



World League Guide

24 January - 31 January 2009

Final two spots for qualifier up for grabs



Afghanistan celebrates winning the Pepsi ICC WCL Division 4 event in Tanzania after defeating Hong Kong by 57 runs.

Six ICC Members will be hoping to move closer to qualification for the ICC Cricket World Cup 2011 when they take part in the Pepsi ICC World Cricket League (WCL) Division 3 tournament in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Afghanistan and Hong Kong, who progressed from the Pepsi ICC WCL Division 4 event, will face a tough challenge if they are to finish in the top two qualifying spots as they face Uganda, Argentina, Cayman Islands and Papua New Guinea.

The top two teams from the Division will make it to the ICC Cricket World Cup Qualifier in South Africa to be held in April 2009. They will face Kenya, Scotland, Netherlands,

Canada, Ireland and Bermuda from Division 1 and UAE, Oman, Namibia and Denmark who qualified from Division 2.

The Pepsi ICC World Cricket League provides a clearly defined pathway to progress and develop, from the leading Associate countries through to some of cricket's smallest Affiliate nations.

Afghanistan is aiming for a hat-trick in the event after it won the Division 4 event in Tanzania by defeating Hong Kong by 57 runs and the Division 5 event in Jersey by beating Jersey by two wickets in the final.

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→ Welcome messages



David Morgan

Since the Pepsi ICC Development Programme began in 1997, much work has been done to spread the game of cricket across the globe.

The ICC is now in a fantastic position where it has 104 Members spread across the five ICC Regions, which are supported through regional offices around the world.

As the first event of our centenary year, the Pepsi ICC World Cricket League Division 3 is an excellent example of the global growth of the game with the six competing teams drawn from four continents.

The creation of this competition is an important step in improving the standard of competitive cricket on the field of play amongst Associate and Affiliate Members, which complements the ICC's ongoing work to improve the governance of the game off the pitch.

There is much to play for in progressing to the

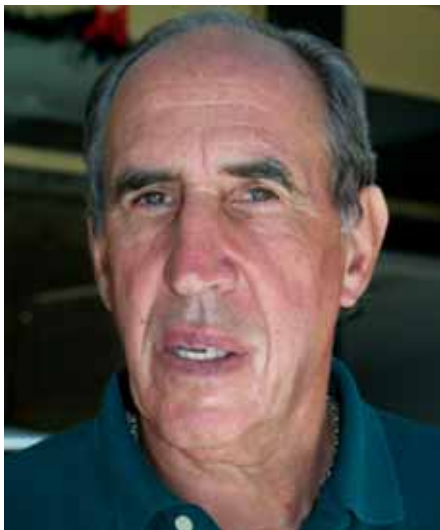
ICC Cricket World Cup Qualifier which will be held in South Africa in April.

Not only do the top four sides qualify for the ICC Cricket World Cup 2011 but the top six sides will gain ODI status, while the top ten teams will gain a High Performance grant on an annual basis for the next four years.

I therefore expect some very exciting matches at this event, following some dramatic games in the earlier stages of this competition, which has already seen events take place as far afield as Australia, Namibia, Jersey and Tanzania.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Argentina Cricket Association for their hard work and organisation in putting on this event, all the local sponsors involved in the tournament and the ongoing support of Pepsi for the ICC Development Programme.

David Morgan
ICC President



Ricardo Lord

On behalf of the Argentina Cricket Association, it gives me great pleasure to welcome all the participating teams to the Pepsi ICC World Cricket League Division 3.

It is very exciting to be hosting the first ICC event of the centenary year which promises to be a great period for international cricket with tournaments such as the ICC Women's World Cup, ICC World Twenty20 and the ICC Champions Trophy.

I would like to thank all those stakeholders who have played an important role in making this event, which is the biggest tournament ever to be staged in Argentina, happen. A lot of hard work has gone into making this tournament a success.

It should be an excellent week of cricket, with

all six competing sides desperate to try and seal one of the two places that will take them to the ICC Cricket World Cup Qualifier in April.

We hope that the publicity generated by the event will encourage many more people in Argentina to take up the sport and build on the growing interest in cricket in South America.

I am sure that all visitors to Buenos Aires for the tournament, many of whom will be coming to Argentina for the first time, will enjoy their time here and hopefully have time to see the attractions in this wonderful city.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all the competing teams the best of luck.

Ricardo Lord
President, Argentina Cricket Association

Pepsi ICC World Cricket League Explained

The Pepsi ICC World Cricket League has been created to provide regular one-day cricket opportunities for those ICC Members outside the top tier.

It is a seven-division structure designed to afford teams of various standards the opportunity to play regular one-day cricket against similarly ranked opponents regardless of where in the world they are located.

It will also ensure that the qualifying pathway for the ICC Cricket World Cup is open to the 94 Associate and Affiliate Members.

The Division 1 event - won by hosts Kenya in February 2007, Division 3 event - won by Uganda in Australia in May 2007, Division 2 event - won

by UAE in Namibia in November 2007, Division 5 event - won by Afghanistan in Jersey in May 2008, and the Division 4 event - won by Afghanistan in Tanzania in October 2008, have already illustrated the benefits of the competition to Associate and Affiliate cricket.

The new structure of one-day cricket sits on top of the regional qualifying events to create a pyramid in which all teams have an opportunity to develop and an incentive to improve.

Promotion and regulation are possible between divisions as each team seeks to move up the world cricket rankings.

The Pepsi ICC World Cricket League Division 7 and 6 events will take place for the first time in 2009.



Hamid Hassan of Afghanistan celebrates picking a Hong Kong wicket at the Pepsi ICC WCL Division 4 event.

For more information go to
www.pepsiiccworldcricketleague.com

→ Teams

Afghanistan

- Qualified for the event after winning the Pepsi ICC World Cricket League Division 4 event, remaining unbeaten in the tournament.
- It defeated Hong Kong in the final of Division 4 by 57 runs to claim the tournament title.
- The side is aiming for a hat-trick in the tournament, after also winning the Division 5 event in May 2008, beating Jersey by two wickets in the Final.
- The team finished third at the Asian Cricket Council Trophy Elite 2008, losing in the semi-finals to Hong Kong by 25 runs.
- Current joint ACC Twenty20 champions along with Oman, after a dramatic tied final in 2007.

Argentina

- Hosts Argentina became an Associate Member of the ICC in 1974.
- It achieved promotion from the inaugural Pepsi ICC World Cricket League Division 3 event in 2007, losing to Uganda by 91 runs in the final.
- However, it returned to Division 3 after finishing sixth in the Division 2 event in November 2007.
- The squad had a poor run in the ICC Americas Division 1 tournament in November 2008, where it lost four of its five matches. However, on the positive front, Alejandro Ferguson was named the Best Wicketkeeper for the event.
- CEO of Argentina Cricket Association (ACA), Gary Savage, is part of the squad along with captain Esteban MacDermott - Development Manager, and coach Hamish Barton - High Performance Manager.



Lucas Paterlini of Argentina in action during the ICC Americas Division 1 tournament in November 2008.

Cayman Islands

- Associate Members since 2002, Cayman Islands qualified for Pepsi ICC WCL Division 3 in Argentina after being placed fourth in the Division 3 tournament in Australia in May 2007.
- The team was also placed fourth in the recent ICC Americas Division 1 tournament held in November.
- It defeated Argentina in the tournament by 108 runs after skipper Pearson Best scored a century and Kevin Bazil picked 5-13.
- Cayman Islands defeated Hong Kong by eight wickets in Division 3 with Franklyn Hinds picking 4-22. It, however, lost to Uganda by 26 runs and Argentina by four wickets in the semi-final.
- It defeated Canada in the ICC Americas Division 1 tournament in August 2006 with Troy Taylor and Ronald Ebanks picking up four wickets each.

Hong Kong

- Hong Kong is the current champion of ACC Trophy Elite 2008 which it won by beating UAE (Pepsi ICC World Cricket League Division 2 Champions) in the finals.
- The team was placed second in Pepsi ICC WCL Division 4 after losing the final to Afghanistan, having also lost to them in the group stages.
- It competed in Asia Cup 2008 and also played full ODIs against India and Pakistan. It had Pakistan at 161-7 at one stage in one of the group matches, with slow left-arm spinner Nadeem Ahmed taking 4-51.
- The side is coached by former England player Aftab Habib, who took the job in October 2007.
- The team performed well in the Hong Kong International Cricket Sixes 2008 beating the mighty "All Stars" and Sri Lanka on the way.

Papua New Guinea

- Papua New Guinea became an Associate Member of ICC in 1973.
- It finished 11th in the ICC Trophy in 2005, defeating Uganda by 1 run in the 11th/12th play-off match.
- They qualified for the Pepsi ICC WCL Division 3 event in January 2009 after they were placed third in Division 3 in May 2007 in Australia.
- In Division 3, PNG defeated Cayman Islands by 23 runs and Italy by eight wickets.
- PNG Cricket Development Officer John Ovia is also part of the national squad.

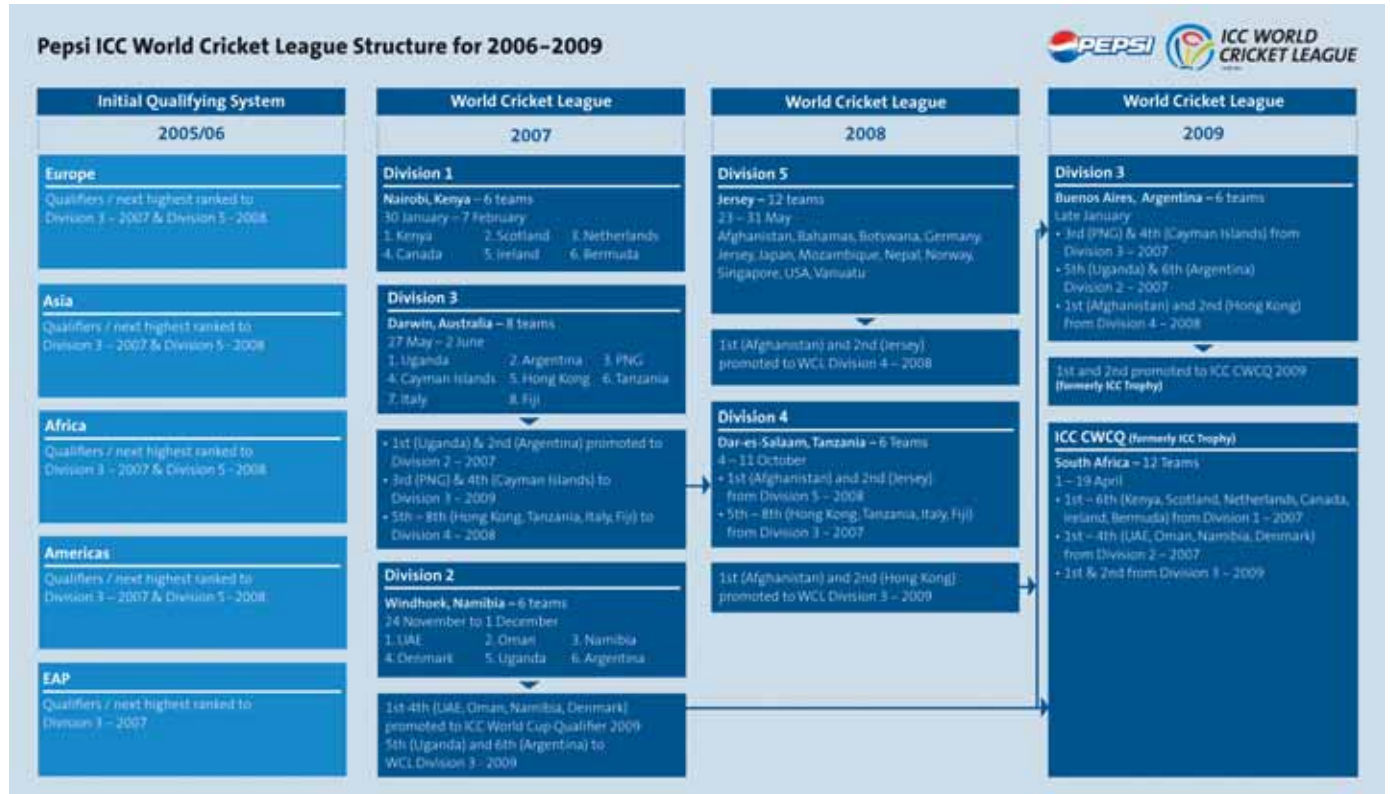
Uganda

- Uganda became an Affiliate Member of the ICC in 1966 and was raised to Associate status in 1998.
- The team emerged the winner of the Pepsi ICC WCL Division 3 event held at Darwin, Australia in May 2007 to progress to Division 2.
- It remained unbeaten in the tournament and beat Argentina by 91 runs in the final after a brilliant all-round performance by Frank Nsubuga.
- However, it finished fifth in the Division 2 event and was relegated back to Division 3 in Argentina.
- Uganda illustrated its potential to compete against some of the leading international teams, when it defeated Kenya by two wickets in the Kenya Twenty20 Quadrangular tournament held in Nairobi in September 2007 and also put in a spirited performance against Bangladesh as it lost by 21 runs.



Uganda celebrates winning the Pepsi ICC World Cricket League Division 3 event in May 2007. (Simon Flavel, Territory Times Newspapers)

→ Pepsi ICC World Cricket League Global Structure



Pepsi ICC World Cricket League Division 3 Schedule

Day	Date	Belgrano	Hurlingham	Corimayo
	Thu 22 Jan		Teams Arrive	
	Fri 23 Jan		Practice & Match Meetings	
1	Sat 24 Jan	PNG v Cayman Islands	Argentina v Hong Kong	Uganda v Afghanistan
2	Sun 25 Jan	Afghanistan v Hong Kong	Cayman Islands v Uganda	PNG v Argentina
3	Mon 26 Jan		Rest/Reserve	
4	Tue 27 Jan	Uganda v PNG	Argentina v Afghanistan	Hong Kong v Cayman Islands
5	Wed 28 Jan	Cayman Islands v Argentina	Afghanistan v PNG	Hong Kong v Uganda
6	Thu 29 Jan		Rest/Reserve	
7	Fri 30 Jan	Argentina v Uganda	PNG v Hong Kong	Cayman Islands v Afghanistan
8	Sat 31 Jan	Final	3rd v 4th Playoff	5th v 6th Playoff
	Sun 1 Feb		Teams Depart	St George's College



Argentina's Alejandro Ferguson was named the Best Wicketkeeper at the ICC Americas Division 1.



Hong Kong will hope to repeat their success at the ACC Trophy Elite 2008.

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