

SIERRA LEONE CRICKET ASSOCIATION-SLCA PROGRESS REPORT ON FACILITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND.

Cricket Infrastructure has been a serious challenge facing the Sierra Leone Cricket association-SLCA That the SLCA is about to address for the sport to grow.

As part of its strategic cricket development plan 2019-2029, the Sierra Leone Cricket Association is committed to leading the game like it has never been led before. Achieving the goals set in its Schools Cricket development /growth roadmap 2021, which will see an increase in female participation, strong school competition numbers and increasing overall participation to ninety one thousand (91,000.00) at all levels by December 31st 2021, reaching a target of 10% of the total population of Sierra Leone as Cricket participants by 2029, and cricket being part of the culture of majority of Sierra Leoneans in the long term, is Sierra Leone Cricket Association's top most priority.

The SLCA is focusing its resources to a small number of bigger priorities that can make significant progress in the growth of cricket in Sierra Leone.

Achieving these, would require upgrading of existing playing and training facilities, and the development of additional grounds and facilities to sustain increasing participation demand in the near future and long term.

The SLCA is working to raise its standards to improve the quality of experience of its players, Coaches, Umpires, Spectators and volunteers.

Here are highlights of SLCA's Cricket infrastructure development projects.

PRINCE OF WALES SCHOOL CRICKET GROUND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT.

The SLCA undertook additional construction work at the POW School Cricket Ground at Kingtom Freetown, approximately (100) meters from the Kingtom Cricket Oval in the third Quarter of 2019 with the aim of making it possible to host the Marylebone Cricket club MCC tour of Sierra Leone and continued hosting of SLCA's domestic cricket league matches, national training, cricket coaching clinics and prepared the ground for grassing.

Some of the facilities constructed were Dugouts, Pavilion with (300) seating capacity, earth work, renovation of the changing rooms and additional toilets and showers. See attached pictures below.



VICE CHAIRMAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS SIERRA LEONE CRICKET ASSOCIATION MARTIN MICHAEL TURNING THE SOD FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PRINCE OF WALES SCHOOL CRICKET GROUND 300 SEATER PAVILION.



PRINCE OF WALES SCHOOL CRICKET GROUND PAVILION UNDER CONSTRUCTION



VICE CHAIRMAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS SIERRA LEONE CRICKET ASSOCIATION WITH PRESSMEN AT THE SITE OF THE POW SCHOOL CRICKET GROUND PAVILION SHORTLY AFTER TURNING THE SOD

In a bid to match and sustain the increasing participation demand and ensure effective Schools cricket development, the SLCA is currently undertaking facility development projects in Schools in Bo District Southern region, Kenema District in the Eastern region and will Magburaka in the Tonkolili District North-western region.

These facilities when completed, will serve as cricket development Hubs for the respective Districts and regions, and also host domestic cricket league matches. Below are photos of ongoing and completed construction work at various Schools.



GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL BO SOUTHERN SIERRA LEONE CRICKET GROUND MAIN PITCH UNDEER CONSTRUCTION



GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL BO PRACTICING NETS UNDER CONSTRUCTION



GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL BO SOTHERN SIERRA LEONE PRACTICING NETS

COMPILED AND SUBMITTED BY



GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL BO CRICKET GROUND SCOREBOARD



GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR BOYS KOYEIMA CRICKET GROUND BO DISTRICT SOUTHERN SIERRA LEONE

UNIVERSITY CRICKET OR UNICRICK

As part of the SLCA's strategic cricket development plan 2019-2029, the SLCA in collaboration with the Administrations of Njala University NU in Moyamba District Southern Sierra Leone, 125 miles off Freetown the Capital of Sierra Leone, and Fourah Bay College University of Sierra Leone has been working on reactivation of effective cricket at both Universities under the SLCA's University Cricket

or UNICRICK project. The project is also aimed at creating linkage for School kids to continue playing cricket from Primary to Junior Secondary to Senior/ High Schools to University level. So that School pupils and students will have opportunity to be playing cricket throughout the studies and be involved into SLCA's domestic league structure.

Also, to expand playing and training Venues, and hosting of International tournaments.

In addition to the current ground at Njala Campus Njala University, which the SLCA has been upgrading to meet International standard, on the request from the Board of SLCA, The Njala University Administration has provided twenty (20) Acres of land to the Sierra Leone Cricket Association for the construction of a Cricket Academy with High Performance structure, and playing grounds with practicing Arenas. A Memorandum of Agreement between the SLCA and Njala University Administration with assistance from the ICC Africa regional office in Johannesburg South Africa is currently being drafted for both parties to sign.

In the other hand, The Administration and Student Union Government of Fourah Bay college University of Sierra Leone received donated cricket equipment from the Sierra Leone Cricket Association for the Fourah Bay College FBC cricket team on 3rd September 2020, and land space was provided by the **FBC** administration to the Sierra Leone Cricket Association for the construction of a Standard cricket Ground, work has started on the land. See Photos below and link to articles on the FBC cricket Project.



NJALA UNIVERSITY CRICKET GOUND PRACTICING NETS



NJALA UNIVERSITY CRICKET GROUND TURF PITCH UNDER CONSTRUCTION



MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB AGAINST THE PATRIOTS OF SIERRA LEONE AT NJALA UNIVERSITY GROUND NJALA CAMPUS MOYAMBA DISTRICT SOUTHERN SIERRA LEONE ON 1st DECEMBER 2019



FOURAH BAY COLLEGE UNIVERSITY OF SIERRA LEONE CRICKET SITE BEING CLEARED FOR CONSTRUCTION WORK TO START

SUSSEX CRICKET ACADEMY PROJECT

The Sierra Leone cricket Association has secured a land space from the government of Sierra Leone with a total area of 29.0124 Acre at Sussex in the Freetown Peninsula approximate 13 miles or 30 minutes' drive from the City centre, an area where one of Africa's magnificent beaches are located.

This land will be utilised for the construction of a Cricket Academy, four cricket grounds with turf pitches and grassed outfields, practicing arenas, indoor facility, parking lots, and resort. Consultations for mobilisation of funds for this all important project between the SLCA and its development partners and sponsors including the ICC and the government of Sierra Leone are ongoing for the commencement of the project which is planned for the first quarter of 2021.

See photos of signed survey plan of the Sussex Cricket Site, both Ariel and ground views of the Site



SUSSEX CRICKET SITE AIRIEL VIEW

FRANCIS TREVOR SAMURA CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER SIERRA LEONE CRICKET ASSOCIATION

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Despite the COVID-19 challenges faced by the Sierra Leone Cricket Association, the SLCA, in collaboration with the Africa Cricket Association, Australia Cricket Institute and CricHeroes in India, has been conducting via online, Cricket coaching online level 1 course sponsored by the Africa Cricket Association and the SLCA, online scoring course by CricHeroes and the SLCA, umpires and COVID-19 safe Sports coaching for coaches and online umpiring by the SLCA.