



## ACF News

### ACF Chairman Message - Jagan Jagannathan



Spring 2015 has been full of US cricket news, some of it on the field but much of it off the field. American Cricket's only domestic league tournament, ACF's ACCL 2015 is off to a good start with some surprise wins by upstart teams that may make the October finals have many new faces. The US U19 team finished second in the ICC Americas event in Bermuda after losing some very close matches. The US Men's team finished strongly with three wins in a row against quality opposition but fell short of the playoffs to determine the four countries who will go to the 2016 T20 World Cup. Congratulations to both the U19 and the Men's team for their solid and spirited efforts on the international stage.

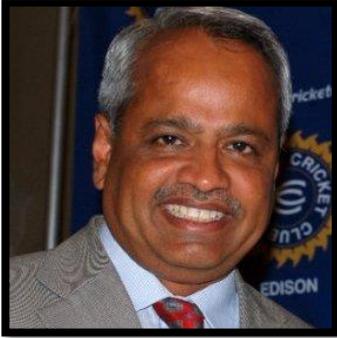
Organizationally, ACF amicably parted ways with Jamie Harrison who served as its CEO for 18 months and brought sustained energy and initiative to US cricket. Jamie decided that it was time to move on to focus on U13 youth cricket and we look forward to much success on that front.

Off the field, an ICC taskforce led by David Richardson and Tim Anderson spoke to as many of the US stakeholders as possible including most of the ACF leagues as well as ACF itself. The result of this overdue comprehensive assessment was ICC board's suspension of USACA. The suspension was based on a long list of significant issues spanning governance to domestic cricket to selections to finances that seriously compromised accountability, transparency, democracy and inclusiveness in US cricket.

Since the USACA suspension, ACF has been actively working with domestic leagues, clubs and players, both ACF members and non-members, as well as with the ICC and other well-wishers to ensure that US cricket can continue to develop unabated and US cricketers, regardless of their affiliation, get the opportunities they richly deserve.

Ultimately the best yardstick to measure unity in US cricket is to measure growth in quantity and quality of cricket by all the constituents - hardball, softball, tape ball, men's, youth, women's, school, college and seniors. US cricket simply cannot afford to leave anyone behind.

**Get to know ACF Board (ACF CRICKETER will introduce one board and A&JC member with each issue)**



**Avinash Gaje – ACF Board Director**  
*President - New Jersey Soft ball Cricket League (NJSBCL)*

Avinash is a founding member of NJSBCL, ([www.njsbcl.com](http://www.njsbcl.com)) a registered not-for-profit organization which has grown to over 120 clubs since it was founded in 2003. It is now the largest soft ball cricket league in the USA, with more than 3,000 individual members, representing over 120 clubs. The growth of the league also prompted a social engineering experiment of co-operative principals, where all the members contribute time for the successful execution of league objectives.

The league provides its members with a platform away from the home and office environments to be rejuvenated through physical exercise, without the time commitment needed for leather ball games. Soft ball matches typically start at 8:30 AM and are usually over by 11:00 AM.

Avinash has been an active cricket player for the last 35 years, being coached by the best in cricket from the Mumbai Cricket Association. He has played for the Bombay Cricket Association (BCA), and has represented his school, junior college, engineering college and university teams. He has participated professionally in the Kanga and Times Shield leagues.

Avinash is a mechanical engineer with a post graduate degree in Management from the prestigious Bombay University.

Apart from initiating start-up companies, he has led successful management teams in multi-national organizations, and currently owns a software company that specializes in Pharmaceutical Services.

In addition to his undying love of the sport and commitment to promoting the game of cricket to schools, colleges, and the community in general, Avinash is also active in several community-based and non-profit organizations in the USA and India.

Avinash can be reached at [agaje@yahoo.com](mailto:agaje@yahoo.com)



**Durga Das – Member, Advisory & Judiciary Committee (AJ & C)**  
*Managing Partner and Chief Catalyst of Das Star*

Durga Das is the Founder and Managing Partner of Das Star, created as a vehicle to generate a new model of investing, enabling first entrant entrepreneurs to raise money and build expertise, leading them towards additional future funding or buy-outs. Ms. Das has more than 20 years experiences in the critical early stages of start-ups – with skilled emphasis on creation, management, business development, marketing and sales.

Durga's experience began with her own entrepreneurial venture while still in school - DD Sports (1985-1990); a sports shop where she also manufactured her own range of sportswear. Ms. Das later set up Cosmopolitan Golf Club Pro Shop and the Pro Shop at the Coimbatore Golf Club. In 1987 whilst in her first year of college she established an advertising agency, DD Advertising, which had branches in Coimbatore, Chennai and Bangalore, India. She also set up the first rural advertising network with Brook Bond as her client in 1987.

Durga Das soon ventured into technology by joining Indigo Technologies, (1994-1998); a company that helped automate stock exchanges around the world, where she served as Director – US & European Business encompassing both management and sales. Indigo Technologies Inc. was acquired in 1998 by SSI and NASDAQ.

An active world traveler, she can also be found in some remote corner of Africa hunting tigers (with a camera), smelling coffee beans at her resort in South India or visiting friends in Paris or Rio de Janeiro. Durga is also a passionate golfer who played the amateur circuit in the 90s and an avid sailor. She rides a Harley Fat Bob on weekends.

Durga has an impressive record of serving the sport of cricket at different levels throughout her 20-year association with the game. More recently, she was the captain of the USA Women's team in 2010 that won the ICC Americas Cup, and a player on the 2011 US national team in the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup Qualifier in Bangladesh.

Durga is well-respected and admired in cricketing circles around the world. Of late she has been the captain of the CanAm United women's cricket team which brings cricketing talent from Canada, North America, and around the world to get real experience in playing around the world; as opportunities for women to experience match play are limited. Through this platform CanAm United hopes to reach out to players and attract them to the game of cricket in North America. So far CanAm United has played in Atlanta the past two years and in Argentina in 2015. Her cricketing accomplishments also include;

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Captain CanAm United Women's team 2014, 2015

2011 Vice-Captain – Central Zone, India

1990 Captain – Indian Universities

1989-90 Member – World Cup Squad India

1990 Represented South Zone and Tamil Nadu, India 1979-89

Durga can be reached at [durga.das@gmail.com](mailto:durga.das@gmail.com)



**ACCL ROUND-UP – Total of 19 matches played up-to-dated between member leagues throughout United States.**

## Basic Results Report



### Newberry American Cricket Champions League

For 1-Feb-2015 to 20-Jul-2015

Printed: 21/07/2015

#### Newberry American Cricket Champions League - Mid Atlantic Division

10 - May - 2015

Home Team		Away Team	
<b>W</b> Greater Philadelphia Cricket League, Greater Philadelphia Tigers	361/9 (40.0 overs)	<b>L</b> Washington Metropolitan Cricket Board, Washington Eagles	271/10 (34.5 overs)

07 - Jun - 2015

Home Team		Away Team	
<b>W</b> Washington Metropolitan Cricket Board, Washington Eagles	127/10 (26.1 overs)	<b>L</b> Cricket League of New Jersey, New Jersey Gladiators	57/10 (19.3 overs)

14 - Jun - 2015

Home Team		Away Team	
<b>L</b> Cricket League of New Jersey, New Jersey Gladiators	161/10 (33.0 overs)	<b>W</b> Greater Philadelphia Cricket League, Greater Philadelphia Tigers	241/10 (37.4 overs)
<b>L</b> Mid Atlantic Cricket Conference, Virginia Lions	134/10 (31.4 overs)	<b>W</b> Washington Metropolitan Cricket Board, Washington Eagles	186/9 (40.0 overs)

#### Newberry American Cricket Champions League - Southwest Division

18 - May - 2015

Home Team		Away Team	
<b>W</b> Arizona Cricket Association, Arizona Scorpions	277/10 (0.0 overs)	<b>L</b> Orange County Cricket Association, Orange County Cougars	97/10 (0.0 overs)

01 - Jun - 2015

Home Team		Away Team	
<b>W</b> Arizona Cricket Association, Arizona Scorpions	213/9 (40.0 overs)	<b>L</b> Southern California Cricket Association, SCCA Kings	58/10 (21.5 overs)

14 - Jun - 2015

Home Team		Away Team	
<b>W</b> Orange County Cricket Association, Orange County Cougars	182/10 (36.0 overs)	<b>L</b> Arizona Cricket Association, Arizona Scorpions	147/10 (0.0 overs)

13 - Jul - 2015

Home Team		Away Team	
<b>L</b> Southern California Cricket Association, SCCA Kings	135/10 (33.0 overs)	<b>W</b> Orange County Cricket Association, Orange County Cougars	136/5 (28.0 overs)



Home Team

**W** Massachusetts State Cricket League, Massachusetts Patriots

219/8 (40.0 overs)

Away Team

**L** Southern Connecticut Cricket Association, Southern Connecticut Robins

117/10 (29.2 overs)

## South West Region

### First Southern California Youth Cricket Academy Inter-Academy Cricket Match



After a year of consistent cricket practice, Southern California Youth Cricket Academy (SCYCA) played its first hardball cricket match against San Diego Cricket Club Youth Academy (SDCCYA) at Centennial Regional Park. The pitch was well-prepared for a great game of cricket. By 8:30am players from both teams gathered at the field. There were over 50 parents, friends and supporters; as spectators were all excited to start the first ever cricket match between the two academies.

Two matches were played – a T20 and a 15-Overs with SDCCYA winning both matches.

It was a great opportunity that provided delightful entertainment for all the youth players as well as parents and supporters, and the beginning of a long-term relationship between SCYCA and SDCCYA.



### California Youth Cricket Gain Momentum

Two visiting teams California Cricket Academy (CCA) and San Diego Cricket Club Youth Academy (SDCCYA) visited Mission Viejo, Orange County for a day of youth cricket. CCA took on SCYCA in the morning and SDCCYA in the afternoon, in T20 encounters. The more experienced CCA team won both matches convincingly.

SCYCA is organizing an Under-13 cricket tournament for July 24th in Tustin, Orange County. Four teams are expected to participate for the NATA Championship Trophy sponsored by North America Telugu Association.



### ACF Coaching Clinic in Orange County

Southern California Youth Cricket Academy hosted a Cricket Coaching Clinic for Level 1 and Level 2 coaches at Lake Forest Sports Park on June 27 & 28, 2015. Twelve Level 1, five Level 2 coaches and two instructors were certified by the America Cricket Federation (ACF) to meet the coaching demands in Orange County. Mr. Jatin Patel, ACF Director, conducted the clinic.

With the new coaching staff and certified instructors, SCYCA is planning to offer training and certification for PE teachers in school districts in the region.



## North East Region

### Three day Youth Cricket Tournament

The British Officers Cricket Club of Philadelphia (BOCC) a member of the Greater Philadelphia Cricket League (GPCL) and of the American Cricket Federation (ACF) sponsored a three-day Youth Cricket Tournament for Under-15's played on two grounds at Evansburg State Park, Pennsylvania on Memorial Day weekend, in May.

Six teams (CricMax Tigers, Sportstars, BOCC Youth, Sons of Liberty, Yuva and CricMax Panthers) from the Philadelphia region (PA, NJ) played 15-ball overs using the 4-1/4 oz hard cricket ball.

At the conclusion of the final game, Kamran Khan, a long-time youth cricket advocate, presented the trophies.



Another youth tournament – the Philadelphia Youth Cricket Festival over the upcoming Labor Day weekend will feature 12 teams of Under-13 and Under-15 players. The event sponsored by the ACF, BOCC, USYCA, CC Morris Cricket Library, Haverford College and the GPCL, will be played on BOCC's two grounds at Evansburg State Park and at Haverford College.

Coaching sessions for the youth players are also scheduled for the weekend.

