-cultural, it stands proudly on the world's sporting stage; it is a sociable game that forges deep long-lasting friendships; it is a team sport that combines skill, strategy, endeavour and athleticism; above all it is a game that means many different things to many different people and provides endless joy to those that it touches.

Ahead of the start of the ICC Champions Trophy 2006, the ICC announced that a number of leading players and coaches had committed to acting as Spirit of Cricket Ambassadors.

The Ambassadors included Brett Lee (Australia), Habibul Bashar and Dav Whatmore (Bangladesh), Andrew Strauss (England), Rahul Dravid and Virender Sehwag (India), Shane Bond (New Zealand), Kamran Akmal (Pakistan), Shaun Pollock (South Africa), Kumar Sangakkara (Sri Lanka), Brian Lara (West Indies) and Prosper Utseya and Kevin Curran (Zimbabwe).

These Ambassadors endorsed the ICC's decision to dedicate the ICC Champions Trophy to the Spirit of Cricket. The event was played in a very good spirit with only one recorded breach of the ICC Code of Conduct. At the ICC CWC there were only three breaches of the ICC Code of Conduct.



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Captions

- 1 Irish fans party at the CWC 2007.
- 2 Kevin Pietersen and Shane Warne shake hands at the conclusion of the Perth Test Match.
- 3 New Zealand stars Stephen Fleming and Lou Vincent greet Michael Hussey of Australia.
- 4 Kumar Sangakkara of Sri Lanka shakes hands with Pakistan's Abdul Razzaq.



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Governance

The ICC's primary policy-making body is its Executive Board which meets three times a year and comprises a Director from each of the 10 ICC Full Members and three Directors elected by the 32 Associate Members. The Full Member Directors are appointed by each individual Member and are generally the President or Chairman of the national federation, the Associate Member Directors are elected annually through a ballot of all 32 Associate Members and five representatives of the Affiliate Members. The Executive Board is chaired by the ICC President who, along with the ICC Chief Executive, sits on the Board in an ex-officio, non-voting capacity.

Changes and developments relating to international cricket playing issues generally originate from the ICC Cricket Committee which in 2007 was reconstituted to better represent the on-field stakeholders of the sport. This new group is chaired by a former player who must have either played 30 Test matches and/or captained his country (currently Sunil Gavaskar) and includes two representatives elected by the current Full Member captains (Mahela Jayawardene and Tim May), two former players strongly involved in the game (Ian Bishop and Mark Taylor), an international coach (Tom Moody), an Associate Member player (Craig Wright), an elite umpire (Simon Taufel), the chief referee (Ranjan Madugalle), a statistician (David Kendix), a commentator (Michael Holding), an MCC representative (Keith Bradshaw) and a representative of the ICC Chief Executives' Committee (Duleep Mendis).

The recommendations of the Cricket Committee are considered in turn by the Chief Executives' Committee. As the name suggests, this group comprises the Chief Executives of the 10 Full Member countries and three Associate Member representatives and is chaired by the ICC Chief Executive. It has the power to make binding decisions on certain cricket issues and makes policy recommendations to the Executive Board for final determination.

When the ICC took over the administration of women's cricket in 2005 it introduced a Women's Committee which is currently chaired by the former head of the International Women's Cricket Council, Betty Timmer. This makes recommendations to the Development Committee which is also mandated to consider issues that affect the 87 Associate and Affiliate Members and, like the Cricket Committee, makes recommendations to the Chief Executives' Committee.



In 2006-07 the ICC also introduced a Funding and Scheduling Policy Committee which brought together esteemed representatives from across the cricket world to consider the structure and programme of international cricket tours beyond 2012. The committee has now completed its mandate and submitted a report to the Executive Board for its consideration.

The ICC also has a Governance Review Committee which comprises three Directors drawn from the Executive Board and meets annually to review the ICC's governance practices and procedures and recommend improvements where appropriate.

Good governance is essential to the effective administration of the sport and while several ICC Members made positive progress in this area during the year, others continue to have ongoing governance issues. In particular, March 2007 regrettably saw the suspension of the United States of America Cricket Association due to an unresolved domestic governance dispute.

The Cricket Committee was reconstituted to better represent on-field stakeholders.



Anti-Corruption

International cricket is a leader in the fight against corruption in sport and it needs to remain so. Betting on cricket in the legal and illegal markets continues to grow rapidly and, with many, many millions of dollars changing hands on every match, the threat of corruptors seeking to influence the game has not gone away. It is for these reasons that the ICC's Anti-Corruption and Security Unit (ACSU) continues to pursue the three objectives of investigation, education, and prevention.

Allegations of corrupt activity are probed thoroughly by the Unit's Investigators, sometimes with the assistance of Police Officers. In support of their efforts, the ACSU's Information Manager continues to build an international network of contacts in both the legal and illegal markets so that where concerns are raised the Unit is able to activate these relationships and effectively investigate allegations.

The investigators also accompany the Regional Security Managers during those series where there are likely to be high levels of betting.

All players and officials that take part in the top level of international cricket pass through the ACSU's education programme and this year saw the completion of an additional refresher programme delivered to established international cricketers.

Amongst the most vulnerable to corrupt influences are young players at the start of their international careers, so the ICC will continue to educate young players at events such as the upcoming ICC Under 19 Cricket World Cup 2008.

As part of the education process, players are given details of the ways in which corruptors may seek to 'groom' them from an early age as well as the penalties that exist - not just for fixing all or part of a match but also for accepting money, benefit or other reward for the provision of information or failing to disclose the inappropriate conduct of others.

The five Regional Security Managers coordinate the ACSU's prevention measures. These experienced law enforcement professionals are present at every international series to ensure that strict anti-corruption protocols are enforced at all venues, particularly around the dressing room areas.



As well as being the leading global event for cricket fans, the ICC Cricket World Cup is also the most lucrative event for bookmakers.







Captions

- 1 The Umpires and Match Referees at the CWC 2007 line up on the eve of the tournament.
- 2 Peter Parker, Mike Procter, Doug Cowie and Asad Rauf on duty at the ICC CWC 2007.
- 3 Steve Bucknor and Simon Taufel are two of the game's leading Umpires.

Umpires and Match Referees

There has been a significant change to the role of Match Referees in international cricket in the past year.

Whilst umpires still manage and adjudicate what happens on the field, the Match Referee is now essentially a match chief executive with overall control of what happens from a wider cricketing point of view. At international level he is in effect the captain of the five-person team of match officials.

Umpires are now appointed in teams for most series to promote a level of continuity and consistency in the application of Laws and Playing Conditions.

The Emirates Elite Panel of ICC Umpires has expanded with the addition of Billy Doctrove, Mark Benson and Asad Rauf while the Emirates Elite Panel of ICC Match Referees has also been enhanced with the inclusion of former India Test player Javagal Srinath to the ranks. While those high-class officials were introduced to the top level, it was also time to say goodbye to one of the longest-serving match referees when Clive Lloyd, veteran of 133 ODIs and 53 Tests over 15 years, retired from that position.

The use of technology in decision making is under constant consideration as the ICC continues to seek to improve the quality of umpiring in Test matches and ODIs. The use of ear-pieces to connect umpires into the stump microphones during the ICC Cricket World Cup in the West Indies was implemented again under tournament

conditions, while the England & Wales Cricket Board has been trialing player referrals of umpire decisions to television during their 2007 domestic season, which the ICC will be monitoring and assessing for possible implementation in the future. ICC is also arranging research into different light conditions and the effect this has on playing times and the effective running of matches.

The ICC supports the ongoing development of all international officials by bringing them together for training on an annual basis, by employing a full-time digital video specialist to help review decisions, and by conducting regular reviews in Dubai as they pass through on assignment.

There have been two high-profile incidents involving umpires and referees over the past year, including events at the Oval in London in August and at the ICC CWC Final in April, both of which were disappointing and avoidable. However, the average rate of correct decisions being made by members of the Emirates Elite Panel of ICC Umpires is running at more than 96 per cent, a figure that has been improving steadily in recent years. The ICC will continue to assess the performances and assist in the development of its officials to make sure that the best possible decisions are being made at all times.



Anti-Doping

In the year that the ICC became a signatory of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Code, there were no positive tests at the three ICC events at which testing took place.

The ICC Under 19 Cricket World Cup was held in Sri Lanka before the ICC signed the Code in July 2006 and 12 young players were tested. Following the adoption of the Code, 24 tests took place at the ICC Champions Trophy in India and 68 players were required to provide samples at the ICC Cricket World Cup in the Caribbean.

Though the ICC has been testing at its major events since 2002 without any adverse analytical findings, the new WADA-compliant policy introduced additional responsibilities for players. Therefore, prior to the ICC Champions Trophy 2006, the ICC surveyed its Members to gain a better understanding of the anti-doping support provided to players and, based on the findings of this research, began the production of materials targeted at supporting their needs, particularly in the area of education.

The ICC has also developed a range of educational material for Members, including a DVD titled 'Drug Testing at ICC Events,' which has been translated into Hindi and Urdu, and a player guide and wallet card which were distributed at the ICC Cricket World Cup.

All of the ICC Full Member countries have made a commitment to introduce their own WADA-compliant policies for top level domestic cricket and international matches in their territory by June 2010. The ICC is encouraging this commitment to be met well before this deadline and is in the process of recruiting an anti-doping officer to support this work.

Despite the high profile case of Shoaib Akhtar and Mohammad Asif, significant positive progress has been made in the last year. The ICC has developed its understanding and management of the issues related to doping in sport through building a strong working relationship with WADA and other anti-doping agencies and it retains a zero tolerance approach to the use of performance enhancing drugs.

Finally, it should be noted that the WADA Code is currently under review and as part of the stakeholder consultation process the ICC has coordinated a submission on behalf of its Members.



Celebrating cricket's diversity

The 16 teams that took part in the ICC Cricket World Cup were drawn from across five continents and the event itself was hosted by nine Caribbean countries whose only true area of collaboration is the sport.

Across the world, cricket has a rich and diverse history and regularly demonstrates its capacity to break down boundaries and draw cultures together. There is a strong tradition of fans from rival teams enjoying matches side by side and the off-field camaraderie amongst players is a celebrated feature of the game.

Against this backdrop there is clearly no place for discrimination so following an independent report from India's Solicitor General, Goolam Vahanvati, the ICC Anti-Racism Code was strengthened in November 2006.

This Code – one of the toughest in world sport - confirms a commitment from the ICC and its Members to promote and encourage participation at all levels regardless of race, colour, religion, national or ethnic origin and to ensure that there is no discrimination in the sport.

It requires ICC Members to impose punishments on spectators found guilty of racial abuse, from ejection from the venue to a life ban, and deliver preventative measures.

To assist Members with the adoption of the new Code, the ICC introduced an implementation template and check list shortly after the Code was adopted and since the start of 2007 it has begun to monitor the application of these measures around the cricket world.

Members failing to uphold the Code face penalties if racist incidents happen at a venue under their control. These penalties range from warnings through to fines and the possible withdrawal of international status from a venue.

The ICC's commitment to ensuring the diversity of the sport is respected by its participants is also enshrined in the Code of Conduct for Players and Officials where on-field racism is considered one of the most serious acts that can be committed, with the possibility of a life ban for anyone found guilty of such an offence.

Tackling HIV/AIDS

As part of the ICC's commitment to the Spirit of Cricket, a wide range of activities have been undertaken to raise awareness and reduce stigma around people living with HIV/AIDS.

Since 2003 the ICC has been working with UNAIDS to address the issue of HIV/AIDS in cricket-playing countries and in 2006 UNICEF also joined the prominent partnership which supports the 'Unite for Children, Unite Against Aids' campaign.

At the ICC Cricket World Cup 2007, players from 14 of the 16 competing teams visited local community projects to meet young people living with or at risk of developing HIV. Players including Kumar Sangakkara, Sachin Tendulkar, Ian Bell, Habibul Bashar and Makhaya Ntini visited projects to illustrate the cricketing world's support for people living with HIV.

Among the projects the players visited were a children's orphanage, a Boy's Training Centre which provides vocational education for disadvantaged young people and a project encouraging teenage mothers back into education. Leading stars such as Ricky Ponting, Graeme Smith and Rahul Dravid recorded Public Service Announcements which were shown in stadia on big screens and offered to broadcasters.

The ICC also worked with the Caribbean Broadcast Media Partnership on HIV/AIDS to support their Live Up campaign, aimed at young people in the Caribbean, to support a cricket-themed PSA which was also shown in grounds on a match day and throughout the region. Players wore Unite for Children, Unite Against Aids ribbons in their opening Group match and in the Final, while there were educational activities and information booths both in stadia and the local community.

Players at international matches on World Aids Day also wore red ribbons to show their support for people living with HIV, while at the India-England game during the ICC Champions Trophy 2006, 30,000 people within the stadia supported the 'Stand Up Against Poverty' pledge which included a specific focus on encouraging the world to tackle HIV/AIDS.





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Captions

- 1 Vusi Sibanda of Zimbabwe meets young people in the Caribbean.
- 2 Andrew Hall of South Africa visits a project in Ahmedabad in India.
- 3 Michael Hussey and Andrew Symonds visit a Teen Mothers project in St Kitts.

- 4 Tim de Leede from the Netherlands visits a HIV/AIDS project at the CWC 2007.
- 5 Scotland's Neil McCallum plays with children in Nairobi during a HIV/AIDS awareness visit at the ICC World Cricket League Division One.
- 6 Kumar Sangakkara of Sri Lanka greets children affected by HIV/AIDS in Trinidad.





Providing excellent service to Members and stakeholders

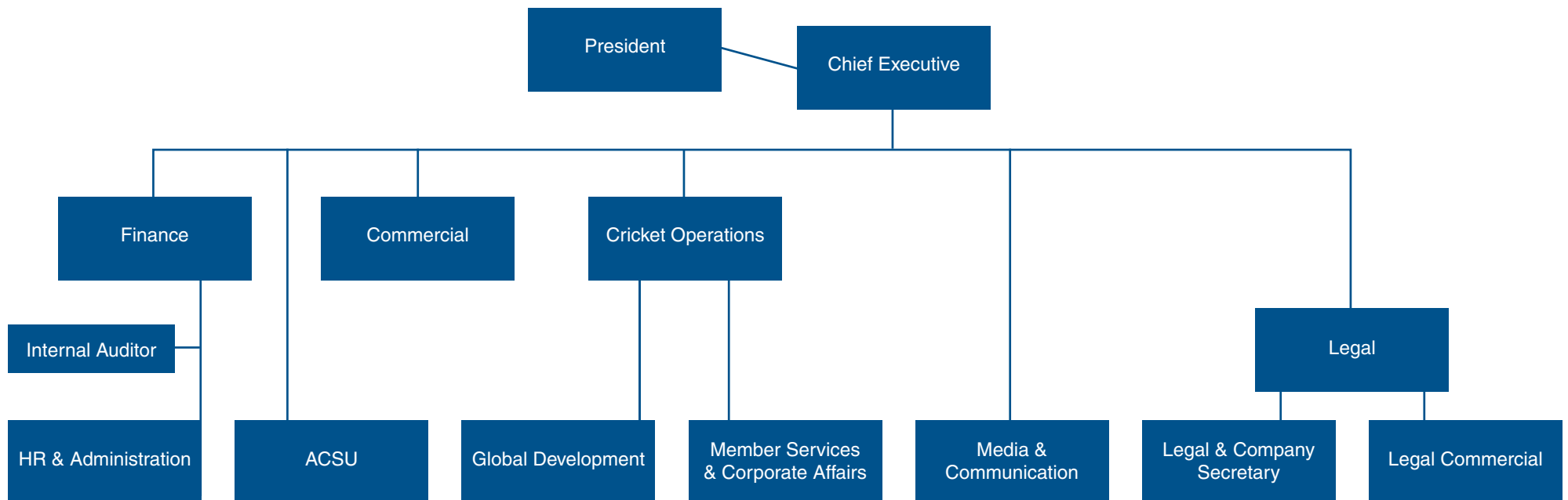


ICC Head Office

The ICC head office, which is supported by five regional offices across the world, is based in the Dubai Media City Free Zone. This geographical base at the heart of the cricketing world provides a central point for many of the ICC's meetings and committees.

As the global governing body of the game, the ICC's staff is drawn from across the world, reflecting the diversity of the organisation's membership. These staff play an important function in servicing both the ICC's Members and the game's stakeholders.

The ICC office is due to relocate to permanent headquarters in Dubai Sports City in 2008 and will sit alongside the new Global Cricket Academy which will be a world class cricketing facility.



Servicing Members

One of the key themes to emerge from the discussion phase of the ICC Strategic Planning process for 2006-2010 was that the ICC's 97 Members were looking to the global governing body to provide them with support in a wide range of service areas.

This input led to the implementation of 'quality member and stakeholder services' as one of the ICC's four strategic goal areas in 2006 and, to resource this, the introduction of a dedicated Member Services and Corporate Affairs department.

A survey of Members in July 2006 revealed that over 90 per cent of respondents were looking for:

- coaching and high performance support;
- advice on running their businesses; and
- increasingly effective information exchange.

As a result of the first of these three requests, the ICC has begun a process of benchmarking the coach education programmes of Members with a view to producing a unified set of core competencies. This will provide clear guidelines to Members seeking to introduce new coach education programmes and is expected to lead to the introduction of a global ICC endorsement process.

The next 12 months will also be the pilot year for the ICC Business Improvement Program (BIP). This new initiative will see the ICC work closely with a selected group of Members to improve very specific areas of their operations, including the development and implementation of strategic plans.

Closely linked to this will be the development of sport administration educational resources which will be tailored to meet the needs of Associate and Affiliate Members in operational areas such as finance and marketing.

Information exchange continued in 2006 with the hosting of a second successful Commercial Forum in Dubai. It assembled the leading commercial representatives from ICC Full Member countries with invited guests from a range of other sporting bodies



including international football and rugby. The fifth annual Business Forum at Lord's brought together all of the delegates from the ICC's Annual Conference week and was themed around good governance. It included a keynote speech from Dr John Hood, Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University, who played a leading role in the restructuring of New Zealand Cricket's governance.

Member services activity in 2006 has also included the production of materials and the provision of support for Members in the areas of anti-doping and anti-racism.



Captions

- 1 Players at the ECC Under 13 Championships game between the Netherlands and Scotland.
- 2 Koita Simon of PNG cries with delight as her team defeats Japan to progress to the next stages of the Women's World Cup Qualifier.
- 3 A nine year old boy in Afghanistan hits a ball in an impromptu game of cricket.
- 4 A player on Uganda's disability programme demonstrates his skills.

Development Program

One of the highlights of the ICC Development Program over the past year has been the fact that reliable data suggests that the game is growing rapidly across the developing cricket world.

New annual research results (as at September 2006) were finalised and announced in March 2007 and showed that the number of active participants in the developing cricket world, that is in Associate and Affiliate Members of the ICC, has increased by at least 101 per cent between 2002 and 2006.

This is set against the previous ICC Strategic Plan objective of a 30 per cent increase in participation over the period from 2001 to 2005. This is enormously encouraging and is a tribute to the efforts of the dedicated cricket workers and enthusiasts throughout the developing cricket world. The strategies and endeavours of the ICC's five Regional Development Programs – in Africa, the Americas, Asia, East Asia-Pacific and Europe – have also played a key role in this progress, as have the Full Members who provide much support.

A key objective in the new ICC Strategic Plan 2006-2010 is sustainable growth. In order to achieve this, ICC Regional offices will be working closely with members to achieve results in five key areas which include increasing numbers of junior players and competitions, improving governance and administration, raising 'non ICC income', integrating Women's cricket and improving standards of play and education.

The ICC World Cricket League (WCL) is now up and running and as such provides a clear pathway for each Member to improve and come up through the ranks. Every country now has the opportunity to qualify for the ICC Cricket World Cup by progressing through the WCL structure that includes regional events and five global divisions.

There are also a growing number of bilateral or multilateral ODI series played between Associates or against Full Members. Indeed, in the 14 months from the end of February 2006 until the conclusion of the ICC Cricket World Cup there were 42 ODIs between Associates and Full Members and 41 ODIs between Associates, marking a new era for the top teams from outside the Test-playing world, while the Intercontinental Cup provides valuable experience of first-class cricket for the leading Associate Members.





High Performance Program

The ICC Cricket World Cup was a pivotal time for the High Performance Program (HPP). Much of the work of the HPP is designed specifically to assist the top Associate teams to prepare for the CWC and it was encouraging to see some competitive performances from them during the event.

The highlight was, of course, the achievement of Ireland in getting to the Super Eight stage of the competition, beating two Full Members and tying with another along the way. The manner in which the Irish players and coaching staff handled the pressure and jump in standard is an impressive reflection of how hard they worked and made the most of everything that the HPP offered.

There were also several positive performances from other HPP teams, with Canada topping 220 in both its innings against the top nations, although no other side managed to upset a Full Member this time around.

Since the HPP was founded in 2001 it has worked to develop the quality of national programs and global development competitions to close the gap between Associate and Full Member playing standards.

The ICC High Performance Manager (HPM), Richard Done, works with the leading Associate countries to prioritise strategies for their own high performance programs, player development pathways and administrative structures directed at improving the on-field performance of their national teams, at both senior and Under 19 levels. In the past 12 months, there were several tournaments and initiatives preparing players from Kenya, Scotland, Ireland, Canada, Bermuda and the Netherlands for what lay ahead of them in the Caribbean for the CWC. The most high-profile of these was the ICC World Cricket League Division 1, which took place in Nairobi last February.

There were also a number of bilateral and triangular ODI series between several of the HPP teams and the ICC Full Members, as they continued their preparations for the West Indies. The ICC Winter Training Camp in Pretoria, held late in 2006, was another big success.

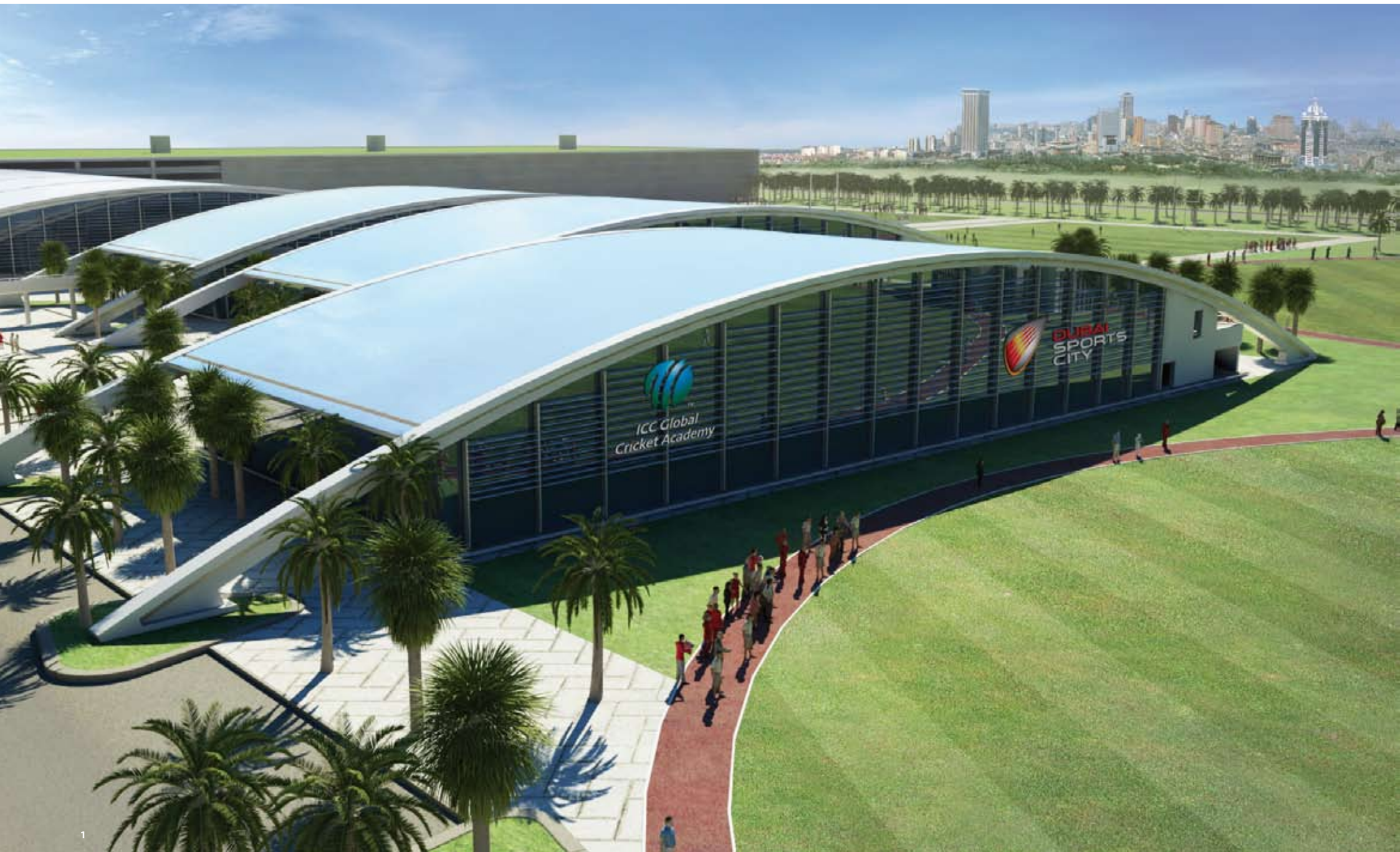
The HPM continues to travel to each HPP country on a regular basis to maintain a first-hand focus on developments and also attends major tournaments and matches throughout the year.



Captions

- 1 Ireland celebrate their tie with Zimbabwe at the CWC 2007.
- 2 Ashish Bagai, who attended the ICC Winter Training Camp in 2006, was the leading run scorer at the ICC World Cricket League 2007.
- 3 Kepler Wessels passes on coaching tips to Irvine Romaine and William Porterfield at the ICC Winter Training Camp 2006.







Captions

- 1 The ICC Global Cricket Academy will be one of the finest cricketing facilities in the world.
- 2 With two full size ovals, the Academy will be an excellent training base for elite cricketers.

Global Cricket Academy

The ICC Global Cricket Academy (GCA) at Dubai Sports City is scheduled to open in 2008 and with Rod Marsh already installed as the Academy's Director of Coaching this project will be a fantastic asset for the ICC and a wonderful opportunity for the wider cricketing world.

Much planning and preparation continues to go on for this major project including work to ensure that the very best facilities are being sourced. The design is now largely complete and construction is underway. Details such as annual programming, cricket education schemes and other initiatives that the Global Cricket Academy will be involved are all in the planning stages. Tony Hemming has been appointed as the GCA's head curator while the GCA's general manager will be appointed very soon.

The GCA forms an exciting part of the ICC's strategy and is designed to provide opportunities for players, coaches, curators and administrators to hone their skills and learn new ones in an environment focused on progress and achievement. It has been a resource for the entire cricket world. It has been designed as a flexible facility so that tailor-made programmes can be built to suit the specific needs of individuals and teams. As such, the best national teams in the world will be able to make use of the facilities by way of preparation on their way to an overseas tour or major event.

It will be the perfect place for county, state or provincial teams to hold warm-up or pre-season practice camps and it will also be ideal for development or underage squads to use as an intense training academy or for competitive tournaments on the two outdoor academy ovals and in the nearby 25,000-seater dedicated cricket stadium that is already under construction by the owners of Dubai Sports City.

Women's cricket

It is an exciting time for women's cricket as the game continues to go from strength to strength. At present, 71 of the ICC's 97 members have some form of organised women's or girls' cricket going on and that number is growing all the time. With domestic women's cricket now started in Bangladesh and Zimbabwe competing in and winning its first competitive international tournament, women's cricket is now being organised and played in each of the ten Full Members.

Funding for the Women's World Cup Qualifier (WWCQ) has been secured and it will be staged in November in Pakistan with eight teams, set to battle it out in Lahore in an effort to win two qualifying places for the ICC Women's World Cup, which will take place in Australia in 2009.

In 2006 the top ten nations played a total of 32 One Day Internationals and three Test matches and for the first time there was a Women's Cricketer of the Year award at the annual ICC Awards in Mumbai, with Karen Rolton picking up the trophy.

The main positive developments in women's cricket can be broken down into two areas. Firstly, the development of the game beyond its traditional boundaries has been very encouraging. There were a number of inaugural regional Women's World Cup qualifying events in the past 12 months. In Africa, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya played off. In East Asia/Pacific, Japan played Papua New Guinea, in the Americas Canada and Bermuda went head to head while in Asia, Pakistan took on Hong Kong. Also there was a very successful women's academy for European players that took place in Scotland in August 2006, another positive initiative.

Secondly, there has been encouraging integration between the Members' cricket boards and what used to be their women's cricket counterparts, notably in India. The ICC now deals with only one body per Member for men's and women's cricket although there is still further work to be done in some countries in this regard.

There is an exciting fixture list in place for the next twelve months and combined with improved governance and integration, women's cricket is set to go from strength to strength.





Captions

- 1 Jaya Sharma of India celebrates her century in the Quadrangular Series in Chennai in March 2007.
- 2 Lisa Sthalekar of Australia is one of the leading international players.
- 3 Karuna Jain of India hits out during her side's game against England in the Quadrangular Series.
- 4 Jodie Purves of Australia attempts to catch Clare Taylor of England.



In Memoriam

The last year has seen the sad demise of three immense contributors to the work of the ICC and the development of international cricket.



PERCY SONN September 25th 1949 – 27 May 2007, ICC President 2006-7

Born on 25 September 1949, Percival Henry Frederick Sonn, universally known as Percy, dedicated much of his life to cricket.

Though only a modest player, his enthusiasm, drive, intellect and passion for the game enabled him to have a positive impact from the grassroots to the highest level.

His career in the game's administration began while he was still a teenager in South Africa, in the midst of the Apartheid regime. He helped with the organisation of his club side, Bellville South, and it marked the start of a lifetime's work for the betterment of the game at local, national and international level.

After working as an administrator for the Western Province Cricket Board, he eventually became President of the Board from 1990-1992, before becoming President of the Western Province Cricket Association in 1993.

Mr Sonn served as a Vice President of the South African Cricket Board before the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCBSA) was formed, played a crucial role in the unity process in 1991, and served as a Management Committee Member of the UCBSA (now CSA) from its inauguration until 2003.

He also served as President of the UCBSA for three years until 2003, was appointed ICC Vice-President in 2004 and became the ICC's sixth President in 2006.

Away from cricket, Mr Sonn experienced a hugely varied life and a fascinating professional career, serving as Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions and as a legal advisor to the South African Police Service (SAPS). He also formed the Directorate of Special Operations in South Africa and was Chief Executive Officer of a forensic investigation company.



SIR CLYDE WALCOTT January 17th 1926 – August 26th 2006, ICC Chairman, 1993-97

Sir Clyde succeeded Lord Cowdrey of Tonbridge as ICC Chairman in 1993 and held the post for four years before he was succeeded by Jagmohan Dalmiya of India when the role became known as President.

An outstanding cricketer, Walcott's Test career spanned 12 years, from 1948 - 1960, during which time he played 44 matches. A tall, powerfully built right-hander, he scored 3798 runs at 56.68.

He was part of a golden era for West Indies batting, joining forces with fellow Barbados players Frank Worrell and Everton Weekes in the middle order, the famous "Three Ws" that terrorised attacks all over the world.

He was named as a Wisden Cricketer of the Year in 1958, received an OBE in 1966 and was knighted in 1994. He also served as an ICC match referee in 1992, officiating in three Tests between England and Pakistan.

Sir Clyde served with distinction as President of the West Indies Cricket Board and both his brother, Keith, and son, Michael, also played first-class cricket.



BOB WOOLMER May 14th 1948 – March 18th 2007

Although enjoying an excellent playing career with England, Kent, Natal and Western Province, it was perhaps as a coach that Woolmer had his biggest impact upon the sport.

In 19 Tests and 350 first-class playing appearances, the all-rounder made three Test hundreds, scored over 15,000 first-class runs and claimed 420 first-class wickets.

An innovative coach, he was employed by two leading Test nations, South Africa and Pakistan and enjoyed an outstanding coaching career with Warwickshire CCC, where he captured an unprecedented three trophies in 1994.

Woolmer was also passionate about the development of cricket around the globe and joined the ICC as High Performance Manager in October 2001, where he established the first-class tournament for leading Associate countries, the ICC Intercontinental Cup.

He coached at international level at three ICC Cricket World Cup events, in 1996 and 1999 for South Africa, before leading Pakistan at the 2007 event. It was during this tournament that his tragic death shocked the cricket community.