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Big RUN's
CRICKET
Chambal

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MPCA Newsletter

July - September 2014

KUDOS MPCA

The first and only ISO certified Cricket Association in India



In the year 2012, the management of MPCA took a pioneering decision to seek accreditation from the Organisation of International Standards (ISO) for quality management service. It was a unique decision as no other State Cricket Association in India or any other sports body had ever been on this path.

The decision making process was thoughtful and it covered the every possible aspect before we voluntarily preferred for the ISO certification.

The Management was keen to understand the effectiveness of our activities and actions, analyse our procedures and streamline them wherever required, to strengthen existing systems of operations and introduce new concepts aiming for higher transparency, envisage the areas of concern, reinforce our edifice to expand activities to reach the districts level and many more such thoughts led to the decision...

Read more on page no. 4

President's Message...

This happens to be my first address to all of you after being elected as the President of MPCA with the unanimous faith reposed by all Members of MPCA.

I have been closely associated with the activities and affairs of MPCA for last many years. It has always been a proud feeling to cherish the support from our members and observe the fantastic team-work that MPCA has been able to display at all times. With the changing time, our resources have increased manifold, be it in terms of manpower, infrastructure, or funds. This has been possible only because of the unconditional help and co-operation from Members of MPCA and huge group of diligent people supporting the activities of MPCA in one way or the other.

With such an energetic environment, Cricket always gets top priority in MPCA and there are hardly any reservations in taking up core cricket oriented activities. This is precisely the reason why we have been able to achieve the distinction of fastly developing Associations in India.

We are widely appreciated for our initiatives of developing infrastructure at Divisional level, reaching the Districts for upgrading the local conditions, four tier coaching system under the academy structure, sending our teams abroad, recognizing the contribution of former cricketers and umpires and covering them under the monthly benevolence scheme, and many more such ventures taken up by MPCA are being treated as a model activities by many of our counterparts.

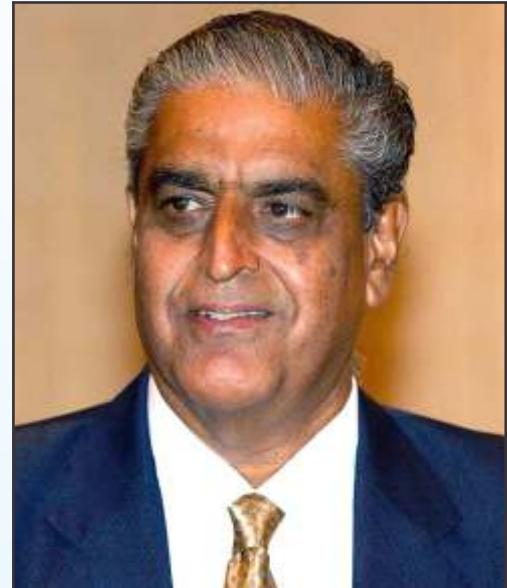
All such efforts help in creating an environment that is conducive for development of cricket and betterment of cricketers. This aspect was specifically recognised by the team of auditors who scrutinised all activities and procedures of MPCA under the process of ISO certification. It is a great feeling and sense of achievement for all of us to project MPCA as the first ISO certified Association in India. The results and outcome of this endeavour will be evident in coming years and the game of cricket and cricketers would be the sole beneficiaries.

At the same time, I have no hesitation to mention that these attainments should not be considered as goals. These are the intermittent moments that will keep us motivated to continue with our activities with zeal and zest. In the field of cricket, there cannot be a finite goal. It is like a journey amidst a desert. We need to keep moving and cherish the achievements as 'oasis' where we can refresh but not rest. The journey continues.

There are many limiting factors that may come in our path. Availability of funds, social, economical and geographical diversities, anything can come as a roadblock. But our team-work, which is our USP in many ways, will give us the strength to overpower such roadblocks and energise us to step further.

The new cricket season is just about to begin. I am sure all of us are eager to extend best wishes to our players in their endeavour to play and perform for the State and Nation. During last few years, youngsters like Naman Ojha and Ishwar Pandey have performed meritoriously and have been a part of the Indian Test team in the recent past while Jalaj Saxena is very close to the Team India berth. I wish these players, and many more from MP, continue to perform and achieve their dreams of representing India in the International circuit on regular basis.

I wish all of you for a very pleasant Diwali and a prosperous New Year.



Sanjay Jagdale
President

Congratulations



Naman Ojha



Ishwar Pandey



Jalaj Saxena



Mohnish Mishra



Satyam Choudhary

Ishwar Pandey, Naman Ojha, Jalaj Saxena are selected in the Central Zone Team for the Duleep Trophy Tournament 2014/15, while Mohnish Mishra and Satyam Choudhary are selected as stand-byes for this tournament, which will be played during the last week of October 2014. Physio of MP Ranji Team- Bala Tate is appointed as the physio for CZ Team.



Bala Tate



Pooja Vastrakar



Priti Yadav



H.S. Sodhi



Sanjeev Rao



Suhel Ansari

Pooja Vastrakar and Priti Yadav, upcoming players from our Girls U/19 team, were selected by the BCCI for All India Camp held under the auspices of NCA.

These players were selected for the NCA Camp on their consistent performance during the tournament between the ZCA Teams.

For the first time ever, the BCCI decided to form a panel of Match Referees in a similar way the panel of Umpires is in place for all BCCI matches. With this, the practice of seeking recommendations from the Association is discontinued.

Three candidates from MPCA - Mr. H S Sodhi (former first class cricketer), Mr. Sanjeev Rao (former first class cricketer and BCCI panel umpire) and Mr. Suhel Ansari (former first class cricketer) successfully cleared the course and are inducted on the panel of BCCI Match referees.

NEWS & EVENTS...

MPCA is an ISO Certified Sports Organisation (Continued from cover page)

We were on a new journey. To fulfill the expectations required a gigantic yet meticulous work for almost a year and half. The spectrum of our activities, decision making process, execution systems and human resources and many more aspects of MPCA administration were firstly evaluated and assessed by the Consultant appointed by us. This assessment guided us further on the areas that required streamlining and integration with the corresponding activities.

Synchronised efforts from the Office Bearers, the panel of members nominated for ISO process (comprising of Mr. Vijay Naydu, Mr. Pankaj Pandey, Mr. Sandeep Mungre, Mr. Praveen Kasliwal, Dr. Bharat Chapparwal, Mr. Milind Kanmadikar), Managing Committee and the staff did wonders for us. The harmony amongst the group was so energetic that nobody felt the pressure of executing the requirements in a time bound manner and at the same time ensuring that the routine activities of MPCA did not suffer.

These pioneering efforts yielded excellent results and it is a matter of extreme pride to announce that MPCA is now an ISO certified organisation.

This certification requires us to continue with the good systems and procedures that we have designed. Our journey ahead is equally challenging but our unified efforts would help us sail through.



NEWS & EVENTS...



Interaction with Officials of District and Divisional Cricket Associations - A joint interaction session between the officials of MPCA, Divisional Cricket Associations and District Cricket Associations was held on 28 September 2014 at MPCA office. This endeavour aimed at streamlining the flow of communication between the three tiers (State body - Divisional body - District body) on which the edifice of the cricket activities rests greatly. The officials participated in the session with great zeal. The sharing of information was very practical and related to various aspects of conducting cricket promotional activities across the state of Madhya Pradesh. MPCA is extremely pleased to know the deep desire on part of all Divisions and Districts to support MPCA in its efforts of strengthening the structure of cricket activities at the grass roots.



Mr. Sanjay Jagdale (President, MPCA) and Dr. M.K. Bhargav (Vice President, MPCA) perform Puja during the Ganesh Festival

Ganesh Festival : in the year 2011, the players inducted in the residential academy scheme of MPCA approached us requesting to organise Ganesh Festival at Holkar Stadium. These young players, staying away from their home for learning cricket, appeared to be very keen to enjoy the aura associated with the Ganesh Festival. This led to the start of arranging the Festival at Holkar Stadium, with a hope to inculcate the cultural ethos of our country in the youngsters.

This year also, the Ganesh Festival was held under a very energetic environment. MPCA members, cricketers, staff participated with great enthusiasm and the festival of ten days offered a very pleasant feeling.



Mr. Milind Kanmadikar (Hon. Secretary, MPCA), Mr. Praveen Kasliwal (Hon. Treasurer, MPCA) and Mr. Pankaj Pandey (Jt. Secretary, MPCA) seen during the Ganesh sthapan

NEWS & EVENTS...



The Annual Awards function of MPCA was held on 30th July 2014 at Indore. Handsome awards were given to the players, teams and other achievers who performed well for MPCA during the previous season - 2013/14

Left : Naman Ojha receiving special award for his three consecutive centuries against Australia 'A' while playing for India 'A' in away series.

Below Left : Jalaj Saxena was given the 'Madhavrao Scindia Award' for his consistent all-round performance in the Ranji Trophy season 2013/14.

Below Right : Young Avesh Khan is rewarded for his selection in the Indian U/19 team for the World Cup and Asia Cup in 2013/14.



Forming a part of the Annual Awards, the results of the 'Incentive Scheme' for Divisional Cricket Associations was also announced.

Above Left : Gwalior Division was adjudged as the II ranked Division for the year 2012/13.

Above Right : Indore Division received the Rank I award for the season 2011/12.

Right : Rewa Division was most consistent in their overall performance. RDCA was adjudged as Rank I Division for the year 2012/13 while they secured the award for the II Rank Division for the year 2011/12.



NEWS & EVENTS...



Mr. Milind Kanmadikar, Hon. Secretary - MPCA, welcomes Dr. Vece Paes (Head - BCCI AVP dept.), who was at Indore for an educational course on anti-doping for the players from MPCA.



MPCA organised workshop for the BCCI Video Analysts from Central Zone (6 & 7 September 2014) and another one for the BCCI Online Scorers (11 ~13 September 2014).
Group photographs of the attendees with Mr. Sanjay Jagdale (President, MPCA)



Bhopal versus Rewa match in progress at Holkar Stadium (Madhavrao Scindia Trophy)

DIVISIONAL ACTIVITIES

Bhopal Division : Aiming to provide quality match practice for the players from various clubs spread across the State, MPCA has launched a scheme under which Divisions can conduct a tournament of 2-day matches for all 'A' grade clubs registered with the respective Divisions. MPCA would be providing balls, fees to the umpires / scorers, misc. match requirements etc., while the Divisions are required to organise the tournaments to the best of their abilities. BDCA acted very swiftly to plan its Inter Club Tournament for the Senior category and U/15 group. Eight teams participated in each of these two tournaments. The initial phase got over in the second week of October and the final will take place soon.

Indore Division : One round of the league phase of the Inter Divisional Tournament for the 'Madhavrao Scindia Trophy' 2014-15 was played at the Gymkhana ground, Indore, under arrangements made by IDCA. Indore team, playing the league phase at Gwalior, topped the group and entered the super league of the 'Madhavrao Scindia Trophy' 2014-15.

Gwalior Division : Gwalior Division hosted the league phase of the Inter Divisional Tournament for the 'Madhavrao Scindia Trophy' 2014-15. Each round featured two matches which were played at Capt. Roopsing Stadium and Jiwaji University ground.

Before this, GDCA also hosted a 6 match series of practice matches between the girl's U/19 teams of MP and Punjab during last week of September 2014.



Rewa : After the APS university ground, one more ground is now set to stage BCCI matches at Rewa. Recently, BCCI approved the ground of Maharaja School (Rewa) for conducting BCCI matches. MPCA congratulates the officials of Rewa Division and Maharaja School for all their efforts to prepare a good ground and related facilities suitable for higher grade of cricket under BCCI.

The AGM of Rewa Divisional Cricket Association was held on 4 October 2014. The General Body unanimously elected the Office Bearers and Managing Committee for the further term. MPCA congratulates the Office Bearers and the Managing Committee of RDCA.

Ujjain Division : MPCA recently endorsed the ground of MIT, Ujjain, for the Inter Divisional Tournaments. Now this ground is covered under MPCA scheme for providing annual maintenance subsidy.

DIVISIONAL ACTIVITIES

Narmadapuram Division : The AGM of Narmadapuram Divisional Cricket Association was held on 28 September 2014. The General Body unanimously elected the Office Bearers and Managing Committee for the further term. MPCA congratulates the Office Bearers and the Managing Committee of NDCA.

Jabalpur Division : The work of laying pitch block and plantation of turf is completed for both the grounds of MPCA at Jabalpur. The ground will take beautiful shape by the middle of December 2014. This facility would prove to be very effective in conducting routine activities of JDCA and also the matches / regional academy under the auspices of MPCA.



Sagar : Sagar Division hosted the first home match of the BCCI season 2014-15, played between U/16 teams of MP and Chhattisgarh, at MPCA ground from 12 to 14 October 2014.

The AGM of Sagar Divisional Cricket Association was held on 14 September 2014. The General Body unanimously elected the Office Bearers and Managing Committee for the further term. MPCA congratulates the Office Bearers and the Managing Committee of SDCA.

Shahdol Division : Shahdol team, playing the league phase at Indore, topped the group and entered the super league of the 'Madhavrao Scindia Trophy' 2014-15.

Chambal Division : The newly formed Chambal Division is taking methodical efforts to streamline its work areas. They have designed the annual calendar of activities which includes a platter of activities for cricket development. Very soon the sub-centre of Chambal Division will take shape at Morena.

A LEAF FROM THE PAST

No. 10 Chandu Sarwate and No. 11 Shute Banerjee score hundreds at The Oval and add 249 for the last wicket!

A tour to cherish

Back home politicians argued about right to India's Independence, while the British continued to voice their scepticism. However, when 16 of the country's top cricketers travelled to England, they provided a sterling example of performing for a cause without being constrained by differences of race or creed.

To a war-ravaged nation, the Indian tourists of 1946 rekindled the flame of normalcy. The cricket they played delighted the Englishmen. Nay, they did more. According to Wisden, "By their cricket they won the hearts of the English public; by their modesty and bearing they earned the respect and admiration of everyone with whom they came into close contact. In anything like reasonable weather crowds everywhere flocked to India's matches. A profit of £4,500 in such a dreary summer told eloquently of their popularity."

The team won 11 and lost only four of the 29 First-Class matches. Had sunshine followed them around instead of rain and biting cold, and had the wickets been hard and true instead of soggy and sodden, the results could have been even better. And although they lost the Test series 0-1, there were moments when they distinctly held the advantage at Lord's and Manchester.

True, the Indians were helped by the circumstances. Captain Nawab of Pataudi (Sr) knew the conditions perfectly. And while the cricketers of the mother country had been busy performing duties in the battlefield, far away from the bombs and bullets the game had proceeded uninterrupted in India for the six war years.

The start of the tour had not been too promising. Worcestershire had defeated them by 16 runs in a tense, close affair. A draw had followed against Oxford University before the team had travelled to The Oval to play Surrey. It was this match which set the tone of the tour and marked the Indian team as one capable of mighty feats.

Getting The Oval back in shape

The great ground was still limping back from the effects of the war. It had been used as a searchlight sight and then a prisoner-of-war detention centre. German bombs had damaged the pavilion and stands. The square, fenced off, had not been touched for six years. It was not expected to be fit for hosting matches till late 1947 or even 1948, but the worthy groundsmen performed a near miracle. A trial match was staged on April 27, and the Indian team travelled to play the first major game on the ground since Len Hutton and Wally Hammond had struck hundreds against Learie Constantine and Manny Martindale in the 1939 Test.

The Surrey side, like most of the counties of 1946, were loaded with pre-War cricketers, boasting an average age of 36. Yet, their bowling attack was a fairly strong one with England paceman Alf Gover opening proceedings with Alec Bedser—who would be commencing his great Test career in another five weeks. Pataudi (sr) and Lala Amarnath had both caught cold and sat out of the game. India were led by Vijay Merchant.

Walking out to toss with Merchant was Major Nigel Bennett, appointed captain of Surrey through a curious case of mistaken identity. Legend has it that the intention had been to offer the position to Major Leo Bennett, a well-known amateur. Yet, Nigel Bennett, who had played just a few club games before the War, accepted the offer before the error came to light.

The miracle

Merchant won the spin of the coin and opened with Vijay Hazare on what The Times described as "a beautiful Oval wicket". However, Hazare and Modi were soon dismissed by Bedser. The soon to be legendary fast-medium bowler was playing only his second First-Class match and his previous appearance had come seven years earlier. He had been demobilised just eight weeks prior to the game. Now, however, the Indians found it difficult to deal with his in-swingers and leg-cutters. Merchant and Gul Mohammad added 111 for the third wicket, but once Stan Squires had bowled the stand-in skipper with an off-break, the batting collapsed to Bedser's pace and swing.



It was just past four in the afternoon when Bedser picked up his fifth wicket, getting CS Nayudu caught close in. The score was 205 for nine and last man Sarobindu 'Shute' Banerjee walked out to join No 10 Chandu Sarwate. As the latter recalled, "Banerjee came to join me. The Surrey captain then thought that we would last hardly a few minutes. He called the groundsman and was trying to tell him the roller that he would require."

But, the two hardly qualified as tailenders. In the previous season, both men had scored a couple of First-Class hundreds in the Ranji Trophy. Banerjee, a fast-medium bowler of considerable skill and enormous experience, had notched up a fifty opening the innings for Bihar. Sarwate, a versatile spinner who could turn it both ways, had got a hundred in the Ranji semi-final, opening for Holkar. In 1945-46, the two had opened the innings for East Zone against the Australian Services team.

It was Sarwate's first game of the tour. Banerjee had already scored a fighting 59 against Worcestershire from No 10 when India's second innings against Worcestershire.

It could have ended almost as soon as it started. Sarwate charged down the wicket to Jack Parker and missed it completely, but 42-year-old Gerald Mobey fumbled the stumping opportunity. No further chance would come the way of the Surrey men for long after that.

The two men were cautious and correct, and also capable of fluent stroke making. They drove handsomely, and picked the gaps with élan, with none of the anxiety generally attached to last wicket collaborations. When 39-year old Alf Gover limped off with a strained tendon in the heel, the Surrey attack looked clueless.

Bedser continued to run in industriously, but the Indians intelligently saw him off without trying to score too many. Sarwate did send one streaky stroke through the slips, but after the first stumping blemish, there was no genuine chance.

By the end of the day, Sarwate was 107 and Banerjee on 87. As many as 193 runs were added in the final two hours. The Indians were on 398 for nine. Both batsmen had driven excellently down the ground, while Banerjee had not hesitated to play some delicate late cuts.

After Sunday's rest, play began at half past eleven on Monday. The two seemed more cautious in their approach, perhaps influenced by the numerous newspaper articles wondering whether they would beat the world record for the 10h wicket. In 1928-29, Alan Kippax and Hal Hooker had added 307 for New South Wales — propping the score from 113 for nine to 420.

Just before noon, Banerjee completed his hundred, setting the only instance of both numbers ten and eleven notching centuries in a First-class match. And soon after that, he pushed a quick single into the leg side to go past the highest 10th-wicket partnership ever in England — 235 put on by Frank Woolley and Albert Fielder for Kent in 1909.

After 57 minutes of play on the second morning, Parker finally spun one past a defensive push of Banerjee, bowling him for 121. Sarwate remained unbeaten on 124 as the innings came to an end at 454. The world record remained unbroken, but the two had put on 249 in just three hours and 10 minutes.

What followed

Surrey seemed to have lost the appetite for the match in the wake of this mammoth stand. Leg-spinner CS Nayudu became the first Indian player to take a hat-trick in England when he dismissed Laurie Fishlock, Nigel Bennett and Alec Bedser. The first Surrey innings folded at 135. During the innings, both the Indian centurions had been given a breather. Banerjee bowled late and picked up two wickets and Sarwate did not turn his arm over at all.

The home team did a little better the second time, racing to 172 for one by the end of the second day. However, with the wicket responding to spin, Sarwate was now among the wickets with five for 54. In the end India needed just 20 to win. Sarwate was promoted to open the innings and fell for one, but India cruised home by nine wickets.

Half a century later, while the Indians were on the verge of celebrating their 50th year of Independence, the British politicians were still looking at this epic partnership for inspiration.

In 1996, British Prime Minister John Major was fast succumbing to the resurgent New Labour. Tony Blair exploited the Conservatives' humiliation in the South East Staffordshire by-election, pressing the Prime Minister to explain the defeat, and then supplying his own explanation, "People don't trust the Conservative Party any more".

It was left to former Tory cabinet minister Peter Brooke to cheer the cricket loving PM with the analogy: "Does the Prime Minister take encouragement from the fact that this summer at The Oval will see the 50th anniversary of the longest and largest stand for the last wicket in the history of English cricket?"

A staunch Surrey supporter, Major said that he was aware of the anniversary. "I have absolutely no doubt that politically we will see their equivalent." However, the Prime Minister made a dubious error in saying, "I look forward certainly at The Oval to seeing many performances like that by Surrey, perhaps by England."

As Stephen Goodwin reported in The Independent: "Fortunately for the cheering Tories, nobody on the Opposition benches had a Wisden to hand. The record last wicket stand of 249 at The Oval in 1946 was scored by the opposition — by CT Sarwate and SM Banerjee playing for India against Surrey."

Brief Scores

India 454(Vijay Merchant 53, Gul Mohammad 89, Chandu Sarwate 124*, Shute Banerjee 121; Alec Bedser 5 for 135) and 20 for 1 beat Surrey 135 (Laurie Fishlock 62) and 338 (Robert Gregory 100, Laurie Fishlock 83; Chandu Sarwate 5 for 54) by 9 wickets.

The above article was published by Arunabha Sengupta on 13th May 2013. Courtesy "The Cricket Country".



FROM THE BOARDROOM



The Annual General Meeting of MPCA for the year 2013-14 was held on 24th August 2014 at Holkar Stadium, Indore.

Apart from the regular agenda, the General Body unanimously elected the Office Bearers and the Managing Committee for the term 2014-16.

Above : Mr. Jyotiraditya M. Scindia addressing the General Body during his Presidential Speech.

Below Left : Mr. Sanjay Jagdale, the newly elected President, expressed his emotions during a small but very effective speech at the conclusion of the AGM.

Below Right : Mr. Sanjay Jagdale is greeted by the fellow Office Bearers on his occupying the post of President of MPCA for term 2014-16.



You can send your feedback to BIGRUNJS C/o Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association, Holkar Stadium, Race Course Road Indore or
e-mail : secretary@mpcaonline.com

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