

Sehwag's Blitzkrieg
MPCA Events
The day MP lost it
The 'Holkar era' analysed
Oakley sign up with MPCA



Bhopal Gwalior Ujjain Jabalpur
Big RUN'S
 Rewa N'puram Sagar
 Indore

Year 1 | Issue 1

The MPCA Newsletter

February 2012



The ODI venues in Indore & Gwalior have a thing about them. They encourage record breaking feats by the Indian batsmen. On 31st March 2001 at the Nehru stadium in Indore, Sachin Tendulkar became the first batsman in the World to reach ten thousand runs in one day cricket. Then, it was Sachin again who became the first player to score 200 runs in an innings in one dayers. This was at Gwalior on 24 Feb 2010.

Cricket experts felt that if anybody could break Sachin's record it would be the mercurial Sehwag. So it was. On 8 Dec 2011 at the Holkar Stadium Indore, Sehwag blazed his way to a breathtaking 219 of just 142 balls with 25 fours and 7 sixes. The crowd at Indore was treated to scintillating display of strokes of artistry, sheer power and ruthlessness. To say that he broke Tendulkar's record will be an understatement. He shattered it. While Sachin reached his 200 in the 50th over, Viru passed that milestone in the 43rd over of the innings.

Even with better quality bats and smaller ground it seems unimaginable that Sehwag's feat could be bettered. If it is, it would one heck of an innings. Perhaps it would be Sehwag outdoing himself. But till that day Indore would be in the record books for this piece of history.

Message from the President

Let me first wish all of you a Happy and Prosperous New Year. May the New Year fulfill all your desires and we all work together to take cricket to greater heights in Madhya Pradesh.

It has always been my endeavor to reach out to each one of you more often to share with you the progress the game has made in the State. Keeping the above objective in mind we have decided to launch this in-house newsletter. We are planning to bring it out on a quarterly basis to begin with and will consider its frequency depending upon the response we receive.



I am pleased to inform you that our teams, in various age groups, have done exceedingly well this season by reaching the Quarter / Semi Final stage where they lost after having given a good fight. The improved performance is a result of a well planned strategy of giving wide exposure to our players in playing under varied conditions at different venues.

The Academy is already functioning as per plans and will certainly make improvement in the cricketing skills of the players under the experienced and watchful coaches. We have conducted exercise of “talent spotting” at smaller towns with the help of the Divisions and have put the selected players for grooming at the residential academy.

The successful organizing of IPL and ODI matches has brought Holkar Stadium on to the world cricketing map and received accolades from players and officials of the visiting teams and the world media. The world record knock of Virender Sehwag has ensured that the venue will have a permanent place in the history books.

As the current cricket season is coming to an end, this is the time to take stock of our performances and finding ways and means to improve the same in the coming seasons. Most of the Divisions have put in their best in augmenting our efforts to take the game to the smaller towns and attract promising youngsters to the game.

I am sure you will find this newsletter informative and interesting and I look forward to receive your feedback to improve the same.

My best wishes to all for the ensuing Holi festival and to the cricketers who would be appearing for the academic exams in the coming months.

Jyotiraditya M. Scindia

उभरती प्रतिभा...

एक सच्चा खिलाड़ी - सत्यम चौधरी

एक जमाना था जब मध्यप्रदेश के क्रिकेट में इन्दौर का वर्चस्व था। रंजी ट्रॉफी की टीम में इन्दौर के बाहर से किसी खिलाड़ी की कल्पना करना ही मुश्किल था लेकिन क्रिकेट के फैलाव के साथ धीरे-धीरे अन्य स्थानों के खिलाड़ी टीम में जगह बनाने लगे। जिस प्रकार से भारतीय टीम में रांची, मेरठ दावनगिरी जैसे छोटे स्थानों से आकर खिलाड़ियों ने जगह बनाई, उसी प्रकार मध्यप्रदेश की टीम में डल्ली राजहरा, सागर, रीवा आदि स्थानों से खिलाड़ी अपनी पैठ बना रहे हैं। ऐसा माना जाता है कि छोटे स्थान से आने वाले खिलाड़ी ज्यादा मेहनत करते हैं और संघर्ष के लिए तैयार रहते हैं।

ऐसे ही एक संघर्षशील खिलाड़ी का नाम है - सत्यम चौधरी, जो जूनियर क्रिकेट में मध्यप्रदेश के लिए शानदार प्रदर्शन कर रंजी ट्रॉफी के दरवाजे पर दस्तक दे रहा है।

25 नवम्बर 1990 को जन्मे सत्यम चौधरी महु के पास धार नाके में रहते हैं। मात्र 11 वर्ष की उम्र में उनकी क्रिकेटीय प्रतिभा को स्कूल के शिक्षक राकेश वैद्य ने पहचाना। उन्होंने और स्कूल की शिक्षिका मोना श्रीवास्तव (जो क्रिकेटर रोहन श्रीवास्तव की माताजी हैं) ने उन्हें इन्दौर में सी.सी.आई. में प्रशिक्षण लेने की सलाह दी। पिता दयाराम जो एक निजी कम्पनी में सुरक्षा गार्ड है और माता कुसुमलता ने जरा भी आपत्ति नहीं ली और इस तरह शुरू हुआ सत्यम का क्रिकेट सफर।

सी.सी.आई. में संजय जगदाले ने उनकी प्रतिभा को ताड़ लिया और नितिन कुलकर्णी - मुकेश साहनी को उन पर विशेष नजर रखने को कहा। नितिन और मुकेश को सत्यम में सबसे अच्छी बात लगी उनकी



मेहनत करने की क्षमता और सीखने की लगन। नितिन बताते हैं कि सत्यम कई बार सुबह 4.40 की ट्रेन से महु से इन्दौर आते थे और मैच खेलने के बाद वहीं बैंच पर सो जाते थे और शाम के अभ्यास के लिए फिर उपस्थित रहते थे। इसी संघर्ष के बदौलत सत्यम ने धीरे-धीरे अपना नाम कमाया।

सत्यम के संघर्ष को देखते हुए उनकी मदद करने वाले खिलाड़ियों की कमी नहीं थी। सत्यम उन लोगों को नहीं भूले जिन्होंने उनकी मदद की। क्लब ने आज तक उनसे कभी फीस नहीं ली। जगदाले सर ने उन्हें उनका पहला बल्ला दिया। नमन ओझा, हरप्रीत सिंह, उदित बिड़ला और अविनाश जोशी ने भी समय-समय पर क्रिकेट उपकरण देकर उनकी मदद की। अपने क्रिकेट के साथियों में वे मध्यप्रदेश से खेलने वाले मनोज सिंह और हरप्रीत सिंह तथा क्लब के मधुर नाहर और जतिन सक्सेना से विशेष स्नेह रखते हैं।

सत्यम अभी अपने आपको पूर्ण बल्लेबाज नहीं मानते और खेल में और सुधार करना चाहते हैं। उनकी शक्ति के बारे में पूछें तो वे कहते हैं कि मैं अपनी सीमितताओं को पहचानता हूँ और उसी में खेलता हूँ। खराब गेंद का इंतजार करता हूँ और एक-एक, दो-दो रन लेकर पारी बढ़ाता हूँ। कमजोरी का पूछें तो कहते हैं कि आउट स्विंग गेंद को ड्राइव करने में कई बार स्लिप में कैच आऊट हो जाता हूँ। किस पक्ष को सुधारना चाहते हैं तो कहते हैं कि एक दिवसीय क्रिकेट के हिसाब से थोड़े हवाई स्ट्रोक लगाना सीखना चाहता हूँ।

सत्यम को क्रिकेट के अलावा गाने सुनने, जिम में मेहनत करने और तैरने का शौक है। वे अपने खेल के मानसिक पक्ष को भी मजबूत करना चाहते हैं। हर युवा खिलाड़ी तरह तरह सत्यम भी भारत की ओर से खेलना चाहते हैं। उनकी मेहनत, लगन और प्रतिभा को देखते हुए यह असंभव नहीं है। लेकिन उससे पहले उन्हें मध्यप्रदेश की रंजी टीम में जगह बनानी है। इस वर्ष अंडर-22 में हिमाचल के खिलाफ उन्होंने 262 रनों की मैराथन पारी खेली जो लम्बी पारी खेलने की उनकी क्षमता दर्शाती है। आज मध्यप्रदेश को ऐसे ही बल्लेबाज की आवश्यकता है।

सत्यम के प्रशिक्षक नितिन कुलकर्णी को उनसे काफी उम्मीदें हैं। नितिन कहते हैं कि सत्यम का उदाहरण दूसरे खिलाड़ियों के लिए अनुकरणीय होना चाहिए। जिस प्रकार से वे मेहनत करते हैं, उन्हें ज्यादा समय सफलता से दूर नहीं रखा जा सकता। उनके अन्य प्रशिक्षक और साथी खिलाड़ी भी सत्यम को एक 'टीम मैन' मानते हैं और हर कोई ऐसे सच्चे खिलाड़ी की सफलता की कामना करता है।

- राजीव

NEWS & EVENTS...

Headlines :

- MPCA hosts the One Day International between India and West Indies at Indore on 8 Dec 2011. The match is a huge success. Virendra Sehwag breaks the world record for the highest score in ODI's and plays an epic innings of 219.
- Jalaj Saxena is selected for the Rest Of India team for the Irani Trophy, Central Zone team for Duleep Trophy and also for the Challenger Trophy. T.P. Sudhindra and Mohnish Mishra are selected for the Duleep and Challenger Trophy while Naman Ojha finds a place in the Duleep Trophy squad.
- MPCA hosts the Duleep Trophy final. This is the first scheduled 5-day match at our stadium. Successful organization of this match will enhance our chances of getting accredited as the Test Centre in near future.



BCCI Hon. Secretary Sanjay Jagdale and MPCA Hon. Secretary Narendra Menon presenting a reward of Rs Ten Lacs on behalf of MPCA to Virendra Sehwag for his record breaking feat.

East Zone captain Nataraj Behera receiving the Duleep Trophy from Indore Divisional Commissioner Prabhat Parashar. East Zone have won this trophy for the first time ever.



Sanjay Jagdale was felicitated by MPCA on taking over as BCCI Hon. Secretary. Our President Jyotiraditya M Scindia presenting a memento to him, as Chairman Dr M.K.Bhargava applauds. MPCA members and cricket lovers were present at the function in large numbers.

NEWS & EVENTS...

Headlines :

- MPCA organizes Level A coaches course of NCA and curators course for MP curators.
- Rewa, Gwalior and Bhopal host BCCI events with great elan.
- Amay Khurasia is nominated as coach of India Blue team for the Challenger Trophy
- Vasu Gangwani and Milind Kanmadikar are assigned the liaison manager role for visiting teams by the BCCI.
- MPCA appoints qualified video analyst's for all age group teams.
- MPCA, in association with the divisions, conducts special open selection trials at Sagar, Jabalpur, Rewa and Gwalior to unearth upcoming talents in the age group 10 to 15 years. Similar camps will be conducted at other places in the coming months.
- MPCA rewards the curator S.S. Chouhan and the entire ground staff for their efforts in the success of the ODI at Indore.



Sandeep Patil ,
Director of National
Cricket Academy
addressing the level A
coach aspirants.



Curators learning the
use of modern
machines from Daljit
Singh

How our teams fared

Ranji Trophy :

Reached quarter Finals.

Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy:

Qualified for Knock out
(to be held later).

C.K.Nayudu Trophy (U-22) :

Reached Semi finals after
qualifying from Plate group.

Cooch Behar Trophy (U-19) :

Reached quarter finals.

Vinoo Mankad Trophy (U-19) :

Finished Runners-up.



T. P. Sudhindra- The
highest wicket taker
in the Ranji Trophy
this season practices
his skills.

NEWS & EVENTS...

Headlines :

- T.P. Sudhindra (Right Arm Medium Pace) finishes as the highest wicket taker in the Ranji Trophy for the season with 40 wickets to his credit from 7 games. He is also called up by Deccan Chargers for this years IPL.
- MPCA takes initiative to host the first ever tournament for U-14 boys at the Central Zone level. We organize the event successfully with innovative rules like playing on uncovered pitches and overs restriction for bowlers.
- Following the success of the junior teams tour to England & Srilanka, MP Seniors undertake a tour of Sri Lanka from 17 Sept to 11 Oct 2011. Our team played against the cream of talent representing the Development Squad of Cricket Sri Lanka and their National Academy. Our boys outplayed the opponent in the 4-day matches winning all the 3 games. The T-20 and fifty over games were shared equally.
- Sanjay Jagdale takes over as BCCI Hon. Secretary. Jyotiraditya M. Scindia continues as the Chairman of the Finance committee. Narendra Hirwani (Senior Selection Committee) Bhagwandas Suthar (Umpires Committee) and Dr. Ashok Kumat (Marketing Committee) also find place in sub-committees.
- Christening of the stands at the Holkar Stadium takes place on 2nd November 2011.



The MP senior team which toured Sri Lanka.



Uttar Pradesh lads with the Raj Singh Dungarpur Trophy, the U-14 tournament initiated by MPCA.



The stands at the Holkar Stadium, Indore being christened at a ceremony on 2 Nov. 2011. MPCA is widely appreciated for its gesture of recognizing past and current cricketers on merit.

NEWS & EVENTS...

Headlines :

- Dr Bhargava is appointed the BCCI observer for the India-England ODI at Mumbai.
- Divisional teams undertake reciprocal tours in coordination with MPCA to give exposure to young players.
- The Inter Division tournaments are conducted successfully with different division winning tournaments . Rest of MP (Sr.), Indore (Sr. One Day), Bhopal (U-18 & U-18 One Day), Jabalpur (U-15) & Gwalior (U-14) emerge winners.
- The famous eyewear brand OAKLEY enter into deal with MPCA for providing Oakley sunglasses for our Men's (Sr) and Boy's U-22 & U-19 teams. MPCA is the only State Association in India to receive such patronage. Reebok continues to be our apparel sponsor for all teams.



Naman Ojha receives Oakley eye wear before the start of the season from our new sponsor.



India stars Virendra Sehwag and Gautam Gambhir took time off from national duties to watch Delhi play in the Ranji Trophy match against MP at the Emeralds Height International Ground.

Obituary...

Veteran Journalist Suresh Gawde passed away on 10 Feb 2012 at the age of 74. He was an able sports administrator and a music lover. MPCA mourns his sad demise.



MPCA Ground at Sagar is now almost ready.



The day the Ranji Trophy slipped away

- Rajiv Risodkar

Everybody is aware of the illustrious history of the Holkar's and their stupendous record in the Ranji Trophy. After the end of the Holkar era, it was a struggle for the Madhya Pradesh players to emulate their great predecessors. Individual achievements were there but as a team the record was not so great till the 90's when the association was able to build a team which was respected by the opponents.

In the 90's the foundation was laid by Ashok Mankad as coach with a bunch of young hopefuls. Sandeep Patil as captain cum mentor built on this foundation and the state's performance improved by leaps and bounds. Under Patil the team reached Semi Finals of the Ranji Trophy once, where they lost to Punjab. Chandrakant Pandit took over from Patil and continued the good work. MP had, during that time, the best spin attack in the country consisting of Hirwani, Chouhan, Lahore and Majithia. Then there were two fast bowling all rounders in Nilose and Sodhi. Then the team had batsmen like Khurasiya, Bundela, Abbas Ali, Kirti Patel, J.P. Yadav,

Prashant Dwivedi and Pandit. Their was good bench strength too, with the likes of Santosh Sahu, Raja Ali, Sanjay Pandey and Nikhil Patwardhan waiting to pounce on the chances.

1998-99 was the season which saw the team in full bloom. They won the league stage of Central Zone by getting first innings points against Vidarbha, Railways and Rajasthan while salvaging a draw against

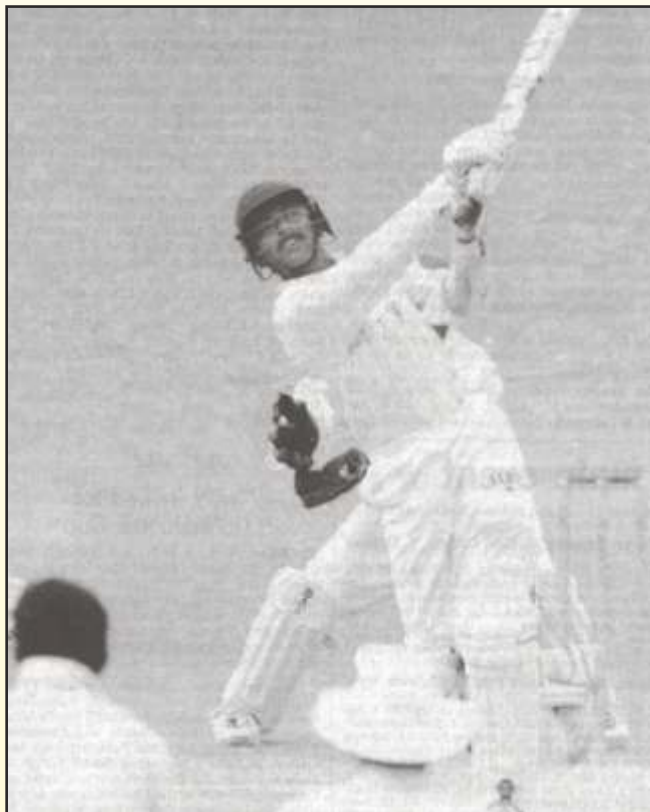
DOWN MEMORY LANE

Uttar Pradesh. In the super league stage MP beat Haryana and Saurashtra outright to book their

knock out berth and earned a bye to the semi finals making it only the second time they reached this stage. They made it to the finals by beating Hyderabad by seven wickets.

The final was played at Bangalore from 19 to 23 April 1999. MP was strengthened by the presence of Narendra Hirwani whose sheer will power made him to be available for the match. Karnataka got off to a good start with 94 for the first wicket but then wickets started tumbling. Vijay Bhardwaj blocked one end scoring 84. Karnataka were eventually bowled out for 304 early on the second day. When MP batted Karnataka had to face a storm in the

form of Santosh Sahu. The right hander from Bilaspur was in terrific form. He was in the team in place of Khurasiya who was busy with India-A duties. Sahu slammed a whirlwind 130 of just 165 balls with 12 fours and 4 sixes adding 163 with Bundela for the third wicket. Sahu treated the Karnataka bowlers with scant respect and hit Ganesh and Joshi at will. His lofted drives of Joshi were a treat to watch. But once he fell, the rest of the batters failed to drive home the advantage. From 273 for 2 MP were dismissed for 379. Bundela, who scored nearly 1000 runs in the season



Santosh Sahu hitting Anand Yalvigi for a Six on his way to a brilliant 130 on day 2 of the match. (Photo courtesy : The Hindu)

contributed 79. With a deficit of 75 runs Karnataka finished day 3 at 209 for 2 suggesting a tight finish to the match.

On day four, rain put a break on Karnataka efforts to build a massive lead. They could add only 112 runs and had to declare the innings at 321 for 7 leaving MP to get 247 in the whole day. Surprisingly MP refused to chase the target and decided to play out the time. A stroke player like Abbas Ali took 243 minutes for his 47 while Bundela scored 28 in 168 minutes. Still, both of them looked like taking MP to the finish line. With about 25 overs to go MP were at 108 for 3 and looking towards a draw and the hands on the title.

Just a few overs before tea Karnataka introduced Vijay Bhardwaj into the attack. The off spinner, who had an unusual action, immediately dismissed Bundela. Still with the experienced skipper Chandrakant Pandit at the crease MP had nothing to worry or so it seemed. It was mayhem after the tea interval. Bhardwaj struck blows after blows to send MP tumbling from 132 for 4 to 150 all out. In one magical spell of 14.5-6-24-6 Bhardwaj literally snatched the Ranji Trophy away from MP's pockets. The last three wickets fell at the same score and there were still 31 balls left in the match.

Had it not been for Bhardwaj's spell MP would have won the Ranji Trophy for the first time and fulfilled the dreams of Late Syed Mushtaq Ali during his lifetime. Sadly it was not

to happen. So, was it the pressure that got to them or was Bhardwaj bowling magic deliveries. Did MP cause their own downfall by not going for the target and adopting a defensive approach or was the first inning collapse the reason for MP's defeat. One can only wonder as to what happened to the team in the

last session of the match but for those who were part of the team in that match and those who are close to MP cricket it is still a memory that hurts. Skipper Pandit was in tears after the match and so were most of the players. The team of the 90's surely deserved at least one Ranji title.

KARNATAKA vs MADHYA PRADESH (Final)

Played at M Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bangalore on 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 April, 1999. Karnataka won by 96 runs.
Toss: Karnataka. Umpires: IK Sharma & Francis Gomes. Referee: Rambabu Gupta. Scorer: CV Nagendranath & SM Yusuf. Close of play scores: 1st day: Kar 291-9 (Ganesh 7, Khan 7); 2nd day: MP 339-6 (Abbas Ali 29, Sodhi 5); 3rd day: Kar 209-2 (Kamal 104, Vijay 61); 4th day: Kar 321-7 (Naidu 21, Yalvigi 21).

KARNATAKA									
		Runs	M	B	F			Runs	M B F
1. S Somasundar	c Abbas Ali b Sodhi	70	195	128	11/1	c CP Sahu b Hirwani		25	74 57 4
2. J Arun Kumar	c CP Sahu b Chauhan	34	100	79	4	c CP Sahu b Yadav		147	359 250 8
3. S Somashekar	c Chauhan b Sodhi	6	39	20	1	c Abbas Ali b Chauhan		3	12 14 -
4. Vijay Bharadwaj	c CP Sahu b Chauhan	86	247	145	4	c Pandit b Majithia		75	249 186 5
5. A Vijay	c Pandit b Yadav	14	44	32	3	c CP Sahu b Majithia		5	24 26 1
6. VS Tilak Naidu	c Pandit b Majithia	12	27	18	1	not out		21	76 56 1
7. Sunil Joshi *	run out (R Ali/C Sahu)	31	57	45	4	c CP Sahu b Yadav		1	5 5 -
8. B Akhil	lbw b Sodhi	6	38	27	1	c CP Sahu b Yadav		0	3 2 -
9. Anand Yalvigi	c CP Sahu b Sodhi	4	15	17	-	not out		21	71 56 2
10. D Ganesh	c CP Sahu b Sodhi	20	55	50	1				
11. Mansur Ali Khan	not out	7	40	21	-				
Extras	lb4, nb10	14				b5, lb13, nb3, w2		23	
Total		304				7 wkts decl		321	

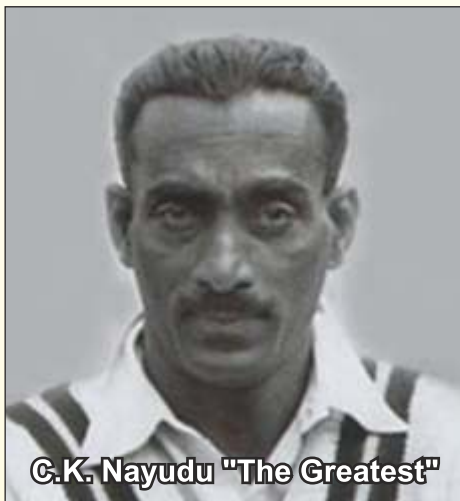
MADHYA PRADESH									
		Runs	M	B	F			Runs	M B F
1. CP Sahu +	c Vijay b Yalvigi	45	83	43	9	lbw b Khan		6	8 7 1
2. Jai Prakash Yadav	c sub (Anil Kumar) b Khan	3	13	5	-	lbw b Joshi		26	64 39 4
3. Santosh Sahu	c Vijay b Ganesh	130	241	165	12/4	c Yalvigi b Joshi		19	80 59 2
4. DS Bundela	run out (sub: Anil Kumar)	79	176	165	10	b Bharadwaj		28	168 124 2
5. S Abbas Ali	lbw b Ganesh	31	104	80	5	c Ganesh b Joshi		47	243 205 5
6. CS Pandit *	lbw b Ganesh	10	13	14	2	c Vijay b Bharadwaj		13	64 38 -
7. A Raja Ali	lbw b Bharadwaj	7	45	35	1	c Joshi b Bharadwaj		0	4 1 -
8. HS Sodhi	c Somashekar b Ganesh	6	60	31	-	c Somashekar b Bharadwaj		0	30 23 1
9. Rajesh Chauhan	c Naidu b Ganesh	2	29	19	-	c Joshi b Bharadwaj		4	33 13 1
10. Manish Majithia	not out	14	53	31	-/1	not out		0	14 7 -
11. ND Hirwani	c Somashekar b Joshi	19	43	34	2	c Vijay b Bharadwaj		0	2 2 -
Extras	b8, nb22, w3	33				nb6, w1		7	
Total		379						150	

MADH PRADESH				O M R W				FALL OF WICKETS			
Sodhi	27.2	3	78	5	14	2	47	0	K	MP	K MP
Bundela	4	0	22	0	-	-	-	-	1st	1st	2nd 2nd
Yadav	23	5	52	1	(2)	22	7	45	3	1st	94 11 46 11
Hirwani	11	0	51	0	(5)	20	1	71	1	2nd	113 110 56 48
Chauhan	17	1	57	2	(4)	21	2	69	1	3rd	125 273 262 53
Majithia	13	0	40	1	(3)	28	8	71	2	4th	154 275 276 108
KARNATAKA									5th	172	289 276 132
Ganesh	30	2	103	5	19	4	53	0	6th	229	319 277 132
Khan	15	3	57	1	10	3	30	1	7th	258	342 277 142
Akhil	1	0	8	0	(6)	3	1	5	0	8th	276 344 321* 150
Joshi	34	4	113	1	(3)	30	16	31	3	9th	278 345 - 150
Yalvigi	13	1	72	1	(4)	8	4	7	0	10th	304 379 - 150
Bharadwaj	7	1	18	1	(5)	14.5	6	24	6		

THE JOURNEY OF THE GREAT HOLKAR TEAM TO PINNACLE OF GLORY IN THE RANJI TROPHY

In the summer of 1934, BCCI in its meeting held at Shimla, conceptualized National Cricket Tournament, Ranji Trophy, named after K.S. Ranjit Singh of Navanagar, at the behest of Bhupendra Singh, Maharaja of Patiala, who donated the Trophy made of Gold.

"Madras" had the privilege to host the first match on 4th. Nov. 1934. M.J.Gopalan had the honour of delivering the first ball, faced by N. Curtis.



C.K. Nayudu "The Greatest"

Players from Indore & M P, UP, & Rajasthan played for "Central India" from 1934-35 to 1939-40, playing 11 matches. The team did not participate in the year 1940-41.

"Holkar" team participated in the Ranji Trophy from 1941-42 to 1954-55, playing 49 matches during 14 years of their participation and reached the Finals on 10 occasions, from 1944-

VIJAY NAYUDU ANALYSES THE "HOLKAR ERA"

45 to 1954-55, (except in 1948-49) which is a record matched only by Bombay (now known as Mumbai). The "Holkar" won the Ranji Trophy in 1945-46, 1947-48, 1950-51 & 1952-53.

The salient features of the "Holkar" team were as under:

- It was a team of "All-rounders", which gave a variety of options to the Captain to use the resources of the team to its advantage in a given situation.
- It had tremendous batting depth up to no. 10 with even the no. 11 having the ability to hold his end if situation demanded, as was the case in the final played against Bengal in 1952-53 when the last wicket played for 90 minutes to draw the match and win the final on the basis of first inning lead.
- The team relied heavily on its batting strength and often outbatted its opponent by putting up big scores. At one time six batsmen scored century in an innings, which is a record. This was against Mysore at Indore in 1945-46.
- The team had flexible batting order thus not allowing the opponent to formulate any

strategy even if the first 4 wickets were down as the batters to come were CK Nayudu, KM Rangnekar, MM Jagdale, HG Gaikwad and JN Bhaya or SD Dhanwade.

- V. Dixit was the only player who seemed to have played for Holkar as a Bowler.
- S. Mushtaq Ali had the distinction of playing all the 49 matches which speaks about his commitment and physical



S. Mushtaq Ali "The Artist"

fitness as he was the highest run getter for the team.

- Col. CK Nayudu captained the team in 40 matches while S. Mushtaq Ali captained the team in 9 matches.
- Self belief, positive approach and discipline were the hallmark and the main attributes of the success of the Great Holkar team in the Ranji Trophy Tournament.

You've seen worse ?

The nervous young batsman was having a terrible time and was lucky to still be at the crease. During a lull, he stammered to the wicket keeper, 'Well, I expect you've seen worse players.'

Silence....

First slip added 'he said I expect you've seen worse players.'

'I heard him the first time. I was just trying to think.'

The poor slip

A slip fieldsman had a particularly depressing day during which he dropped no less than ten catches, all off the same bowler. After the game he was talking to the bowler when he broke off and looked at his watch. "I must go," he said, "I have a train to catch." The bowler looked at him bitterly. "Let's hope you have better luck with that, then."



Notice any difference

The bowler had a dreadful match which cost his side the game. All week long he practiced hard for the next game. During the following match, he said to the captain, 'Notice any difference?'

The captain looked at him thoughtfully. 'You've had your hair cut, haven't you?'

Jokes courtesy: cricketjokes.com

Contest : Spot the Holgars



It is 'HOLI' time and 'TEAM HOLKAR' is clicked here playing holi in this nostalgic photograph. All you have to do is identify the players in the photograph. The first three all correct entries (or identifying maximum players correctly) will get a special prize from MPCA and a mention in the next issue. You can send your answers to BIGRUNJS c/o Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association, Race Course Road, Indore or e-mail to -

bigrunjs.mPCA@gmail.com

Editor's Note....

The last few years have seen a rapid rise in the activities of Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association. The number of on field and off field events have increased manifold. With it a need has been felt to keep our members and patrons of the association, updated with the latest news and happenings.

"BIG RUNJS" is our endeavor in that direction. The name itself may sound a little odd but it carries the first letter of each of our affiliate divisions and also relates to cricket. We will try to carry information pertaining to cricket in Madhya Pradesh and focus on our activities.

You will realize that our efforts would only be successful with the active co-operation and participation of all our members. We would appreciate if members could send any news related to cricket, be it related to history, interesting anecdotes, profiles, news or jokes. Divisional associations can send details of activities carried out by them. Contributions can be either in English or Hindi and would be given due credit.

We also welcome your valuable feedback which will only enable us to make the future issues better.

MEMBERS' SPACE

Name : P.C. Bramho

Date of Birth : 30-05-1928

Occupation : Retired from State Bank Of India

Connection with Cricket : He played for MP in Ranji Trophy as a wicket keeper-batsman. Was also a state panel umpire and dressing room in-charge for many ODI's



Best memory associated with MP cricket:

When he faced Vinoo Mankad in the Ranji Trophy match against Rajasthan at Udaipur. Vinoo Mankad appreciated his batting very much. Bramho was also greatly influenced by the 3 W's -Weekes, Worrell and Walcott in his cricketing life.

What he thinks of the functioning of MPCA:

MPCA is doing a great job in developing the game in the state and also looking after the welfare of ex-cricketers and members of the association.

How he views the changes in the game today :

The equipments have improved a lot and have added to the skills of the cricketers. Cricketers of the old era had more courage, ability to play long innings and more enthusiasm for the game

How he views the future of MP cricket :

MP cricket has a very good future and the players should do well with the infrastructure and facilities available if they make optimum use of the same.

As told to Mahaveer Singh Arya

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

Editorial Board : Prof. S.P. Chaturvedi, Vijay Nayudu, Dr. Ashok Kumat, Capt. Manohar Sharma, Rohit Pandit, Rajiv Risodkar & Mahaveer Singh Arya.

The views expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of the Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association.

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