



GoodSport NEWS

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SPORTS NEWS

Federation News

FOR A BETTER SOCCER TOMORROW FOR LANKA

It was with a wry smile of irony that the former captain of the National football team, Mohamed Imran, spoke on the present plight of the game in the country and the chronology of events.

He said that he was happy about the opportunity that he was given to express on the state-of-affairs of Soccer in the country, but, at the same time sad about the situation that the game is experiencing right now. He said, "We are perched in the 207th position out of 211 countries and I firmly believe that the present structure of the game in Sri Lanka is directly responsible for this situation.

"There are many faults – primarily we have only a limited number of local tournaments and matches. As our local exposure is limited, our players find it difficult to get openings in taking part in international competitions.

"In the super league, we get the opportunity of playing in nine matches out of ten, but, now for the past 9-10 months, they have been idling without a proper tournament in place, since last January.

"Under these circumstances, where would they accommodate Sri Lankans to play in any league overseas?

"For a player to get an opportunity of playing in a league with an international flavour, they should have had played at least 35-40 matches a season."

Imran added that Lankan soccer lacks a proper calendar.

He said that when we are exposed to international competition, we keep sliding down the rankings, owing poor performance.

He added "To combat this anomaly primarily, we MUST have a proper structure."

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“Just imagine - we do not have a proper calendar even at school level. So how can we become competitive internationally?”

“Recently we played a series of Junior matches at that level.

“We just did not have under 18 tournaments at all.

“Then in three weeks, we played the trials, had practices and played an international tournament. It was played in Sri Lanka.

“We as seniors involved in the game know how we should prepare for an engagement of that nature. But when we have to play sans a proper plan and a structure, we inevitably fail.

“We just do not have opportunity to improve our standards.”

He said, it is sad to note that some neighbouring countries, like the Maldives and Bhutan, have forged ahead of us.

He added, “Why cannot we improve our standards? We were the 1995 SAF champions. We were the Independent cup champions in the Maldives in the year 2000.

“Then how did we fall? What are the reasons for this conundrum? Whoever it is – the hierarchy in the Federation, present or past, must be responsible for this parlous state of affairs!

“We must find a reason for this slide. How did the underdogs get the better of us? Sad to note, that in the yesterday, our top-grade players were a part and parcel of the Maldives top division football.

“Today our national star players take part in the division II club tournament in the Maldives.

“This means that we further slide as a football playing nation, while Maldives keeps moving up in their grades.

“We have very good players in Sri Lanka. We have very good coaches in Sri Lanka.

“We have the capacity to get out of this quagmire.

“We only need a set of people who really love the country and the game football.

“Not persons who keep thinking about their short-sighted goals. We need persons who understand and have a proper structure to back it.”

DR. CHATHURANGA RANASINGHE WINS ASIA SPORTS MEDICINE AND SCIENCE AWARD 2022

Marks the first time this award was given to a Sri Lankan



Sheikh Fahad Hiroshima-Asia Sports Medicine and Science Award in line with the Asian Games 2022, by the Hiroshima City Sports Association, Hiroshima, Japan, was awarded to Dr. Chathuranga Ranasinghe at the General Assembly of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) on the 4th of October 2022, which was held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Award winner Dr. Ranasinghe, a specialist in Sport and Exercise Medicine, is the Director of Sport Exercise Medicine Unit at the -

Faculty of Medicine of University of Colombo and a member of the Medical Committee of the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka.

This prestigious award is given to one scientist/doctor from Asia once in four years, in line with Asian Games in recognition of the scientific/medical contribution to the sport and achievements in the Asian region.

It's a competitive award selected by an independent expert panel.

It is awarded at the General Assembly of the OCA which is the mother organization of all 45 National Olympic Committees in Asia which was held in Cambodia this term.

This award is given for the first time to a Sri Lankan and will give an international recognition to the country. It will help to develop sports locally, build collaborations with the Asian countries for the development of sport, science and technology transfer, multilateral relations and promote health and wellbeing of the public of Sri Lanka.

HISTORIC MILESTONE: EQUAL NUMBER OF MEN AND WOMEN APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT BACH FOR POSITIONS IN IOC COMMISSIONS

For the first time in history, International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach has appointed an equal number of women and men to the IOC commissions for 2022.

This marks a historic milestone in the IOC's efforts to increase gender balance at its governance level, which was a key recommendation of Olympic Agenda 2020 and its successor, Olympic Agenda 2020+5. It contributes to the IOC's wider goal of fostering gender equality and inclusion throughout the sports movement.

Balanced representation

In total, there are now 546 positions across the IOC commissions, with 273 positions occupied by men and 273 by women. This gender balance represents a substantial increase in female representation since the adoption of Olympic Agenda 2020 almost eight years ago, with women accounting for only 20 per cent of commission positions in 2013. In addition, a record high of 13 of the 31 commissions are chaired by women in 2022.

The IOC commissions play a vital role in the organisation's work, focusing on specific subject areas and making recommendations to the IOC President, the Executive Board and the IOC Session.

The composition of each commission includes IOC Members and a range of external experts.

In addition to achieving gender parity across the commission positions, the IOC has also announced the first refugee athletes to be appointed to IOC commissions.

Yiech Pur Biel was a member of the first-ever IOC Refugee Olympic Team at the Olympic Games Rio 2016, where he competed in the 800m in athletics. Through a change to the Olympic Charter, the IOC enabled him to become the first-ever IOC Member as a refugee.

Cyclist Masomah Ali Zada competed at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 as part of the IOC Refugee Olympic Team, and she has now been appointed to the IOC Athletes' Commission.

Gender parity at the Olympic Games

The full gender balance of the IOC commissions follows that which the IOC already achieved on the field of play at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

Women represented 48 per cent of the competitors at the most gender-balanced Games to date. At Paris 2024, there will be full gender parity on the field of play, with 50 per cent of the quota places for women and the other 50 per cent for men.

New commission structure

Several other changes to the IOC commissions have also been made for 2022, reflecting the changing -

landscape of sport and the strategic goals of Olympic Agenda 2020+5.

These include:

- Transferring the Public Affairs and Social Development through Sport Commission and parts of the Communications Commission to a new Public Affairs and Corporate Communications Commission.
- Combining the other parts of the Public Affairs and Social Development through Sport Commission and the Sport and Active Society Commission to create a new Olympism 365 Commission.
- Merging the Olympic Channel Commission and the other parts of the Communications Commission to form a Digital Engagement and Marketing Communication Commission.
- Renaming the Marketing Commission as the Revenue and Commercial Partnerships Commission.
- Renaming the Digital and Technology Commission as the Technology and Technical Innovation Commission
- Renaming the Women in Sport Commission as the Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Commission.

ICC REAP HARVEST AFTER TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMMES



The ICC introduced the ICC Coaching Foundation Certificate in October 2021, an online course which is free and available to all aspiring cricket coaches anywhere in the world.

The entry-level coaching course is available in nine languages.

9,500 active learners have already enrolled online to access ICC courses. Over 3,200 global learners have been certified across 90 ICC Member countries.

More than 170 ICC Coach Tutors have been trained to deliver ICC courses worldwide.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) revealed some of the standout figures that highlight the significant progress made in growing the game and improving the cricketing experience for participants, since the launch of its first ever ICC Training and Education programmes in October 2021.

In the past 12 months, 9,500 active learners have enrolled online to ICC education courses, covering 90 Member countries and expanding the availability of coaching resources underpinning the vision to see more players, more fans and more nations enjoying cricket.

ICC Coaching Foundation Certificate

The first programme that was made available to aspiring coaches was an entry-level coaching course: the ICC Coaching Foundation Certificate. Launched in October 2021 as the first step on the ICC's coach education pathway, over 3,200 learners have already completed the certificate.

The course is designed to introduce learners to the basic fundamentals of cricket so that they can play a supportive role in assisting qualified coaches in delivering fun-first cricket sessions to new and beginner participants.

The ICC unveiled its Global Growth Strategy in November 2021, targeting transformative growth in participation across the ICC's 108 Member countries by providing Members with access to world-class participation programmes.

The course is completely free to access and is delivered entirely online through an innovative micro-learning approach, which enables courses to be completed at any pace and through short, sharp modules whether at home on a computer or on the move via a mobile device. Additionally, the resource is available in nine languages; Arabic, English, French, German, Indonesian Bahasa, Portuguese, *Sinhalese*, Spanish and *Tamil*.

ICC Coaching Course Level 1

Partnering with ICC Members including Cricket West Indies and the Asian Cricket Council on curriculum development, and Cricket Australia on Member workforce training, the ICC has followed the successful launch of the ICC Coaching Foundation Certificate by expanding its coach education offering with the ICC Coaching Course Level 1, which went live in March 2022.

Presented through a blended learning approach incorporating online and face-to-face training, the course certifies individuals to deliver coaching sessions to beginner participants on their own, and contains more in-depth technical information on areas such as batting, bowling and fielding.

More than 200 individuals have already been certified as ICC Level 1 coaches in its early stages, and it is forecasted that over 1,000 will have completed the qualification by the end of 2022.

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Helping drive the success of this course is a global workforce made up of ICC Master Educators (16) and ICC Tutors (over 170) spanning all five regions, who are accredited to deliver and certify these courses in ICC Member countries.

Among the countries that have already certified new ICC accredited coaches following delivery of Level 1 courses are Bahrain, Indonesia, Jersey, Mongolia, Netherlands, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia and the USA, highlighting the global appeal of the certification.

Speaking on the success of the ICC Training and Education Programme to date, ICC's General Manager – Development, William Glenwright commented: "ICC Members have told us that improving access to coach, umpire and pitch curator training programmes is one of the biggest priorities for the growth of the game.

Consequently, we have spent the past two years working with some of the world's leading experts in sport education to build the ICC's first ever comprehensive Training and Education Programme – and the response in a short space of time has been inspiring.

"Our ambition to improve the playing experience for participants at all levels of the game is reliant on increasing the number and quality of coaches, umpires and pitch curators in all Member countries.

To do that we need to ensure there is access to a world class education programme and a trained workforce to deliver these courses, when and where Members need them.

Whilst we are in the early days of the programme rollout, the response from Members and participants alike suggests that we are on the right track."

Among the countries to have benefited from the launch of ICC Training and Education programmes is Indonesia. Since ICC courses went live in October 2021, they have used the resources as a platform to respond to surging participation rates in the country, as the sport becomes more popular each day.

The ICC Coaching Foundation Certificate proved extremely successful and has formed the basis for Persatuan Cricket Indonesia to build and strengthen their cricket communities.

They have recently delivered workshops to certify ICC Level 1 Coaches, along with 16 new ICC qualified Tutors, 14 of which are female graduates from the 100% Coach Tutor Workshop which took place in July.

The success of this programme to involve provincial coaches, PE teachers and national team players highlights the growing influence of women's cricket in the country, with more females due to qualify as ICC accredited coaches and Tutors by the end of 2022, in time for the country's first ever ICC global event – the inaugural ICC U19 Women's T20 World Cup.

Speaking on the availability of ICC courses in the country, Head Coach of the Indonesia National Team Nuwan Shiroman commented: "Launching the ICC Foundation Certificate and Coach Tutor Programme came at a good time in Indonesia as we had just hosted the ICC U19 Women's Regional Qualifiers.

"Winning this inaugural tournament has motivated more youth to play cricket in this, the fourth most populous country in the world. We are already seeing all the qualified ICC Tutors from this programme being tasked with guiding a significant number of individuals into a future of cricket."

OTHER COURSES

Further courses are being finalised currently to develop and grow cricket communities worldwide, including the ICC Coaching Course Levels 2 and 3, along with courses designed for aspiring match officials in the form of the Umpiring Foundation Certificate, Level 1 and Level 2 qualifications. All of these accredited courses are expected to be made available in 2023.

In the meantime, a course designed to provide fundamental knowledge to grounds persons is now live, in the form of the ICC Pitch Curator Foundation Course. This will be the first step on the development pathway for individuals aspiring to build and maintain turf cricket pitches around the globe.

To access ICC Training and Education courses, learners can register at <https://edapp.com/icc>.

More information about ICC Training and Education courses can be found at <https://www.icc-cricket.com/about/development/training-and-education>.





CALLING FOR NOMINEES FOR THE IOC COACHES LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



The International Olympic Committee (IOC) is calling for nominees for the IOC Coaches Lifetime Achievement Awards. This is the third edition of this award.

Nominees for the IOC Coaches Lifetime Achievement Awards should have gone above and beyond in assisting athletes on their Olympic journeys to be celebrated by those they work with.

National Federations may nominate one suitable coach on or before 15 October 2022 in the nomination form (please view the link: <https://olympic.lk/nocnews/396>), together with the Curriculum Vitae and a recommendation letter from the National Federation to reach us at natolcom@slt.lk before 1600 hrs of the deadlines given above.

The NOC Sri Lanka will recommend only one nominee from Sri Lanka to the IOC Coaches Lifetime Achievement Awards.

Should you need any further information please feel free to contact on natolcom@slt.lk



APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN FOR THE SIXTH GENERATION OF THE IOC YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAMME



The International Olympic Committee – Olympic Solidarity is inviting share share this opportunity with young members of the sporting community in our territory and those who could become tomorrow's IOC Young Leaders.

The IOC's Inclusive Youth Leadership team has developed a toolkit with promotional materials such as videos, graphic images and recommendations on how to post about the programme on your social networks (please view the link: <https://olympic.lk/nocnews/397>).

The deadline to apply is 15 October 2022.

The NOC Sri Lanka will recommend only one nominee through an selection process and IOC – OS will advise us on the acceptance of the nominee in the end of October 2022.

If you are interested, kindly submit us your nominee (only Sri Lankan citizens) together with the documents listed below before 15th October 2022 to natolcom@slt.lk.

- A recommendation letter from the National Federation

- CV with their sport background
- Passport copy,
- Photograph (headshot),
- Covering letter from the candidate

Should you need any further information please feel free to contact on natolcom@slt.lk