



# GoodSport NEWS

S R I L A N K A O L Y M P I C W E E K L Y N E W S B U L L E T I N

SPORTS NEWS

*Encouraging policies on transgender athletes*



## IOC no longer will determine transgender athlete eligibility by testosterone levels

The International Olympic Committee is moving away from a focus on individual testosterone levels in transgender and intersex athletes as a way of determining those athletes' eligibility for competition.

In new guidelines for inclusion on the basis of gender identity, the IOC is encouraging policies that require evidence that transgender athletes have a competitive advantage.

In guidance released last week, the IOC pushes responsibility for making gender policies to the global -

governing bodies of individual sports, while offering to give those organizations assistance in creating fair rules.

The new directives replace a 2015 IOC policy that demanded transgender and intersex athletes have testosterone levels below a certain threshold measured through a testing process that could be damaging to the athletes.

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the new guidelines state.

“At the same time the credibility of competitive sport — and particularly high-level sporting competitions — relies on a level playing field where no athlete has an unfair or disproportionate advantage over the rest.”

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**The fight for the future of transgender athletes**

At this past summer’s Tokyo Games, weightlifter Laurel Hubbard became the first openly transgender female athlete to compete in the Olympics.

IOC officials said they hoped the new guidelines will allow sports to tailor their gender eligibility policies in more equitable ways.

They said that in studying the ways to update the IOC’s six-year-old policy they discovered that many sports federations were devising their own rules for gender eligibility.

“This is guidance; it’s not an absolute rule,” Richard Budgett, the IOC’s medical and scientific director said.



The new policy asks sports organizations to look at a number of factors including inclusion, prevention of harm and fairness when making their rules.

But the biggest seemed to be backing away from testosterone limits.

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“It’s important we broaden the evidence base,” Budgett said. “There is some interesting research that needs to come to conclusion, and that will give us much more information about performance which is the issue which is really key to determining eligibility.”

The IOC hopes to start holding workshops with sports organizations in March, right after the end of the Beijing Winter Olympics.

Courtesy: Washington Post

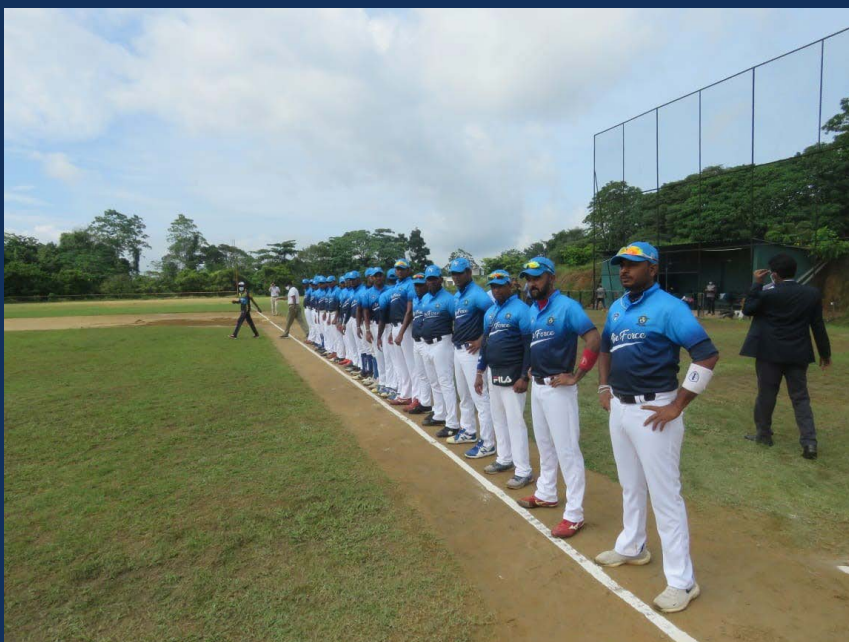
# Air Force and Royal Blues kick off Sri Lanka Baseball Knockout Championship

**A**ir Force Baseball Club and the Royal Blues Baseball Club began the 2021 Sri Lanka Baseball Knockout Championship with 10-00 and 13-00 wins respectively over UOC Strikers and Siridhamma Baseball Club.

The tournament began as Mr. Take-ma Sakamoto (Director General-South Asia Department) and Mr. Tetsuya Yamada (Chief Representative) of JICA graced the occasion to as Chief Guest and Guest of Honour respectively.

Twelve (12) teams registered to take part in the tournament as Sri Lanka Baseball recommenced Baseball in the country after a lapse of nearly 2-years.

New President Mr. Asanga Seneviratne played a key role as he took over from Nissanka Senadhipathi.



# ICC congratulates Madugalle on 200<sup>th</sup> Test as match referee

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has congratulated Ranjan Madugalle on becoming the first Match Referee to officiate in 200 Test matches. Madugalle, who is the Chief Referee of the Emirates ICC Elite Panel of Match Referees, reached the landmark in the first Test between Sri Lanka and the West Indies in Galle. To mark the achievement, he was presented with mementos on behalf of Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) and the ICC by SLC Vice President Dr Jayantha Dharmadasa and SLC CEO Ashley de Silva, respectively. Apart from officiating in 200 men's Test matches, 369 men's ODIs and 125 men's T20Is, Madugalle has also supervised 14 women's ODIs and eight women's T20Is.

Adrian Griffith, ICC Senior Manager – Umpires and Referees: “Ranjan has been a tremendous asset over the years and a significant source of inspiration for others. We have benefitted from his experience and work ethic, as someone you can turn to for guidance. “On behalf of the ICC, I would like to thank Ranjan for his years of service to the game and congratulate him on a wonderful career. We hope to continue benefiting from his expertise in the years to come.”

Ranjan Madugalle: “It is an honour and a privilege to be officiating in my 200th Test match, for it is not a milestone I had never imagined I would reach. Whilst it has taken a long time, it seems just the other day that I had taken on this role, because I have enjoyed every bit of the journey.

“This is obviously what dreams are made of and I continue to be passionately involved with the game and in my role while liaising with my colleagues from the world over.

“The passion obviously comes from my time as a player and it is my good fortune to have remained connected so closely with the game.

“I thank the International Cricket Council, Sri Lanka Cricket and all my colleagues over the years for all their help. My thanks are also due to my family and friends; without whose support it would not have been possible to have come this far.”

Emirates ICC Elite Panel Match Referee Jeff Crowe: ‘It is difficult just to think of 200 Test matches against your name, let alone be on-duty for all those days and years over four decades.

“It is an astonishing statistic to be in office and reflects his passion for cricket. Ranjan is a Five Star General when it comes to serving the game.

“On behalf of all the Match Referees and Umpires on the ICC panels, I congratulate Ranjan on reaching the milestone and wish him many more.”

Madugalle enjoyed a decade-long international career for Sri Lanka as a cricketer, in which he played each of his country's first 18 Test Matches and enthralled spectators with his stylish stroke-play. He captained Sri Lanka in his final two Tests.

He was appointed an ICC Match Referee in 1993. His first assignment was the Test between Pakistan and New Zealand in Karachi that December with a first ODI shortly afterwards. A regular at all major ICC tournaments, he has served as ICC Match Referee for four ICC Men's Cricket World Cup Finals (1999, 2003, 2015 and 2019), three ICC Champions Trophy Finals (2004, 2006 and 2013) and four ICC Men's T20 World Cup Finals (2007, 2010, 2016 and 2021).

ICC News



# FICA Stands Against Discrimination of Any Form in Cricket

**F**ICA (Federation of International Cricketers Association) Executive Chairman Heath Mills said: "FICA has been disturbed to hear of players being subject to instances of racism and discrimination in recent months around the world."

"It's clear our game needs to continue to do more to create a safe environment for people to participate, and also to speak out on discrimination. FICA commends the bravery of those who have shared their experiences and encourages any player who has suffered any form of discrimination, bullying or harassment, to contact their players' association."

"FICA will continue to support the important work of its member players' associations in this space."

"The game's leadership must continue to listen and learn, and to do everything to ensure the rights of people in cricket are upheld. There can be no excuses, we must all come together, stand up and ensure all our people are safe."

FICA Board Member Wavell Hinds said:

"Many of the issues that have come to light around the world recently demonstrate the lack of a coherent approach to issues of discrimination, and human rights issues, in cricket."

"They also demonstrate that players, collectively and individually, can be a powerful voice to change sport for the better."

"FICA will be continuing to engage with the ICC and urging it to work with players, including through FICA, to imbed internationally recognised human rights frameworks in cricket. Players' associations continue to play a critical role in ensuring player rights are protected, and ensuring that players in all countries are provided with a safe space to form and join players' associations remains key to enabling this."

"It's time now for more action and less words."

