

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

### **2004-2005**

The cricket scene in Thailand continues to grow and prosper and this has not come about by sheer luck, but through the hard work put in by the Executive Committee and others who have always lent a helping hand.

The Youth Development program is well established now and performances by our youth teams goes to prove this point. The age group teams have got into the winning ways and the taste of success has injected new enthusiasm among these youngsters. The future of cricket definitely looks very prosperous with more Thais getting into the game. It is heartening to see ethnic Thai representation in all the age groups.

The Cricket Association of Thailand (CAT) has well established itself in the international scene by hosting events on behalf of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) and participating in several overseas events.

Our domestic season has been a successful one with 18 teams participating in the adult league. Quite a few more teams could have participated in the league but for the shortage of grounds. This issue is being addressed and as time goes by more playing facilities will be available.

### **UMPIRES**

The unsung heroes of cricket have put in a great effort in officiating the games and the impeccable dress code adhered to by these officials and the umpiring standards maintained by them has lent a great appeal to this noble game. We will fail in our duties if we do not offer our congratulations and thanks to these men who uphold the Laws of Cricket.

The accreditation courses attended by our umpires have helped them in officiating in international fixtures around the Asian region. It will not be long before our umpires are recruited in to the ICC Associates Elite Panel.

### **REGIONS**

Cricket has been flourishing in the regions and thanks to the great efforts put in by our regional coaches. The regions that have shown tremendous growth are Khon Kaen, Chiang Mai, Petchabun and Chonburi. Soon the southern flavour will be added when Phuket come on board with their youth development.

## **EVENTS HOSTED BY THE CAT**

### **1. ACC Umpires Course, May 5 – 11, 2004**

This course was hosted by the CAT on behalf of the ACC and the course was conducted by the well known Test Umpire Mr K.T. Francis.

The objective of the course was to produce qualified umpires who would officiate in the domestic and international fixtures. At the end of the course examinations were held in theory and practical.

### **2. ACC/CA Level 1 Coaching Course, August 8 -13, 2004**

This course was conducted by the resource persons from Cricket Australia and fully funded by the ACC. The experienced coaches, Mr. Mark Sorrell and Mr. Alister de Winter conducted this course at the RBSC Polo Club and Harrow International School.

Participants from Malaysia, Singapore, Maldives, Brunei, Hong Kong, Nepal, Bhutan and Thailand attended this course. This course produced our first level-1 women's coach, Jeerawadee 'Tuk' Duangchakham.

### **3. ACC Curators Course, December 6 – 11, 2004**

CAT again played host to this course on behalf of the ACC. Resource persons from the New Zealand Sports Turf Institute conducted this course very professionally.

When playing surfaces are becoming the most important factor for a good game of cricket, the curatorship knowledge becomes inevitable asset for a good curator. The program concentrated on the practical sessions and the RBSC Polo Club proved to be the ideal venue for this purpose.

There were many professional curators among the participants and this gave a golden opportunity for other aspiring curators to interact with them and get first hand information on good curatorship.

This successful course will produce many a good curators who will play an important role in the preparation of good playing surfaces.

#### **4. SE Asia Tuanku Ja'afar Under-13 Cup, December 8 -11, 2004**

The annual under-13 Tuanku Ja'afar Cup was played in Bangkok at the Polo Club. The youngsters had the rare privilege of playing on a world class turf wicket. Four teams, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand participated in this tournament. The favourites Malaysia beat Hong Kong in the final to claim the Trophy.

In the plate competition Singapore scored 123 runs in their allotted 30 overs and this seemed like a big task for our young Thai lads. But the young Thai lad Nathinan Supatrakul teamed up with Arnab Choudhury to give the Thai team a flourishing start. Arnab ended up with 62 which included two mighty sixes and the young Thai lads beat the Singapore quite convincingly. David Buck was the coach of the Thai side.

#### **5. ACC Emerging Nations Tournament, February 11-14, 2005**

The ACC Emerging Nations Tournament was hosted by the CAT on behalf of the ACC at the Royal Bangkok Sports Club and RBSC Polo Club. This tournament was introduced by the ACC to give an opportunity for the developing teams to play competitive cricket at their own level.

Bhutan, Brunei, Maldives and Thailand participated in this inaugural fixture. After the round robin stage Maldives topped the table with Thailand next. In the finals played at the Polo Club the Maldives star batsman Moosa Kaleem took the game and the title away from Thailand with a fine hundred.

### **EVENTS ATTENDED BY THE CAT**

#### **1. South East Asia Under-19 Tuanku Ja'afar Cup, 2005** **April 7 – 11, 2005.**

This self funded annual fixture was played in Hong Kong at the Kowloon Cricket Club and the Hong Kong Cricket Club. Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand participated in this tournament.

In the first encounter Thailand beat the much fancied Hong Kong quite comfortably with some good all round cricket. The Captain Arjun Kumar was deservedly awarded the man of the match for his leadership. Thailand lost very closely in the second encounter to Singapore and at the end of the tournament special tributes were paid to the Thai team for their gutsy performance.

Special mention must be made of the two young coaches, Thiti Kader and Saurabh Dhanuka, who put in a lot of time and effort to bring them to such high performance stage.

**2. ACC International Development Seminar, Lahore, Pakistan**  
**May 9-10, 2005**

This is an annual event hosted by the ACC where the top executives from ICC and ACC share their views with the board members of the different Asian Cricket bodies. Well known cricket personalities like Greg Chappell, Bob Woolmer, Mathew Kennedy and others shared their expertise on cricket and governance.

**3. ACC/CA High Performance Course, Gale, Sri Lanka**  
**April 21-28, 2005**

ACC conducted this course for the coaches of all the Asian cricket playing countries to give an insight on the High Performance aspect of the cricket and the benefits thereof. This was attended by all the Asian countries coaches including the Test playing countries.

The interaction with the former test players and the hands-on input given by them on every aspect of cricket was very beneficial to the participants of this course.

**4. ACC Trophy, 2006, Kuala Lumpur, June 12-22, 2005**

This tournament is held every two years and the top two teams qualify to play in the Asia Cup and World Cup qualifiers.

Sixteen countries took part in this tournament. Thailand was in a strong group with United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Singapore. Though the Thai team did not win any games there was a remarkable improvement in their performance.

**5. ACC/CA Level-2 Coaches Accreditation Course, 2005, Singapore**  
**October 15 – 22, 2005**

Singapore hosted the ACC/CA Level 2 course and the course was conducted by the resource persons from Cricket Australia.

The participants for this were picked by the Asian Cricket Council based on the performance of the coaches who had completed the Level 1.

**6. ACC/CA Cricket Management and Administration Course, 2005, Bangalore  
October 24-28, 2005**

The aspect of governance was highlighted in this course conducted by Cricket Australia and was hosted by National Cricket Academy, Bangalore on behalf of the ACC.

The Hon. Secretary Zeeshan Khan attended this course.

**Domestic Cricket**

The adult league was conducted in two divisions with a total of eighteen teams playing in the league. Vaughan McClear did a good job in running the league smoothly.

Please see annexure for league table.

The junior league was also played at the Polo Club on Saturdays and saw some gutsy performance from budding young cricketers.

**ACC Development Officer Assignments**

Thailand is very fortunate to have Mr. Roger Binny as the development officer. His vast experience in playing and coaching has been a blessing to our players, especially the youth.

He has made several visits in the current year and has conducted clinics not only in Bangkok but in the other provinces where cricket is played. He has always made good reports about the young ethnic Thais adaptability to cricket.

He also works with the local coaches and offers them invaluable advice on the finer points of coaching.

**ACC Sports Medicine & Fitness Consultant Assignments**

Dr. Vece Paes has given a new dimension to the cricket fitness aspect. His hands-on approach has made the cricketers understand the importance of fitness and the role of sports medicine in cricket.

He has introduced cricket related skill drills which has improved the fitness and skills level in a fun oriented environment.

The coaches have been trained to keep systematic records of players' fitness and skill levels which enables the coaches to monitor the players' performance levels.

Thai cricket has been definitely moving forward and this has been possible due to the invaluable help and support offered by the Asian Cricket Council, Sports Authority of Thailand, Royal Bangkok Sports Club, Asian Institute of Technology, British Club and all our Regional administrators and of course the players.