

**2008 AMATEUR DEPARTMENT
 SCHOOL CRICKET REPORT**

It is always important as sport coordinators, administrators, coaches or devotees of the game of cricket to articulate our involvement and understand the role we play in the cricketing structure. Being selected to take up a position in the provincial schools executive, selection process or coaching comes with greater amount of responsibility and commitment to the stakeholders. By accepting such a position, it could probably mean one is prepared to contribute positively to the process of cricket development or it could mean one wants to derail the process by being self-centered.

Our Northernns Cricket School executive committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Wouter Burger needs to be commended for their ongoing contribution to better our cricket right through the year. Following the adoption of the new constitution and the elections of the new executive at the last Annual General Meeting, there was lots of uncertainty regarding the operation of the new committee structure (combining primary and high schools). The absence of some of the executive members at meetings has hindered the progression of feedback relating to school matters.

School Leagues

The primary and high schools age group leagues administrators' needs to be complemented for their efforts in drawing-up league fixtures and compiling of logs. The non submission of result cards by schools, teams not turning up for their fixtures and discipline of players on the field was intolerable this season. It is of utmost importance for school cricket coordinators and coaches to assist everyone in insuring that playing conditions and code of conduct are always adhered to.

8 players were reported for suspect actions, which lead to a lot of time being spent in trying to assist the school coaches to rectify the problems and informing umpires to handle it in a manner which could improve the game rather than preventing players from bowling. At this point I would like to challenge school cricket coordinators to insure that the individuals given the responsibility to coach cricket teams are in a position of the latest coaching certificate where some of the unpleasant issues experienced this season are addressed.

The following schools were crowned as the Northernns Schools champions for various age groups and will be presented with trophies at the NCU annual function to be held in May 2009:

Primary Schools:-

AGE GROUP	BIG SCHOOLS	MEDIUM SCHOOLS	SMALL SCHOOLS
Under 13	Constantiapark	Totiusdal	Woodhill
Under 12	Shared by Constantiapark and Anton van Wouw	Mayville	
Under 11	Lynnwood Laer	Louis Leipoldt	Woodhill
Under 10	Stephanus Roos	Tygerpoort	

Under 13 Girls - Voorpos

High Schools:-

SECTION	Platinum 1 st teams	Gold 2 nd teams	Platinum U/15	Platinum U/14
A League	Menlopark 1	Centurion 2	Menlopark	Waterkloof
B League	Eldoraigue 1	Waterkloof 4	Montana	Eldoraigue
C League	Sutherland 1	Eldoraigue 4	Pretoria Noord	
D League	Uitsig 1			
E League	Hendrik Verwoerd 1			
F League	Hatfield Christiaan 1			

Under 19 Girls - shared by Sutherland and Wonderboom

Herewith below some of the key decisions taken by the school executive committee:

- To strengthen the zonal structure, a decision was taken to move three high schools to other areas (H/S Menlopark to north, H/S Garsfontein and Midstream College to south west).
- The high school league structure changed to platinum league (1st teams) and Gold league (2nd teams) following the request from small school not wanting to play against the big schools.
- The "A" league structure of the high schools was amended for the next two years that 5 schools that qualify for the Noordvaal Competition will play 50 over cricket against one another and two top teams will represent the province the competition. AHS, PBHS and St Albans will participate in the league, as well as in the 2-day matches.
- The playing conditions for the A and B leagues were amended to include "power plays" and "free hits" in order to be inline with Coca Cola Khaya Majola playing conditions.
- The league structure of the primary school was changed on request of the participating schools. The schools in the various districts were divided into three sections of big, medium and small schools.

Special schools:-

- The Northerns provincial team participated in a national tournament during the September holidays which took place in East London. The team ended fourth place and Armand Basson was included into the South African squad.
- Kwaggasrand won the Northerns special schools league. The identified players in the schools league are currently playing for Transnet 2nd team in the Northerns club cricket league.

Deaf schools:-

- Sonitas won the Northerns deaf schools league and the identified players in the schools league are currently playing for Transnet 1st in the Northerns club cricket league.
- On behalf of the school, Northerns would like to extend their sincere thanks to Transnet Rail Engineering for sponsoring the Deaf Cricket Awards function.

Provincial Schools Cricket:

Following last years provincial teams success, it was vital to enhance our zonal identification process by involving more people as previously requested. The selection of the provincial and regional age group teams started with the various zonal trials conducted right through the provinces. The final rounds of trials were conducted in the September holidays.

The following national tournaments and regional festivals will be taking place in December:

Under 11 Regional	-	Klerksdorp from 7 th to 9 th December
Under 12 Regional	-	Witrivier from 7 th to 9 th December
Under 13 Regional	-	Klerksdorp from 7 th to 9 th December
Under 13 Girls Festival	-	Pretoria from 3 rd to 5 th December
Under 13 Standard Bank Week	-	Pretoria from 7 th to 11 th December
Under 15 PG Bison Week	-	Oudtshoorn from 11 th to 15 th December
Under 17 Weeks	-	Pietermaritzburg from 10 th to 13 th December
Under 19 Girls Week	-	Durban from 10 th to 13 th December
Under 19 Coca Cola Khaya Majola	-	Port Elizabeth from 16 th to 20 th December

The following players and coaches were selected to represent Northerns at the various national tournaments and regional festivals:

2008 Regional U/11 Teams

1.	R. Herman	Constantiapark
2.	H. Engelbrecht	Hennospark
3.	P. Pretorius	Stephanus Roos
4.	K. Flieschauer	Lynnwood Laer

13.	W. Ledwaba	Soshanguve
14.	M. Nkoko	Atteridgeville
15.	T. Lebelwane (jnr)	Mamelodi
16.	R. Maratola	Skuilkrans

5.	T. de Witt	Lynnwood Laer
6.	N. Pillay	WHPS
7.	R. Rix	Lynnwood Laer
8.	A. Malatja	Soshanguve
9.	F. Maluleka	Mamelodi
10.	V. Pangiso	Soshanguve
11.	E. du Plessis	Stephanus Roos
12.	K. Mphi	Soshanguve

17.	C. Kriek	Menlopark
18.	D. Foxcroft	Stephanus Roos
19.	W. Ludik	Hennospark
20.	A. Hulme	Menlopark
21.	T. Diphofa	Atteridgeville
22.	T. Viljoen	Lynnwood Laer
23.	T. Lebelwane (snr)	Mamelodi
24.	D. Hassan	Laudium

Coach : Ruan Pieterse
 Coach : Ronny Nevumbani

Coach : Patrick Nkuna
 Coach : Quinton Pieterse

2008 Regional U/12 Teams

1.	E. Olivier	Voorpos
2.	F. Marais	Lynnwood Laer
3.	M. Shai	Hammanskraal
4.	S. van Heerden	Hennospark
5.	T. Mashiane	Soshanguve
6.	S. Klopper	Hennospark
7.	S. Pillay	WHPS
8.	T. Mokoka	Hammanskraal
9.	T. Ramaile	Cullinan
10.	U. Boezaart	Anton van Wouw
11.	D. Lombard	WHPS
12.	A. Fortuin	Lynnwood Ridge

13.	P. Tjiane	Mamelodi
14.	D. Kirstein	Lynnwood Laer
15.	S. Mahlangu	Soshanguve
16.	H. Odendaal	Constantiapark
17.	D. Vorstman	Elarduspark
18.	A. Smit	Voorpos
19.	B. Mabena	Pierneef
20.	T. Mlangeni	Cullinan
21.	J. Malan	Constantiapark
22.	B. Magutla	Atteridgeville
23.	T. Tobejane	Hammanskraal
24.	C. Minnaar	Menlopark

Coach : Hannes Maasdorp
 Coach : Werner van Rooyen

Coach : Sello Sebola
 Coach : Sammy Maleka

2008 Regional U/13 Teams

1.	J. Phillips	Constantiapark
2.	N. Naidoo	Laudium
3.	B. Breedt	Voorpos
4.	S. Chikane	Atteridgeville
5.	J. Potgieter	Booyens
6.	J. Olivier	Hennospark
7.	H. Janse van Rensburg	Stephanus Roos
8.	E. van der Merwe	Lynnwood Laer
9.	X. van Wyk	Tygerpoort
10.	M. Lebelwane	Mamelodi
11.	K. Shiburi	Cullinan
12.	G. van Vuuren	Doringkloof

13.	M. Pretorius	Constantiapark
14.	M. Mohanwe	Atteridgeville
15.	S. Rasemenye	Atteridgeville
16.	T. Crocker	Magalieskruin
17.	S. Naidoo	Laudium
18.	M. Israel	Laudium
19.	T. van Wyk	Lynnwood
20.	R. Cater	Doringkloof
21.	K. Kigoro	Cullinan
22.	M. Matshaba	Cullinan
23.	J.P. de Wet	Skuilkrans
24.	K. Mohakare	Atteridgeville

Coach : Dean Jefferson
 Coach : Evert Laubscher

Coach : Rufus Letwaba
 Coach : Karabo Chilamramunwa

2008 Provincial U/13 Team

1.	L. Storm	Tygerpoort
2.	K. Kekana	Mamelodi
3.	S. Hicks	Doringkloof
4.	M. Morata	Soshanguve
5.	S. Chuttergoon	Springvale
6.	L. du Plooy	Menlopark

7.	S. Makitla	Soshanguve
8.	R. Moonsamy	Laudium
9.	D. Bruwer	Lynnwood Laer
10.	D. Vorster	Du Preez van Wyk
11.	M. Jimlongoe	Laudium
12.	M. Erasmus	Cornwall Hill

Coach : Richard Mabotja
 Manager : Jurgens Schreunder

2008 Provincial U/15 Team

1.	J. Sachane	Atteridgeville
2.	L. Kgoatle	Mamelodi
3.	B. Leriba	Mamelodi
4.	T. Motshweni	Waterkloof
5.	M. Coetzee	Pretoria Boys High
6.	W. van Heerden	Centurion
7.	J. Gunter	Waterkloof

8.	P. Coetzer	Centurion
9.	R. Verster (Capt)	Menlopark
10.	JP Kok	Waterkloof
11.	E. Lubbe	Afrikaanse Hoër Seuns
12.	K. Phalama	Mamelodi
13.	S. Naidoo	Laudium

Coach : Leon Jonker
 Manager : Matsobane Mosena

2008 Provincial U/17 Team

1.	H. Klaasen	Menlopark
2.	K. Maifadi	Mamelodi
3.	D. Bunn	St Albans
4.	M. Mashishi	Hammanskraal
5.	D. Olivier	Centurion
6.	D. Lubethe	Atteridgeville

7.	A. Malan	Waterkloof
8.	R. Frenz (Capt)	Menlopark
9.	T. Matsapula	Pretoria Boys High
10.	W. Phega	Rosina Sedibane
11.	T. de Bruyn	Menlopark
12.	R. Pretorius	Waterkloof

Coach : Johnny Nkuna
 Manager : Johan Muller

2008 Provincial U/19 Team

1.	G. van Buuren	Pretoria Boys High
2.	K. Nnawe	St Albans
3.	S. Naidoo (Capt)	Pretoria Boys High
4.	J. Richards (V-Capt)	St Albans
5.	C. Schoeman	Waterkloof
6.	K. Mogotlane	Mamelodi
7.	S. Mofokeng	Menlopark

8.	B. Mahlangu	Soshanguve
9.	T. Kaber	Afrikaanse Hoër Seuns
10.	E. Kemm	Menlopark
11.	B. Senoa	Mamelodi
12.	B. Steenkamp	Waterkloof
13.	W. Lues	Afrikaanse Hoër Seuns

H. Klopper (H/S Centurion), A Mothoa (Hammanskraal) and G VD Merwe (TUT) were included in the Northerns 3-day squad to play against Easterns, Gauteng and North West.

Coach : Malibongwe Maketa
Manager : Neels de Villers

2008 Provincial U/19 Girls Team

1.	B. Maboja	Hammanskraal
2.	B. Mahlakoana	Mamelodi
3.	D. Van Niekerk	Centurion HS
4.	K. Tjiane	Mamelodi
5.	L. Grindley-Ferris	Pretoria Girls High
6.	M. Liebenberg	Centurion Christian
7.	M. Smit	Uitsig HS

8.	M. Bezuidenhout	Oos Moot HS
9.	N. Botha	Die Wilgers HS
10.	R. Molekwa	Hammanskraal
11.	S. Masilela	Mamelodi
12.	S. Luus	Voorpos LS
13.	M. Mphahlele	Mamelodi

Coach : Mossie Mostert
 : Neo Sekokotla
Manager : Martelize van der Merwe

Northerns Cricket Union would like to extend their sincere thanks to all the schools and clubs that availed their facilities during the trials, as well as to all the selectors who worked tirelessly on weekdays and weekends.

Selection of the provincial and regional teams:

- July month: Zonal net trials were conducted.
- August to September: Zonal matches were played.
- 15th August 2008: NCU officials and school representatives had a meeting to finalize the final round trials process and discuss the selectors and convener for the final rounds.
- 18th August 2008: Dates for the selection process and names of selectors was sent out to all high schools.
- 16th of September: All selectors had a meeting at SuperSport Park to finalize the names of players that needs to attend the final round of trials.
- September Holidays: Primary and High school trials were conducted.
- 6th October 2008: NCU officials and school representatives had a meeting to approve the selected provincial teams.
- 7th October 2008: Names of the selected provincial and regional teams were sent out to everyone.

Selection of any team is subjective and as in all previous years, there were those who felt that their players should have been selected before others. It is important to note that a uniform process was followed to select all 6 regional and 5 provincial age group teams. Only three complaints were received following the release of the teams (one from a school, one from a parent and another one from a selector). At this juncture I am comfortable with the process that was followed and believe that the selectors, who were nominated by the school representatives and the office, had the best interest of the players and system at heart.

Herewith below some of the important highlights of our provincial school season:

- We are proud of the 3 players who represented South Africa in the U/19 World Cup held in Malaysia, namely; M. Arnold, SA Engelbrecht and P Malan. These players played a pivotal role in SA making the finals where they lost to India.
- Clive Eksteen and Harry Shapiro conducted a fruitful 2-day spinners' camp (4th and 5th April) for some of 15 top school spinners in the franchise region identified at the various provincial weeks. Eight spinners from Northerns were invited to attend.
- Potential under 17 and 18 players attended the various camps conducted by Ray Jennings and John Bailey for the franchise region to identify players for the future South African U19 teams. Theunus de Bruyn (H/S Menlopark), Ruan Pretorius (H/S Waterklof) and Joshua Richard (St Albans College) attended a 3-day National Talent Camp held at the High Performance Centre from 30th September to 2nd October.

Former Northern player, Greg Smith replaced Grant Morgan as the north region scout for the Cricket South Africa talent identification programme.

- A franchise cubs tournament will take place in Stellenbosch from 2nd to 6th January 2009, which will provide an additional opportunity for the U18 players. Trials to select the Titans Cubs Franchise team will be held on the 5th of December 2008 at SuperSport Park. Easterns, Limpopo and Mpumalanga identified players will be attending the trials. The following criteria will be used to select the team:-
 1. Fitness (Beep test, sit-ups, push-ups, bridge and squats)
 2. Skill level (Batting, bowling and fielding)
 3. Balance of the team

Coaching:

- Level 1: Three courses were conducted during the year and 58 candidates attended of which 54 completed the course successfully.
- Level 2: One course was conducted during the year and 22 candidates attended of which 21 completed the course successfully.
- Level 3: Four of the five candidates that attended the 2007 course and conducted a practical evaluation sessions in 2008 completed their course successfully. They were presented with their certificate by Mr. Anton Ferreira at the recently held coaches forum:-
 - Clive Bloemink
 - Malibongwe Maketa
 - Johan Muller
 - Greg Smith
 - Andre Seymore (was under the Easterns Cricket Union candidates)

We would like to thank the following high schools for availing their first team players to assist us with the practical evaluation of the above candidates:-
Affies, Centurion, Cornwall Hill, Menlopark and Waterkloof

Five coaches from Northern were accepted for the 2008 course which was held at the High Performance Centre and SuperSport Park, from the 9th to 14th September:-
Petrus Coetzee
Andrew de Kock
Heinrich Malan
Khomotso Masubelele
Johnny Nkuna

Developments from the coaching managers meetings:-

- Cricket South Africa will be sending coaching coordinators to all the national weeks, to have forums and assist the provincial team coaches.

Conclusion:

Amateur Sport is always faced with challenges of validating its existence to the high powers. The efforts and service rendered by our stakeholders at this level is much appreciated by Northern Cricket Union. To the Northern schools executive committee, league administrators (Johan Cloete, Koos Fourie, Phillip Kemp, Shaun Davis, Quinton Pieterse, Marius van Wyk and Mark Carroll), schools, coaches, coordinators and most important of all the players, many thanks for devoting your time to the cause of always striving to improve our cricket.

EDWARD KHOZA
COORDINATOR: Schools & Clubs