

*MPCA honours Rahul Dravid*  
*'Their names will always shine'*  
*News & Events*  
*In Focus : Sagar Division*  
*Unsung Heroes*



**Big RUN's**  
Bhopal Gwalior Ujjain Jabalpur  
Rewa N'pura Sagar  
Indore

Year 1 | Issue 3

The MPCA Newsletter

August 2012

## *Rahul Dravid* *The Wall...*

**30th June 2012**, the close-knit family of MPCA enjoyed the evening when they came together for the unveiling of the '**RAHUL DRAVID DRESSING ROOM**' at the Holkar Stadium. It was a proud moment for all of us to honour Rahul Dravid for his exceptional contribution to the game of Cricket.

Rahul, a classical Test Batsman, earned plaudits for his ability to face challenges with minimum fuss. He taught us how to put grit over beauty, team over self, challenge before rejection, humility before flamboyance.. Rahul embodied the best traditions and values of the game - civility, craft and dignity... Rightfully described as '**a good man who played like a good man**'.

With his decision to bid adieu to Test Cricket, all of us would miss the presence of this GENTLEMAN on the field, though he shall always be remembered by all those who may come even in the vicinity of the '**RAHUL DRAVID DRESSING ROOM**'.



## Time to take stock...

*Time has really flown by and your Committee will shortly complete its two year term. It has been a busy time, almost every day of the period, with various activities. We carried a sense of responsibility due to the overwhelming support and enormous faith reposed in us by all of you for which we are thankful. It was our responsibility to come up to your expectation and perform to our ability. Our objective was to enhance the reputation of MPCA as one of the best administered sporting body in the country. I am happy to state that we have been quite successful in achieving this objective.*

*As we look back, we feel immensely satisfied and proud to state that your Committee has taken many path breaking decisions and have met with success on many new initiatives. All this was possible due to the excellent coordination, commitment and dedication displayed at all levels of administration at both the Divisions and MPCA.*

*We had made an ambitious plan to reach out to remote areas to unearth hidden talents by conducting open trials. The Divisions played a very proactive role in organizing such camps and quite a few talented boys are undergoing training at our residential academy.*

*The exercise has also helped Divisions in strengthening their teams with new talents. The evidence of our efforts was seen in the much improved performances given by various Divisional teams. It will certainly help build strong State teams at all age groups in the near future.*

*Our plan to send youngsters on overseas tours has helped them realize their own ability and self belief besides broadening their outlook. It is an investment for our future!*

*Our decision to depute Observers for every match has helped rationalize facilities at all the playing centers besides helping the matches being conducted in professional manner.*

*Our efforts in getting the Divisions interconnected through the Internet have resulted in better communication at economical cost. Our efforts to professionalise the working at the Divisional level are yielding good result.*

*The launching of the MPCA Web Site and the In-house Magazine is one more step towards bringing every one closer and becoming part of the progress towards excellence.*

*Our plan to provide better infrastructure facilities in every Division to assist them in providing better playing facilities has started yielding good results. If there is healthy competition at the Divisional level, the standard of the game will obviously go up in the State.*

*The appointment of Sanjay Jagdale as Secretary of BCCI has made us all proud and is another feather in the cap of MPCA. It was heartening to see Rahul Dravid complimenting MPCA for its over all performance during the recently held felicitation function. Sunil Gavaskar, while covering the last ODI played at the Holkar Stadium, complimented MPCA for our gesture in naming various Stands after Indian and Holkar legends for their contribution to the game.*

*At the end of the two year tenure, we look back with pride at the all round progress of our institution- at the level of the game, performance of our team's, officials and administrators and the quality of our infrastructure. We aim to reach high and live upto the expectations of the trust you have reposed in us to keep this legendary torch burning bright!*

*The "News Letter" is being well received by members. All efforts will be made to improve its contents for which your positive response is earnestly solicited.*

*With Best Wishes and Happy Independence Day,*

**Jyotiraditya M. Scindia**

President





## “Their Names will always shine”

- By Prof. S P Chaturvedi

I was lucky that the Managing Committee of MPCA gave me such an excellent committee consisting of senior cricketers like Manohar Sharma, Bhagwandas Suthar, Vijay Nayudu and Sanjay Jagdale. They had a rich experience of cricket history and therefore after several meetings and deliberations we decided to name the stadium as Holkar Stadium. The Holkar's had established cricket in the town and the legendary Holkar Team won the coveted Ranji Trophy four times and played the final on eight occasions and that too in 10 years between 1945-55. Their first victory was against Baroda and the last against Bengal. The team had aggressive, dashing and popular cricketers like CK Nayudu, Mushtaq Ali, CS Nayudu, CT Sarwate, Hiralal Gaekwad, MM Jagdale, KM Rangnekar and others. With the exception of Chandu Sarwate and JN Bhaya, each player was a six footer and created an awe-inspiring effect upon people. No wonder the team was popular wherever it went and played.

The striking feature of this team was that it played all its cricket on matting in Indore but the players quickly adjusted to playing conditions when called upon to play on turf wickets. Their wicket was not far off from where the existing stadium stands. It was somewhere between the road leading to the Holkar Stadium and the tennis club. Even visiting teams from outside India loved playing cricket here. Yeshwantrao Holkar was such a great cricket lover that he liked watching his team play in full cricket uniform sitting in a tent outside. In modern times we talk of sponsors and promoters but here was a promoter and a sponsor who simply wanted his team to do well. He never interfered in cricket matters and CK Nayudu had full authority in this matter. He never showed any interest in playing in the team. But today the sponsors spend money as an investment and expect a lot out of it.

We first chalked out parameters, and then the players automatically got fitted into them. We decided about the number of years a player had played and the number of matches he had played but we kept in mind that in olden times Ranji Trophy was the only National Championship and was played on knock out basis so the players got fewer matches to play. Now all National tournaments are on league basis so the players get more matches and therefore their achievements are also more and greater. We wanted that the spectators should get a sense of history while watching the game. The Main Pavilions are named after C K Nayudu and



Mushtaq Ali as they were the greatest cricketers that the town produced. The dressing rooms are named after Tiger Pataudi who belonged to Bhopal and Rahul Dravid who was born in Indore. In the stands we find the names of Holkar hero's such as CS Nayudu, CT Sawate, Khandu Rangnekar, HR Gaikwad, JN Bhaya and MM Jagdale and the Indian cricket icons like Vijay Hazare, Ajit Wadekar, Sunil Gavaskar, Kapil Dev, Anil Kumble and Sachin Tendulkar. The GAIL end is named after Madhavrao Scindia who not

only served as President of MPCA for a number of years but also was the President of the BCCI. The Press box is named after Prabhash Joshi who was an eminent cricket writer and journalist. The commentator's box is named after Sushil Doshi the first international cricket commentator from the town. The cricket academy is named after Sanjay Jagdale who is well known for his love for coaching and technical knowledge of the game.

The main administrative block is named after Madhavrao Scindia and the meeting hall is named after AW Kanmadikar, who not only served the MPCA as the Honorary Secretary but also remained Secreatry of BCCI for years. Different gates and places are named after cricketers and administrators like Narendra Hirwani, Rajesh Chouhan, Satish Malhotra, Sandhya Agrawal, Amey Khurasia and the Holkar hero's like BB Nimbalkar and Niwsarkar. The library is named after Raj Singh Dungarpur who was a product of Daly College Indore and played his initial cricket from Indore, then from Rajasthan and ended as the President of BCCI. The main road from the gate to the pavilion is named after GR Pandit who with limited and also little means started the famous Sarvamangala Tournament in the town moving from place to place and getting entries on a cycle.

We decided even about the role of honors and here too the criteria was the no of years and matches. Now that the no of matched has increased many more will qualify in future. I am sure this will help our cricketers to get inspiration from different cricket hero's whose names appear in the Stadium somewhere or the other and they will feel motivated to do well.

In this age of downright materilisation and marketing, most of the Associations have sold off their places for monetary gains. But we have preferred to preserve them for our cricket heroes.



# NEWS & EVENTS..

## MP Teams before departing to Colombo



Men's Senior Team (July - August 2012)

We won the multi-day match series 3-0, Ltd. Overs 2-1 and T/20 2-1



Boy's U-19 Team (May - June 2012)

We won the multi-day match series 2-0 (one game ended without result) and leveled Ltd. Overs series one all



Education Course on the newly introduced Age Verification Programme (AVP) conducted by the BCCI for the Central Zone Associations.



Young players under our 'Continuous Training Scheme' with the new Cricket Kit presented by MPCA.



U-19 match played at Colombo



# NEWS & EVENTS..



## World T/20 Trophy Preview Function at Holkar Stadium

MPCA Members and other Associates got the opportunity to have a close look at the 'World T/20 Trophy 2012' when the Indian Star Cricketer Virender Sehwag unveiled the Trophy at Holkar Stadium on 11th July 2012.

Our Senior Members - Mr. Sushil Doshi, Mr. Ravi Bhaskar, Prof. S.P. Chaturvedi and Dr. Bharat Chapparwal welcomed 'Viru' at Holkar Stadium.

Sehwag fondly relived his World Record knock of 219 Runs when he was at Holkar Stadium the last time on 8th December 2011 for ODI against West Indies.



MPCA presented Souvenir to Sehwag at this function.





## Rahul Dravid's pep-talk with MPCA Academy Trainees : Excerpt

- Compiled by Rohit D Pandit & Prasoon Kanmadikar

Rahul Dravid, who made us proud for more than 16 years with his classical batting abilities, had an interaction with the upcoming talent under the wings of MPCA Cricket Academy during his short stay at Indore on 30th June 2012.

Rahul, one of the finest examples of a perfect team-man, appeared to be speaking his heart out in best interests of the young players. We produce his words of 'wisdom and vast experience' for the benefit of the upcoming players.

1. The journey of cricket is the journey of self discovery. Observe the game with complete intensity and try to learn positively from your observations.
2. Success should not be measured merely in terms of matches played, runs scored or wickets taken. Success correlates with the improvement of skill and ability on a daily basis. Do not relate your success with the concept of selection for a particular match / tournament ie. Do not chase or challenge the selection process.
3. Try to achieve to your best potential. This will make you feel proud, satisfied and happy at all times.
4. The present generation of cricketers is fortunate to have all types of resources to help develop their game. But the competition is equally rigorous. The distractions are ample. Those who are able to keep away from these distractions and stretch their talent to extract the best out of the available resources on every single occasion would succeed in life, not only cricket.
5. Never compromise on your basic skills. Anybody who considers the T/20 version of the game as the cup of tea will mostly land in trouble. Only those who are able to adapt to all the three versions of the game should consider themselves as complete cricketers.
6. Treat each and every practice opportunity with utmost

sincerity and make it purposeful to prevail over any shortcomings that creep in technique or playing ability.

7. Besides cricketing skills and technique, focus on the physical and psychological elements that contribute equally in the process of development. Spend quality time to discover the psychological requirements of your body, which could include concentration, temperament, patience, calmness, balance etc. Every individual is unique in his own sense and hence these complex elements can be best enhanced only with self analysis and keenness to improve wherever required.
8. There is no magic pill that can help you to become a quality player. Passion, aptitude, hard work, perseverance and ability to handle the success are the requirements of the situation.
9. Don't consider the opponent by the name and repute. Give the best out of you to make him think that you are an equally tough competitor.
10. Inclination towards attaining intellectual maturity will add positively to your game skills.
11. The moment you start losing patience is the moment you require it the most.
12. Search for the best form of recreation which suits the requirement of your body and soul. It will act as a catalyst to enhance your performance.
13. Always make sure you score a positive answer to the following-
  - a. "I have never stopped trying and have left no stones unturned"
  - b. "My approach to cricket is about giving everything to the team, it is about playing with dignity and it is about upholding the spirit of the game"





14. Consider the following elements before each match and if you are satisfied that your contribution towards each of these requirements is optimum, don't worry about the result. You have put in your best.

- a. Physical fitness
- b. Technical proficiency
- c. Spiritual support
- d. Psychological and emotional stability



**Enjoy playing cricket, be it the batting, bowling or fielding.**

**Play hard and Play fair ... but always stick to the ethics and ethos associated with this beautiful game.**

**Be humble and let the world cherish your presence.**



## IN FOCUS

## SAGAR DIVISIONAL CRICKET ASSOCIATION

***For Cricket ... Against all odds***

The original name Sagar or Sougar is amalgamation of two words namely "Sou" (Hundred) and "Gar" (Fort) as there were countless small forts in the region. With time Saugor became Sagar, except in the Railway records, where it is still spelled as Sougar. It is said that the Sagar city was founded in 1660. It was known as a city of lakes.

The region around Sagar has a rich history and was once the seat of the Mouryas, the Sungas, the Satvahanas, the Shakas, the Nagas, the Guptas, the Hunas, the Kalchuries, the Chandellas and the Parmaras had their hold over Eran (90 Kms away) region. The Gupta monarch Samudra Gupta visited Eran which was his 'Swabhog Nagar'. The ancient Indian Kingdom of "Chedi" had its capital as "Sukhmati" which is located in Sagar.

Sagar owes its importance to Maratha warrior Govind Pant Bundele who established himself in 1735 and by treaty concluded with the Maratha Peshwa in 1818, at the conclusion of 3rd. Anglo - Maratha war, the greater part of Sagar was handed over to the Britishers who made it the capital of Sagar and Narmada territories. During the famous uprising of 1857, the whole of Sagar district was in the possession of the rebels except the town and the fort where the Britishers were confined to over a period of 8 months until Sir Hugh Rose's army came & freed them. The area was converted into British cantonment with full regiment and battery of artillery & infantry. Sagar also happens to be the



Pradeep Laria  
President, SDCA



Farukh Khan  
Hon. Secretary, SDCA

exact center of the undivided India. The granite bench mark by British Surveyor, indicating this, is placed in the compound of a Church in Sagar Cantonment. The presence of Britishers brought cricket to Sagar.

Dr. Hari Singh Gaur established the first University of MP at Sagar which provided various amenities for the sports including the cricket ground. The District Cricket Asso. of Sagar was established in 1953 with the help from local administration and cricket enthusiast such as A.G.Singh, P Desai, C. Lokras, I.M.Bhatia, Jenkins to name a few to regularize the local matches. A friendly match was played at the newly laid Police Training College ground between Bhopal XI led by the legendary Capt. S. Mushtaq Ali and the Sagar XI led by A.G.Singh on 31.1.1959.

Sagar University played an important role in making the game popular and had donated a Trophy to conduct local tournament which attracted few team from Jabalpur, Bhopal, Jhansi and near by districts. Prominent local cricket lover such as Mani Bhai Patel, Madhukar Rao Pimplepure, and Sunil Bhai Patel provided financial help to the local clubs.

Gradually local clubs started conducting tournaments at the

District level. At Nowgaon, sponsored by local Municipality, at Tikamgarh, sponsored by Ms. Uma Bharti, at Damoh, sponsored by Mukesh Nayak, and at Panna sponsored by Bharat Singh, became quite popular attracting many teams from outside.

Sagar became revenue Division in 1973 and district of Damoh, Panna, Tikamgarh and Chatarpur were added to it. Sagar remained center of cricket as it had quite a few grounds available to play matches over the week ends. Since there was shortage of funds, the ground authorities (Police Training College, SAF, MES and the University) used to not only provide the ground free of cost but also used to prepare the wickets besides providing other facilities including the matting, balls etc.

Sagar Division Cricket Asso. was established in 1973 with the formation of the Revenue Division, with the Divisional Commissioner as the President and Mr. I.M.Bhatia, Sports Officer of the University, as the Hon. Secretary. The paucity of funds made it difficult for the Division to conduct local tournaments, leave aside sending the team for the Inter Division Tournament. During 1982-83 the team was supposed to play Rewa Division at Rewa and was asked to assemble at the Bus stand as there was no Rail connection. The team gathered at the Bus stand in the morning but there was no sign of any official to foot the Bus fare. The players waited the whole day for some one to pay the Bus fare. In the evening at about 8 pm, two officials,



namely Dr. Arif Khan and Dr. A.K.Varma came with the amount and paid the fare. Later it was learnt that the two Doctors had spend the whole day at their clinic to collect enough fees so as to pay the Bus fare for the team.

There were quite a few occasions when the team had to travel without tickets as the fund got exhausted on boarding and lodging of the players. This did not dampen the spirit of the boys or the Divisional administrations as there were quite a few who used to bail out the team by paying all the expenses be it for food, umpires fees or the cost of equipments as and when the situation arises so that the game should not suffer for lack of funds. Manibhai Patel, Madhukar Rao Pimplepure, Baburao Pimplepure, Dr.

Arif Khan, Kamlesh Sahu, Prof. K.S.Pitre and Anil & Swapna Bajpai to name a few who played significant role in sustaining the game till some grants started forthcoming from MPCA. The Khan family continued to sponsor all the expense of staging the matches as the funds were not sufficient to meet all the expenses of the Division.

The Division had the distinction of staging the first Ranji Trophy match between MP and Rajasthan at Sagar in Dec.'1982 played at the University ground. The entire expense of the match was met by the Division from the amount raised through donation, organizing charity show and the souvenir. Yet, it took the Division over a year to settle all the dues.

Notwithstanding various difficulties,

the game flourished at Sagar thanks to I.M.Bhatia who took keen interest & started Inter School tournament in 1974 to unearth fresh talents. The efforts paid rich dividend and the Sagar was able to put up good show in the Inter Division matches & Mehmood Khan became the first player from Sagar to play for MP U-19 & Cental Zone U-19. This attracted many youngsters to the game and soon Mehmood Khan, Asadullah Khan & P. Lokras were selected to represent MP in the Ranji Trophy.

The emergence of Tiger Club gave impetus to the local cricket. However with the retirement of K.S.Pitre and I.M.Bhaia a void was created in the functioning of the Division and it became difficult to organize the matches or select the Division team. It became unmanageable to conduct



Cricket activity at MPCA's new ground at Sagar

fair trial to select a team or play a match due to interference of anti social elements. When Saifulla Khan, Captain of MP-19 team, was dropped from the playing XI of Sagar Dn., Farookh Khan took the reins in his own hand defying all odds with the help of like minded people and restored some degree of normalcy in the functioning of local cricket.

The Division has come a long way in promoting the game in the region and have produced many state level players in Harpreet Sing, Rameez Khan and Manoj besides host of players at the junior level. The Division was winner of U-19 Trophy on 5 occasions besides JN Bhaya T20 Trophy in the year 2010.

The Division has not only been organising coaching camps under qualified coaches; it had sent its team to other cities to play friendly matches. The Division also took initiative in the purchase of cricket ground for MPCA which is coming up very well and will be ready to host BCCI matches in the near future.

It is difficult to imagine how one person (Farookh Khan) fought all odds to overcome the obstacles for the last 20 years to provide opportunities to many youngsters to take up the game. The result is every one to see as the Divisions has been producing many promising youngsters to strengthen the MPCA teams.

The hard work put in by every one has started yielding good result in improving the standard of the game and the Division is emerging as an important center of cricket in the State.

**-Vijay Nayudu**

## FACT FILE : SAGAR DIVISION

<b>Established</b>	1972-73
<b>Head Quarters</b>	Sagar
<b>Districts</b>	Sagar, Chattarpur, Panna, Tikamgarh, Damoh.
<b>Current Office Bearers</b>	President : Pradip Laria Chairman : Prof. K.S. Pitre Hon. Secretary : Farukh Khan Hon. Treasurer : Anil Bajpaye Hon. Jt. Secy : Dr. Naeem Khan & Vinay Shukla
<b>Prominent Players</b>	C.G. Lokras, Mahmood Khan, Asad Ullah Khan, H. S. Bhatia, Praveen Lokras, Shantanu Pitre, Rameez Khan, Shridhar Iyer
<b>Came Close</b>	Saif Ullah Khan, Sachendra Bhatt, Imran Khan, Kailash Yadav
<b>Future Prospects</b>	Varunesh Sharma, Pankaj Rao, Manoj Singh, Shantanu Tripathi, Avnish Dhaliwal, Ashutosh Singh.
<b>Current Resources</b>	Turf Ground : 5 (Including MPCA ground) BCCI Coaches : Level B - 2, Level A - 4 Major Tournament - 8
<b>Major Achievements</b>	Senior OD      Runners-up 2011-12 Senior T/20      Winner 2010 U-18              Winner in 2004-05, 2006-07 2007-08 Runners-up 2003-04 U-15              Winner 2007-08 Runners-up 2004-05, 2006-07
<b>Dedicated Volunteers</b>	Madhukar Rao Pimpalpure, Niraj Tiwari, Sachin Tiwari, Vicky Kanojiya, Najmi, Amir Khan, Sudeep Kori and many more



*The President and Members of  
The Sagar District Cricket Association  
Cordially invite*

*to witness a Cricket match  
on  
the Police Training College grounds between*

**BHOPAL XI** *Captained by (Capt. S. Mustaq Ali)*  
*and*  
**SAGAR XI**

SATURDAY 31-1-1959 } 10 A. M TO 5 P. M.  
SUNDAY 1-2-1959 }

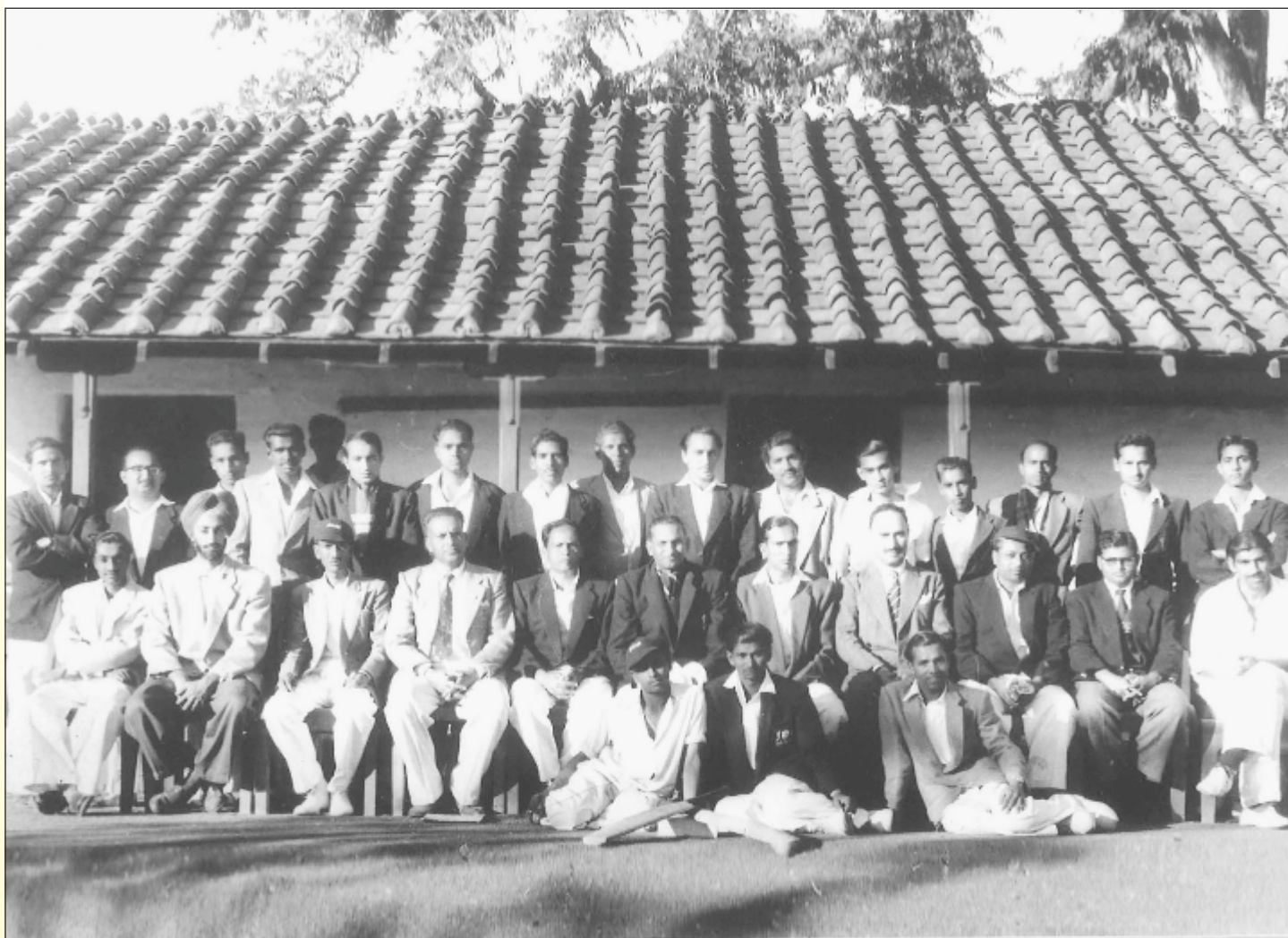
Henry, Secretary

### SAGAR XI

1. A. G. Singh (Captain)
2. P. Desai (Vice Captain)
3. I. M. Bhatia
4. Pandya
5. Madhukar Rao
6. Shivrarnan
7. Nimbalker
8. C. Lokras
9. Suresh Thakur
10. Morab
11. Bansil Bhatt
12. Mukerji
13. Mallik Arjunan
14. K. L. Mukharya
15. S. Sapre

### BHOPAL XI

1. Capt. S Mustaq Ali (Captain)
2. Mohd. Afzal Khan
3. Mohd. Aslam Khan
4. Mohd. Akbar Khan
5. Ehtram Ali Khan
6. Aziz Quareshi
7. D. K. Saxsena
8. Mashkoor Ali Khan
9. S. R. Jain
10. S. J. Clive
11. Kumar
12. Bijlani
13. Anwar Islaam
14. P. M. Chohan
15. Siraso



## MEMBERS' SPACE

### UNSUNG HEROS OF INDORE CRICKET

**Vijay Nayudu, Bhagwandas Suthar and Manohar Sharma had a tete-a-tete with four senior MPCA members to elicit nostalgic memories of the bygone era.**

The game of cricket has attracted lot of people and many of them have served the game in different capacity & not necessarily as a player. Their contribution has always remained behind the scene and in more than one way they remained unsung Heros. We bring to you some of them in recognition and as an acknowledgement of their selfless contribution to the game. Following is the excerpt from personal meeting Capt. Manohar Sharma, Bhagwandas Suthar & Vijay Nayudu had with them.



**Manohar Sing Dhakad (78):**

A multifaceted personality having tried his hand in every possible creative activity, be it collection of rare books or coins or literature or postage stamps and press clippings on every interesting subject. If this is not enough, he has been an active member of Lions Club for many years and rose to be nominated as "Ambassador of Goodwill", the highest award bestowed by Lions International to any member. He has been serving MPCA in different capacity over the last 50 years or so. He has remained pillar of strength for MPCA all these years.

"I hail from Rampura village in Mandsour Dist. and came to Indore thanks to Shri. Bhandari who also belong to the same village. I have fascination for old things and did my post graduation in History. My hobby led me to collect rare items from bygone era. I once gave a coin minted by Scindias of Gwalior to Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia. He could not take his eyes off from the coin.

Like many youngsters of my time, I got attracted to the game thanks to Bhandari Club which used to participate in the local tournaments. In those days cricket was mostly played for enjoyment and winning or losing was taken as part of the game. Many people do not know that Tukoji Rao Holkar played a pioneer role in bringing the game to the city as his son Yeshwantrao Holkar was fond of the game. Tukoji Rao Holkar got J.G. Navle (WK) from Pune and then Col. C.K.Nayudu from Nagpur to built a cricket team at Indore. The rest is history. During those days matches were played at Chiman baug ground till Yeshwant Club ground came in to existence in 1936.

The Holkar team was at its zenith and we used to enjoy watching their game at Yeshwant Club. They had many towering personalities in their team. I used to enjoy watching the fielding of J.N.Bhaya. He was very quick and must have saved 30/40 runs in every match by his fielding. I used to like big hitting of Balasaheb Jagdale. I still

remember he hit huge sixes off Vinoo Mankad as if he was an ordinary club bowler. C.S.Nayudu's bowling was something special. He used to make batsman dance at the crease with his vicious leg spin & googly. The reason for success of Holkar team was their passion, enthusiasm and the team spirit under the captainship of Col. C.K.Nayudu who had uncanny ability to place his fielder in such a way that made it difficult for opposition Batsman to score runs. He should have been credited with many dismissals due to his captainship and unorthodox field placement of fielders.

I witnessed all the Ranji Trophy matches, including both the finals, played by Holkar at Indore and also the match played against the visiting West Indies team having the famous '3 Ws' in 1946. The atmosphere used to be very different with tents being set up along the boundary line. I still retained the counter foil of the ticket till date.

A lot has changed over the years and so also the game. MPCA is trying its best to remain with time and has done well to provide various facilities to sustain the legacy of Holkars."



**Gopal Tiwari (62):**

It is difficult to notice presence of this towering 6' personality as he always prefers to remain in the back ground,



meticulously doing the job assigned to him. As a Dressing room in charge of visiting teams, he tolerated all kinds of tantrum of some players with a smile and never gave a semblance of chance to complain about any short coming. Born and brought up in Indore and access to the Palace as his father Harishankar Tiwari was secretary to the Maharaja, brought him closer to the game. He is one of the "Old guard" for whom the game is far more important than any thing else. He is perhaps the only person who will take up any voluntary work with a smile whenever any team comes to play match at Indore. A true lover of the game.

"We used to reside opposite Shivaji HS ground and as such had opportunity to witness cricket being played there. Later we lived opposite A.W.Kanmadikar who was a big name in the local cricket. Mr. Kanmadikar some how liked me and used to take me to MPCA office for doing the odd job. Mr. Kanmadikar used to be one man show as matches were few and there always used be problem of funds. He had an uncanny ability to find solution to any problems faced by the Association. Every one was to rely on this "Judge" as he was called by many. My proximity to Kanmadikar sahib made me part of MPCA. In those days there used to be make shift office and every thing used to be done at the last minutes. I still remember many time we used to work till mid night, taking out cyclostyled copies of minutes / agenda during the meetings and then

have them delivered to members. Mr. J.N.Bhaya used to be Treasurer and getting any amount from him used to be great effort as he hardly had any balance in the kitty. It was like living hand to mouth.

I played bit of cricket in the school days having represented MP School team. My love for the game grew with time. We used to prepare the wicket and carry the matting from ground to ground so that matches could be played on time. Some how I began to enjoy the atmosphere at MPCA and soon started undertaking all kinds of assignment such as Manager of the team or Dressing room in charge or coordinator for visiting team. I was Manager of Central Zone on 3 occasions and a took the team to Calcutta for the Duleep trophy. My most memorable days were assisting P.C.Bramhoo as a dressing room in charge at Nehru Stadium. We used to literally clean the toilets every morning at the Stadium as local care taker appointed by Municipality seldom used to cooperate.

My sincerity appealed to many players of visiting teams and players like Azharuddin, Kapil Dev, and Mohd. Kaif always used to greet me whenever they saw me at the ground. I still remember the West Indies v/s Central / East Zone combined match in 1966 and that fantastic running catch Chunu Goswamy took.

Off the current players, I liked the way Sachin looks after his kit. He used to take out 6/7 Bats and keep them in order of preference and did not like any one touching them. I was taken a back at the informality of Sehwag. He

returned to the dressing room after scoring the record breaking 219 runs in the ODI against the West Indies and behaved as if nothing had happened.

I have seen lots of ups and downs in MPCA over the last 40 years or so and I am happy that many former players are coming together to serve MPCA. We need their services. We must do every thing possible to preserve the tradition of the great Holkar cricket."



**R a m G o p a l  
Bidasaria (80):**

A self made man with a strong determination to achieve the set

objective, overcoming all the obstacles. A firm believer of saying "if there is will; there is way." He become member in 1975 and immediately got co-opted as member of the Managing Committee. He began to serve the Asso. in different capacities. His persuasive nature often led him to act as trouble shooter to defuse any crisis that may emerge in the Asso. "Bhaijee", as he is affectionately called, served the game for over 40 years without expecting any thing in return and chose to remain behind the scene.

"I was born in Ratangarh, Dist. Bikaner. My Grandfather, Biharilal, came to Indore to join Malwa Mill as he was related to house of Seksaria who were related to Poddars by marriage. They were all in cotton business and Indore was one of the prominent centers of cotton textiles. Though my initial schooling was at Ratangarh, I shifted to Indore to join

school in std. VIII. The legendary Mushtaq Ali used to play cricket at a ground close to our house and we joined him to play cricket. I wanted to pursue studies hence joined newly opened Gujrati College which had commerce stream. I wanted to become an Engineer so opted the science stream. I went to Benaras and joined Mining Engineering College with the help of certificate given to me by Mushtaq Ali. After securing the degree in Mining I joined Coal India and served them till 1973 before returning to Indore.

I got into business but my love for the game become stronger with time. I happened to meet Karan Singh Shekavat and started developing the ITI ground to make it suitable for playing cricket. I spent over Rs.10 lacs to level the ground and created a turf wicket, the first outside the Nehru Stadium. I received very good support and cooperation from the local administration especially from Mr. Sood and Mr. Vijay Singh. I, with their help, managed to scuttle the Girls Hostel Project on ITI ground so that it can be used for playing cricket.

We thought of introducing Invitation tournament by inviting prominent players of that time so as to give good experience to local players. Thus about 8/9 teams were invited to Indore with one team from the local, the birth of "Bidasaria Trophy" took place. Many stalwarts of the period such as Sandip Patil, Sanjay Manjrekar and host of good players from Bombay, UP and other places participated in the tournaments. The tournament became very popular and became an important feature in the local calendar. The entire

expenses from lodging boarding to travel and staging of matches were taken care by us. The tournaments lasted for about 9 years and it was a turning point in my life. I still cherish those wonderful days and players like Sandip Patil, Sanjay Manjrekar still keep in touch with me. I may be one of the influential factors in getting Sandip Patil play for MP which has changed the outlook of our players for the better. It is very nice of Sandip Patil that he still cherishes memories of his days in the Tournament played at ITI ground and with MP Ranji Team whenever we meet at Mumbai.

My association with the game is now restricted due to age factor, but I still keep myself apprised of various development in the local cricket. I am happy to note that things are changing for the better and our boys are performing well."



**Damji Kanji Suthar (74):**

is one of those ardent followers of the game who not only enjoyed the game from the boundary but also actively took part in furthering the interest of the game behind the scene by extending his support, directly or indirectly, whenever opportunity came in his way. He has been actively associated with the Gujrati Samaj in furthering many social causes in addition to promoting cricket for the last 50 years. His gift to Indore cricket is S. Bhagwandas, (Godji), who unfortunately could not play for India.

"I belong to Morvi, a place near Rajkot and came to Indore in 1946 to my

uncle's place for further studies and joined Gujrati Samaj College. We used to live near Nagar Nigam Lane no. 2, very close to Topkhana. I was drawn to the game as Khandu Rangnekar's cousin used to live in the vicinity. Khandu Rangnekar was one of the popular and prominent players of Holkar team and naturally we used to hang around with his cousin and other local cricketers. Soon I became friendly with P.C. Brahmoo, Raghu Matkar, Kotwal Bros., Prabha Thakur, Moolchand Shah, Rashankar and many others, who were upcoming players and started cricket activities at the Gujrati Samaj College.

Later, I joined Bank of India and served them for over 37 years and rose to become the Regional Manager and the President of Bank of India Officers' Association. I had a privilege of working with Ashvini Chaturvedi, who played for MP in the Ranji Trophy. He was a very good cricketer besides a Banker of repute. I had an honour of opening the saving Bank a/c of Lata Mangeshkar and Asha Bhosle. They always relied on my advice. Once I dropped them at Ratlam to enable them board a train to Bombay.

The Holkar team was at its peak in the 40s & 50s and we used to enjoy watching them play at the Yeshwant Club ground. Nivsarkar and Arjun Nayudu used to open their batting and the rest of the stalwarts in Col. Nayudu, Mushtaq Ali, C.T. Sarvate, Balasaheb Jagdale, and B.B. Nimbalkar used to follow. The batting was all entertaining with huge sixes going yards out of boundary. I still remember how the Holkar batsmen, especially Balasaheb Jagdale hit huge



sixes of Vinoo Mankad, who was a big name in those days but did not get a single wicket at Indore. He must have forgotten his bowling. Hiralal Gaikwad and Dhanwade's bowling used to mesmerise the batsman on matting wickets.

I remember watching the West Indies visiting team having '3 Ws' in their team playing a match at Indore in 1946. I remember the bowling of Soni Ramadhin and batting of Headily. I was privileged to see bowling of Statham during MCC match.

Among the Indians I liked the batting of Vijay Hazare, Hemu Adhikari & Vijay Manjrekar. They had exquisite style of batting with strokes around the wicket with great timing. Most of the players in that era were not fit as we find in today's players but their game was very entertaining. Among Indore players, I feel Chunnat Dixit was very good bowler but did not get enough chance due to presence of C.S.Nayudu who used to turn the ball viciously to make the life of any batsman difficult at the crease. Shamlal Lahore was another very promising bowler who could have played more. Col. C.K.Nayudu had a deceptive bowling action & we used to tell our batsmen to be careful & look for his "Hawa Ball" a floater, which used to turn after pitching. He was quite regular in the local matches in earlier stages when the matches were being played at Chimanbaug ground.

The memories of those eras are still fresh in my mind as if it has happened yesterday. Every thing has changed over the years and so is the game but no body can take away the contribution of Indore to Indian cricket. I am happy that the tradition is going on."

## Answer to Contest 2



1. Asad Ullah 2. Anup Sabnis 3. M. Hassan 4. Bhagwandas Suthar  
5. Sanjeev Rao 6. Gulrez Ali 7. Rohit Talwar 8. S. Ansari 9. Jitendra Wegad  
10. D. Avasthi 11. Narendra Hirwani 12. Abhay Laghate 13. Mukesh Sahani  
14. Raja Banerjee 15. Mahendra Satokar

Contest Winner : Dr. Sunil Dudhale ..... **Congratulations !**

## Contest 3 : Spot the Players



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](mailto:bigrunjs.mPCA@gmail.com)

## Cricket Laughs...

**Daft Definition of CRICKET ...**

You have two sides, one out in the field and one in. Each man that's in the side that's in goes out, and when he's out he comes in and the next man goes in until he's out. When they are all out, the side that's out comes in and the side that's been in goes out and tries to get those coming in, out.

Sometimes you get men still in and not out. When a man goes out to go in, the men who are out try to get him out, and when he is out he goes in and the next man in goes out and goes in.

There are two men called umpires who stay all out all the time and they decide when the men who are in are out. When both sides have been in and all the men have out, and both sides have been out twice after all the men have been in, including those who are not out, that is the end of the game!

**Spontaneous**

Two rival cricketers were talking. ...

One said...'The local team wants me to play for them very badly.'...

The other replied...'Well, you're just the man for the job.'

**Straight Drive**

"Man, it don't matter where you come in to bat, the score is still zero." .... Viv Richards to Sunil Gavaskar at Madras 1983.

Gavaskar had decided to come in at no 4 for that test. But Malcolm Marshall got Anshuman Gaekwad and Dilip Vengsarkar for ducks.

Gavaskar had to walk in at 0/2..... Gavaskar made 236\*

**Changing mind set and approach of the 'wannabe' administrators as compared to those who took care of the game for many decades ...**

	<b>Dedicated Administrators</b>	<b>'Wannabe' Administrators</b>
1	I LOVE Cricket I LIVE Cricket My LIFE is for Cricket	Cricket is mine because it is a 'MINE'
2	Let us promote cricket and take it to the grassroots across the earth....	How to do that ??? Come on let us dig the 'earth' and take the game to the 'grass' 'roots'
3	It takes years of passionate work to 'SHAPE UP' a cricketer for his contribution at International Level	What a joke... We will 'PRODUCE' cricketers in 2-4 years
4	Cricket is played within the 'LAWS' of the game	Forget the 'Laws'... Where is the 'CONSTITUTION', 'THE ACT'...
5	Let us display the photographs of legendary cricketers and honour them...	Hello MS Assistant ... AM I IN THE 'FRAME'
6	'TREAT' Cricketers, win hearts...	'THREAT' Cricketers... enjoy 'POWER'
7	We used to jump fences and sit on the wall to watch a match, paying no heed to the scorching heat...	'PARKING FULL' ... HOW CAN I PARK MY CAR.... WHO CARES FOR THE GAME... i am cosy at my home...

*Jokes Courtesy : cricketjokes.com*

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](mailto: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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