

# **CRICKET ASSOCIATION OF THAILAND**

## **Annual Report 2005-2006**

The Association's main mission has been to develop and spread the game of Cricket all over Thailand among the Thais. Thus, a strong emphasis was placed in introducing Cricket in the Thai schools. The development plan has brought out satisfactory results as many Thai schools have started playing cricket on a regular basis

The major achievement has been the representation of Thai nationals in international tournaments in all age groups and at senior levels.

Cricket Association has hosted several international events and has also taken part in courses and tournaments held in other Asian countries.

### **Events hosted by the Cricket Association of Thailand (CAT)**

#### **1. ACC/CA Level 1 Coach Educators Course, Bangkok April 25 – 30, 2005**

This course was hosted by the CAT on behalf of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) in Bangkok. The course was run by resource persons from Cricket Australia (CA).

The objective of the course was to develop coaches to become Educators so that they could run coaching courses in their respective countries and thereby increase the number of qualified coaches in each country.

The countries participating in this course were: Malaysia, Singapore, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Hong Kong, Maldives and Thailand.

#### **2. ACC/CA Specialist Skills Coaching Course, Chiang Mai July 9 – 14, 2005.**

This course was hosted by CAT in Chiang Mai at the Prem Center on behalf of the ACC and the course was run by the resource persons from ACC and CA.

This was an advanced level course and participants were hand picked by the ACC. The course was aimed at imparting knowledge to the coaches about the very special skills required to produce skillful cricket players.

The countries participating in this course were: Bangladesh, United Arab Emirates, Hong Kong, Kuwait, Malaysia, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

#### **3. ACC Umpiring and Scorers Course, Bangkok August 12-18, 2005**

This course was again hosted by CAT on behalf of the ACC and the resource person was from the ACC.

This was course was aimed at developing qualified Umpires and Scorers in Thailand and the participants came from different parts of Thailand.

**4. ACC Sports Medicine and Physical Fitness Course, Chiang Mai  
December 16 to 21, 2006.**

This course was aimed at increasing the awareness of Fitness and the role of Sports Medicine in Cricket and was hosted by the CAT on behalf of the ACC.

The National Coaches and trainers from all the Asian Cricket playing countries attended this course and the course was run by ACC Consultant Dr. Vece Paes and his team of sports medicine and physical fitness experts.

**5. ACC/CA Umpiring Accreditation Scheme Level 2, Bangkok  
March 14 – 20, 2006**

The participants who had done well in the Level 1 course were invited to attend this course in order to take them to a higher level. This course was run by CA and hosted by the CAT on behalf of the ACC.

The selected participants came from Bhutan, Brunei, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, Singapore and Thailand.

**6. ACC Emerging Nations Tournament, Bangkok  
February 12 – 16, 2006**

This four nations tournament was hosted by the CAT on behalf of the ACC. Brunei, Bhutan, Maldives and Thailand competed in this tournament.

The tournament was played on a league format with the top two teams qualifying for the final. Thailand qualified for the final but eventually lost to Maldives in the finals.

The tournament was played at the Royal Bangkok Sports Club and RBSC Polo Club. These grounds are rated as being among the top as far as facilities and playing surfaces are concerned. The Cricket Association is indebted to the RBSC for their whole hearted support in developing cricket in Thailand.

**Events participated by CAT in other countries**

**1. ACC Under-15 Trophy, UAE  
April 11 – 22, 2005**

The Under-15 tournament is organized by the ACC every two years. Sixteen countries participated in this tournament which was held in Sharjah and Dubai. The young Thailand team did fairly well but could not make it the second stage of the tournament. Thailand is confident of performing well in the future tournaments as many young Thai players have shown remarkable improvement in their skills.

The eventual winner of the tournament was Nepal.

**2. ACC/CA Level 1 Coaching Course, Singapore  
May 24-29, 2005**

This Level 1 course organized by the ACC and run by CA was held in Singapore. Six participants from Thailand attended this course and all of them successfully completed the course to qualify as Level 1 coaches.

**3. ACC Curators Specialist Course, Malaysia  
June 13-18, 2005**

This course is aimed at developing curators who can develop and upkeep the cricket playing surfaces. This course was held in Kuala Lumpur under the auspices of the ACC. Instructors from New Zealand Turf Institute conducted the course. Khun Puttivat Poshyanonda completed the Level 3 and Jarun Kawin completed the Level 1. These qualified curators will be of great value where cricket curators are very much required.

**4. ACC Under-17 Trophy, Malaysia  
August 5 – 13, 2006**

This age group tournament is held every two years and sixteen countries participated in this tournament which is again organized by the ACC. This tournament was played in Johore Bharu and Kuala Lumpur. The tournament could not be completed due to the severe haze which affected Malaysia.

**5. ACC/CA Cricket Management and Administration Course, Brunei  
August 27 – 31, 2005**

This course was specially designed to impart Managerial and Administrative skills to the Cricket Administrators so that each country could develop strategic plans to run an efficient and standardized cricketing structure.

This course was attended by all the Asian cricket playing countries and was hosted by the Brunei Darussalam Cricket Association on behalf of the ACC. The course was run by resource persons from CA.

**6. ACC Under-19 Trophy, Nepal  
November 8 – 19, 2005**

This tournament served as the qualifying series for the Under-19 World Cup and this was held in Khatmandu on behalf of the ACC.

Sixteen countries took part in the competition and Nepal came as the eventual World Cup qualifying team.

Thailand put up a good show by beating Qatar and closely losing to Oman and Singapore.

### **7. ACC/CA Level 2 Coaching Course, Kuala Lumpur February 18 – 23, 2006**

The outstanding candidates from the Level 1 course were picked by CA to attend this higher level coaching and Thailand had three candidates attending this course. All the three candidates had successfully completed this level and are actively involved in coaching the young Thai cricketers.

From the above it is very obvious that Thailand has become the hub of many a cricketing events. Thailand is being picked to host several events due to the facilities that are available in terms of venues and infrastructure.

### **Development**

Besides the international events, CAT is giving great importance to developing talents in Thailand. With this in mind, several inter school tournaments are organized in all the regions where cricket is played. Besides, Thai Physical Education teachers are invited to attend Basic Cricket Coaching Courses so that they could introduce cricket in their respective schools. This would increase the base of cricket players all over Thailand.

The Association also provides equipment and qualified coaching personnel to schools interested in cricket at the association's own cost. The CAT has helped in putting up practice facilities and playing surfaces in several centres in Thailand.

At the introductory stage modified cricket is played with soft balls and bit a fun element is introduced in order to get the Thai children interested. This has been termed as 'Sawasdee Cricket'. This form of cricket has been appreciated by the International Cricket Council and an international award was given for this type of cricket.

### **Highlights**

The highlight of this season was the recognition by the Sports Authority of Thailand in granting 'Cricket Association of Thailand' status.

The other major highlight was the elevation of our status to that of an Associate Member from an Affiliate Member of the International Cricket Council (ICC). The ICC is world body that governs cricket and has 96 member countries and of these members only 32 are Associate Members.

The chief criteria for achieving this status was the association's dedicated work in introducing and developing cricket among the young Thai cricketers.

Besides, all these have been possible due to the full support provided by the Sports Authority of Thailand. With such a support we are confident that cricket would become a major recognized sport in Thailand.

We would like to specially thank the Sports Authority of Thailand for their support and also would like to thank the Royal Bangkok Sports Club, Asian Institute of Technology, Prem Center, Chiangmai Gymkhana Club and all our coaches and administrators.