



**AFRICAN CRICKET ASSOCIATION
CRICKET MALAWI REPORT
JANUARY TO AUGUST 2020**

FEBRUARY 2020

MCU U19s and SENIOR MALE AND FEMALE DOUBLE WICKET TOURNAMENT

On the 22nd and 23rd of Feb 2020, the MCU ran the Male and Female U19s and Senior Double Wicket Tournaments at the St Andrews International High School. A total of 60 female U19s played on the morning of the 22nd of Feb while 60 women played in the afternoon edition for the seniors.

Likewise, 60 U19s males played on the morning of the 23rd of Feb while 60 senior men played in the evening.



Image 1: Male U19s Pairs Cricket Tournament Champions

MULANJE DISTRICT TEACHER'S TRAINING COURSE

MCU Staff conducted a teacher training course in Mulanje which involved teachers from 10 schools in the area. Schools that participated are Providence, Thawale , Lauderdale, Khunguni, Changoni, Chumani, Chisitu, Njedza, Tunthama and Mulanje Primary schools. The course ran from 17th to 25th of Feb 2020.



THYOLO DISTRICT TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM

MCU Staff conducted a teacher training course in Mulanje which involved teachers from 6 schools in the area. Schools that participated are Ntambanyama, Mchenga, Nagwengwere, Makwasa, Malamulo and Nandife primary schools. The course was run from the 25th to 28th Feb 2020.

APPOINTMENT OF OPERATIONS MANAGER

February saw the appointment of a full time Operations Manager by the MCU. Arjun Menon was appointed in this role and comes with 17 years of experience working across game development, high performance, coach education and administration. Arjun Menon will now oversee the cricket operations department consisting on seven full time and eight part time staff.

MARCH 2020

CESSATION OF CRICKET ACTIVITIES

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic reaching Africa's shores and the government's order to close all schools, all on field cricket activities were stopped by the MCU. These included all development training sessions run on Saturday and Sunday at the St Andrews International High School. All teacher training courses that were due to be run in March.

REBRANDING OF ASSOCIATION

Steps were taken in March to look at rebranding the association to commemorate a 100 years of cricket in Malawi and a fresh approach in how the association could reach out to the Malawian public. A graphic designer was appointed and a six-week exercise was undertaken to come up with a final logo. The official launch for this logo unfortunately could not take place due to COVID 19 restrictions but a soft launch in being considered in Sept 2020.

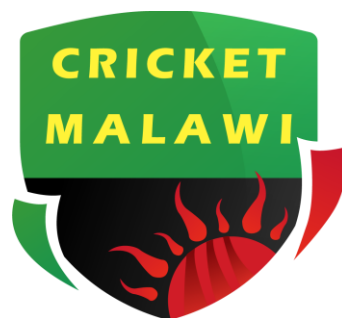


Image 2: Old logo (L) and New Logo (R)



APRIL 2020

CRICKET MALAWI STAY AT HOME SUPER OVER CHALLENGE

To spread the message in trying to curb the COVID 19 pandemic and to keep the national men's team and male U19s teams during a phase of social distancing and the cessation of all cricket activities, a dice game was invented by the operations staff after which a video was made explaining the rules.

This game could be played over a whatsapp call between team mates and a league was played via this medium for the national men's team and also the U19s teams. This ensured that all team mates kept interacting with one another during a no contact phase and also helped as a team building exercise.



Image 3: Cricket Malawi Super Over Challenge Flyer

MAY 2020

ONLINE FITNESS TRAINING SESSIONS

To ensure that the Men's National team was kept engaged in some sort of physical activity during the cessation of all cricket activities, the MCU partnered with Zimbabwe Cricket's Physical Trainer, Walter Karimanzira to run online fitness sessions for the Malawi Men's National team for a period of 4 weeks. Sessions were run in two batches in the evenings from 7.00-7.45pm and 9.00-9.45pm via Zoom.



JULY 2020

ONLINE UMPIRING COURSE

Cricket Malawi organized an online umpiring course which was presented by International Cricket Council (ICC) Development Panel Umpire from Singapore, Sarika Prasad. Sarika Prasad is a very experienced international umpire and also a certified course presenter.

22 participants took part in the course which included Cricket Malawi Operations Staff, Men's and Women's Senior Team players, school teachers from St Andrew's International High School and members of Affiliate clubs from Lilongwe and Blantyre.

The course was run on the 18th, 19th, 25th, 26th July and 1st of August, these sessions were conducted in three hour blocks each time. On the 1st of August all participants sat through an online test.

All participants who have passed the test will now have to umpire in five Cricket Malawi sanctioned matches before they are assessed through reports and after which they will be presented with a Cricket Malawi Level 1 Umpiring Certificate.

This should improve the levels of match officiating in Malawi which has struggled for many years due to many qualified umpires getting older and retired. Umpires who show good potential will be referred to the ICC Africa to be hopefully sent for higher qualification courses and invited to umpire in regional tournaments.



Image 4: Screenshot of online Umpiring Course Participants



AUGUST 2020

ORIENTATION TO CRICKET MANUAL

The month of August has been spent putting together an Orientation to Cricket Manual which has been written not only in English but also in Chichewa to be able to ensure that all Malawians who are introduced to cricket can have access to better understanding the game.

The proofreading stage and manual design stage are almost complete and Cricket Malawi hopes to have the books printed by October. These books will be distributed to all participants who attend Cricket Malawi's Orientation to Cricket Course. This would be open to not only teachers but media personnel, sport ministry personnel and any other segment of Malawian society who would like to know more about the game. Each Orientation to Cricket Course would take place within a day.



Images 5: Sample Pages of Orientation to Cricket Manual