Australia team celebrates with the Trans-Tasman Trophy after winning the second Test against New Zealand in Christchurch on 24 February 2016. Australia finished as the number-one ranked Test side at the 1 April cut-off date and also retained the top position after the 1 May annual update.
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ICC ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016
The reason for that pride is not personal, although certainly I am honoured to hold this prestigious office.

My emotion is more the feeling I have based on the progress we have made as an organisation over the recent months. And I want everyone to know that it is indicative of the type of progress I wish for us to continue to make over the coming days, weeks, months and years.

I am determined that we should not define ourselves as a body that makes decisions that suit a select few rather than the game as a whole.

The ICC is an organisation with 105 Members and I am keen to ensure that all our Members, regardless of whether they are Affiliates, Associates or Full Members, feel a part of the ICC family, and together we can move ahead as a united inclusive front to take on the challenges that lie before us.

And, equally, I am determined that we should not rest on our laurels and say that because something works today, it will always work.

We are now in an environment where our sport is competing against many other options for the attention of the public and we have to recognise that fact and respond accordingly.

The players on the field have their responsibility to ensure the game continues to be played as the fantastic spectacle it now is – something illustrated perfectly by the excellent action witnessed during the men’s and women’s ICC World Twenty20 in India and ICC U19 Cricket World Cup in Bangladesh.

That certainly ensured a feel-good factor among the cricketing public as television viewing figures, including 730 million people in India alone, were outstanding, and social media – including record numbers for Facebook, Twitter and Instagram – were equally responsive.

But as administrators we, too, have a duty to ensure that we are moving forward, and that is something I intend to ensure remains the case.
The act of making my role as Chairman independent of a Member constituency means I am in a position to lead that move and it is something I will seek to pursue with the utmost vigor during my two years in office.

The fact we are now in this position is a credit to my fellow ICC Directors as they have also seen there is a need to reassess the way we do things. Theirs has been an enlightened perspective in not only agreeing to my changed role but also, in February 2016, approving changes to the terms of reference of the Finance & Commercial Affairs Committee and Executive Committee so as to remove the permanent positions for the nominees of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), Cricket Australia (CA) and the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) on these committees, and to allow fair access to membership for all Full and Associate Member directors, with the sole criteria being the skill, competence and experience of the relevant director. And above and beyond that, the entire composition of those committees will be reviewed during 2016.

The Board also agreed, in early 2016, to review all constitutional changes and resolutions made in 2014 with a view to establishing governance, finance, corporate and cricketing structures appropriate and effective for the strategic role and function of the ICC and all of its Members. This review has also included an examination of the ICC’s constitution.

The Board constituted a five-member steering group under my leadership and including the respective Chairmen of the ICC’s Governance Review Committee, Executive Committee, Finance & Commercial Affairs Committee and Associate/Affiliate Member group, to be supported by various members of ICC management to work on this review.

Additionally it was agreed in that February 2016 ICC Board meeting that in a further attempt to improve the governance standards of, and transparency within, Member Boards, the ICC Board would reinstate a previous requirement that Full Members must submit to the ICC their latest audited statements on an annual basis, as was already the case with all Associate and Affiliate Members.

And with an aim to improve relationships with the Members and cricket stakeholders from around the world, the Board decided that three of its four meetings of the year would take place in Member countries outside of the UAE.

You may be wondering why we are doing these things. After all, the ICC has been in existence since 1909 and as the game appears in good shape at the moment, with a long-term broadcast contract in place until 2023, there could be a temptation to sit back and freewheel.

That, however, is not the way our sport will develop and it is not the way it will retain its existing supporters, gain new ones or tap into new and potentially lucrative markets.

The decisions taken since I assumed the role of ICC Chairman in late 2015 reflect that we, as a Board of Directors and the custodians of this great sport, collectively want to improve the governance of the game of cricket in a transparent manner, not only of the ICC but also the Member Boards. This, in turn, will enhance the image and quality of the sport. I am determined to make a meaningful contribution in this regard with support of all the Members.

All these changes have left me feeling extremely positive for the future of the administration of the game of cricket but now we must maintain the momentum generated over recent months to ensure we continue to head in the right direction.

Given the fundamental changes already agreed to, the role of ICC President has become redundant and so Zaheer Abbas will be the last person to serve in that office. I would like to thank him for his latest contribution in a lifetime of service to cricket and I am sure he will continue to grace the game he has adorned for so long.

As for the present, we are now entering a period that will define how those who follow us will view our efforts as administrators. If we can succeed by putting in place a range of best practice measures, growing the game, taking it to new markets and securing its future for decades to come then we will have earned the right to be regarded as successes in what we have set out to achieve.

In order to receive those accolades much hard work lies ahead and it is work I am very much looking forward to, alongside not only my fellow ICC Directors, but also with the dedicated and diligent staff led by Chief Executive David Richardson and our diverse and enthusiastic membership.

“The ICC is an organisation with 105 Members and I am keen to ensure that all our Members, regardless of whether they are Affiliates, Associates or Full Members, feel a part of the ICC family, and together we can move ahead as a united inclusive front to take on the challenges that lie before us.”
The plan for the previous four years from 2011 to 2015 was to create ‘A Bigger, Better, Global Game’ aimed at ‘targeting more players, more fans, more competitive teams.’

By all reasonable measures I believe we succeeded in those aims as the game is now undoubtedly on a sound financial footing thanks to our commercial and broadcast agreements, we have a stable of events that have proved extremely popular with our stakeholders, and participation levels have continued to rise. Over the past five years the numbers of people playing the game within our Associate and Affiliate Members alone rose from around 585,000 to 1.5 million and there are now more people, male and female, playing and watching the game than ever before.

Our leading Full Members are producing compelling cricket – the men’s and women’s ICC World Twenty20, both won by exciting West Indies sides, are examples of that in the game’s shortest format – and those teams immediately below Full Member level are also continuing to improve year on year. It was especially pleasing to see not only the continued development of Afghanistan during the ICC World Twenty20 – it was the only side to defeat Darren Sammy’s team – but also the emergence of Oman, a line-up that did not disgrace itself on its first appearance at cricket’s top table.

Our challenge, however, over the next four years is to keep the graph moving upwards, to demand more of all our Members and also ourselves as the game’s global governing body, and that philosophy has been behind our new set of goals.

Those goals within our new strategic plan can be summarised as follows:

- To do whatever we can to make our product – the game of cricket across all three formats – as attractive as possible;
- To deliver world-class events;
- To maintain the integrity of the sport; and
- To target game and market development where it is most likely to provide the sport with long-term benefits.
"I am particularly excited about the work being done, following a decision by the Board in early 2016, to review the bilateral international competition structures with the purpose of providing greater meritocracy, context and value to fans, and increasing the competitiveness of matches, thereby underpinning the primacy and future sustainability of international cricket."

The advent of day-night Test cricket, something endorsed by the ICC as far back as 2012, has given the longest form of the game a welcome shot in the arm and the attendance of more than 120,000 spectators over three days at Adelaide Oval when Australia played New Zealand was a perfect illustration of the concept’s potential to draw in good crowds.

No-one is pretending that playing Test cricket under floodlights does not have its challenges, but the fact remains we are a product for the public and we need to adapt to what that the fans want. In this case that is in playing the game at a time when people are able to watch it and so the ICC will do all it can to continue to promote the idea and encourage it to be adopted wherever conditions allow.

We recognise that Test cricket, especially in countries outside of Australia and England, can sometimes be viewed as the commercial poor relation of the game’s three formats and so that is why we set up the Test cricket fund, to assist Members in covering the costs of staging five-day internationals when they might not otherwise have the resources to do so. And by using the MRF Tyres ICC ODI Team Rankings as the means to determine qualification for the 2019 ICC Cricket World Cup in England and Wales we have given context to bilateral One-Day Internationals through to next year’s cut-off date of September 2017.

It is pleasing to note that since the ICC Cricket World Cup there has been a marked increase in the numbers of matches involving the leading Associate Members playing against Full Members and with the ICC Women’s Championship set to reach a climax this year in the race for automatic qualification for the 2017 ICC Women’s World Cup, that is another example of context in action.

I am particularly excited about the work being done, following a decision by the Board in early 2016, to review the bilateral international competition structures with the purpose of providing greater meritocracy, context and value to fans, and increasing the competitiveness of matches, thereby underpinning the primacy and future sustainability of international cricket.

Over the past 12 months we have set a high standard for excellence in the events we have staged, from the men’s and women’s ICC World Twenty20 in India to the ICC Under-19 Cricket World Cup in Bangladesh that preceded it. All three tournaments were fantastic spectacles, providing thrilling cricket that got the world talking about the game. Having taken over the television production of our events through ICC TV we achieved a high level of fan engagement through that medium and we did the same and more via social media. The pleasing thing was that we also achieved a high level of interest in our qualifying events for those major tournaments too, and that is something we are keen to build upon over the coming years, not least in the ICC Cricket World Cup Qualifier set for 2018.

The period under review in this annual report has also included the enhancement of the ICC’s Anti-Corruption Unit. That enhancement has involved increased levels of staffing and checks and balances to ensure the ACU maintains its position as a body that not only investigates corruption but also prevents it and educates players and officials on what to do and what not to do. There are no short cuts to integrity and that is a position that will always be maintained without compromise.

Corrupt practices are undoubtedly a fundamental threat to the growth of our sport but so, too, in a different way, is an attitude that says we can afford to be content with the reach that the game currently enjoys. On that basis, 2015-16 has seen us take steps to try and get cricket moving in the right direction in what are two huge potential areas of growth – the USA and China. No-one is pretending that a major development in the support for the game in these two countries is going to be an overnight happening but we have made good progress in both locations over the past 12 months and the plan is to maintain the momentum that has been generated. If we can do that then it can only be of benefit to the game of cricket not only in those two countries but across the world.

I would like to place on record my thanks to both the staff of the ICC who have once again worked tirelessly during a busy and hectic year, and also the former ICC Chairman N Srinivasan, who left office during the period covered in this annual report.

I would also take this opportunity to welcome his successor, Shashank Manohar, who, as I write these words, has become the ICC’s first independent Chairman having relinquished his role within the BCCI.
ICC STRATEGY FOR SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL CRICKET’S GROWTH 2016 - 2019:

THE WORLD’S FAVOURITE SPORT

FAIRNESS, INTEGRITY, EXCELLENCE, ACCOUNTABILITY, TEAMWORK, RESPECT AND DIVERSITY

1 CRICKET

Providing a world-class environment, making sure men’s and women’s international cricket is attractive to play and watch.

KEY TARGETS

- Three vibrant and popular formats
- Improved audiences and performances
- Fair balance between bat and ball
- Fair and quality pitches that encourage attacking batting, bowling and captaincy
- Best match officials in world sport
- Consistent technology
- Innovation in domestic competition
- Meritocratic qualification for ICC events
- Rankings and awards giving context and profile

2 INTEGRITY

Protecting the integrity of the game.

KEY TARGETS

- Best anti-corruption program in world sport
- Free from doping
- Free from racism
- Fair and robust ethics regime
- Played in the right spirit
MAJOR EVENTS

Delivering successful major events and building their value.

KEY TARGETS
- Biggest WT20 in 2016
- Most-watched CT in 2017
- Best ever attended Women’s WT20 2018
- Most popular CWC in 2019
- World-class event experiences
- Engaging broadcast presentation
- Innovative digital activation
- High profile qualifier and youth events
- Long-term commercial partnerships
- Record levels of revenue and profit
- Plan for growing future revenue streams

GAME & MARKET DEVELOPMENT

Improving the quality and reach of international cricket.

KEY TARGETS
- More competitive teams
- More integrated approach to development
- More people playing cricket
- More females involved in cricket
- More countries contributing to global cricket economy
- Engagement in North America & Middle East
2015-16 witnessed a unique treble with, in the space of 50 days, the West Indies securing three different prizes.

First, on 14 February, the region’s juniors won the ICC Under-19 Cricket World Cup in Bangladesh, overcoming India by five wickets in a tense final in Mirpur.

Then, on 3 April, both the West Indies women and men won their respective titles at the ICC World Twenty20 in Kolkata, India.

The women picked up their prize for the first time, beating defending champions and three-time winners Australia by seven wickets, before the men got their hands on the silverware too, downing England by four wickets.

The win for Darren Sammy’s side meant the West Indies men became the first team to win the ICC World Twenty20 trophy twice (doing so previously in 2012) and the three successes were a timely shot in the arm for cricket in the Caribbean.

History was made from 27 November to 1 December 2015 at the Adelaide Oval when Australia and New Zealand featured in the first-ever day/night Test, which was watched by nearly 120,000 spectators. Australia won the Test by three wickets but not before New Zealand gave the home side a run for its money. Batting first, New Zealand scored 202 but Australia managed to take a slender 22-run lead by scoring 224. Josh Hazlewood took six for 70 as New Zealand was dismissed for 208, which set Australia a 187-run target. Trent Boult took five for 60 but couldn’t stop Australia getting home with three wickets to spare. Hazlewood was adjudged player of the match, Peter Neville with 66 was the highest scorer of the match, while Mitchell Santner became New Zealand’s 268th Test player.

Australia moved to number-one in the MRF Tyres ICC Test Rankings table after a 2-0 victory over Trans-Tasman rivals New Zealand in February 2016. By topping the rankings at the annual cut-off date of 1 April, Australia earned itself one million dollars, a figure that represented a doubling of the prize as the ICC and its members looked to emphasise the value of Test cricket. Second-placed India took home US$500,000.

Australia maintained its position at the head of affairs in the ICC ODI rankings ladder ahead of New Zealand, the side it overcame in the ICC Cricket World Cup final in April 2015. Part of the reason it did so was a 4-1 series win against India on home soil in January 2016, a contest that was notable for a host of records, including the most runs (3159) and most hundreds (11) in a bilateral five-match series, as well as the biggest successful chase by a visiting side in a ODI in Australia – 331, in the final match in Sydney.

There were a number of personal milestones and achievements during 2015-16. In Test cricket England captain Alastair Cook passed his mentor Graham Gooch as England’s top Test run-scorer and went on to become the 12th and youngest ever member of the very elite 10,000 runs club.

New Zealand captain Brendon McCullum gave himself a memorable retirement present by scoring the fastest Test hundred in history (54 balls) in his final appearance, in Christchurch against Australia, beating the record of 56 deliveries, previously held jointly by Viv Richards and Misbah-ul-Haq.

The previous year, during his side’s away series against England, McCullum became only the second New Zealand player after Stephen Fleming to score 6000 Test runs. It was one of three major landmarks achieved by players in the same Test, at Headingley, as James Anderson became the first England bowler to take 400 Test wickets.
OPPOSITE TOP: New Zealand captain Kane Williamson prepares to bat against Australia during the ICC WT20 India 2016. Williamson finished as the top run-scorer across all three formats in 2015.

OPPOSITE BOTTOM: Joe Root of England on his way to his 19th half-century on day two of the fourth Test against South Africa at Centurion in January 2016.

TOP: Stafanie Taylor (L) and Darren Sammy pose with their trophies at the Victoria Memorial in Kolkata a day after winning the finals of the ICC World Twenty India 2016.

BOTTOM: West Indies celebrates after winning the ICC U19 Cricket World Cup 2016 in Mirpur, Dhaka.
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

During the second encounter of a rain-ruined tour of Bangladesh in July 2015, Australia’s Mitchell Johnson and Stuart Broad of England joined the 300-wicket club in Tests, both of them becoming the fifth players from their respective countries to reach that mark.

Meanwhile, in ODIs, Sri Lanka’s Tillakaratne Dilshan became the 11th player to pass 10,000 runs and the oldest as well at 38 years and nine months. AB de Villiers of South Africa became the quickest player to 8000 runs, doing so in his 182nd innings, achieved in August 2015 against New Zealand, while India’s Virat Kohli set two new ODI marks, to become the quickest to 7000 runs and 24 hundreds in his 161st innings.

Joe Root matched Virender Sehwag’s record for most Test fifties in a calendar year (13) in 2015 and he hit the number one spot in the world rankings twice (August and October 2015) as well as going on to reach 3000 runs in his 62nd match. That milestone came in the UAE against Pakistan, where Younus Khan became Pakistan’s highest run-scorer and passed the 9000-run mark in Tests having already become Pakistan’s leading hundred-maker in the long game the previous year.

Amongst bowlers South Africa’s Dale Steyn became the quickest seam and swing bowler to 400 Test wickets in terms of balls bowled and the joint fastest – along with Sir Richard Hadlee of New Zealand – in Tests played to reach the mark, achieving the feat in his 80th match during the second encounter of a rain-ruined tour of Bangladesh in July 2015.

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Brendon McCullum became only the third New Zealander after Fleming and Nathan Astle to pass 6000 runs in the 50-over format, a milestone he crossed during the Chappell-Hadlee series against Australia in early 2016.

The prolific Kane Williamson became the quickest New Zealand batsman to reach 3000 ODI runs, doing it in just 73 innings, an effort that left him sixth in the all-time list behind South Africa’s Hashim Amla, the West Indies pair of Vivian Richards and Gordon Greenidge, South Africa’s Gary Kirsten and India’s Shikhar Dhawan. Williamson was also the top run scorer in 2015 across all international formats with 2692 runs from Tests, ODIs and T20Is.

Mashrafe Mortaza and Shakib Al-Hasan joined the 200 ODI wickets club, Shakib...
FOREWORD

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

“History was made from 27 November to 1 December 2015 at the Adelaide Oval when Australia and New Zealand featured in the first-ever day/night Test, which was watched by nearly 120,000 spectators”

becoming only the fifth player to score 4000 runs and take 200 wickets in the format behind Sri Lanka’s Sanath Jayasuriya, Jacques Kallis of South Africa, the Pakistan duo of Shahid Afridi and Abdul Razzaq and New Zealand’s Chris Cairns.

The highlight of 2015-16 in women’s cricket in bilateral terms was Australia regaining The Ashes from England in a keenly contested series across all three formats in England in August and September 2015. Meg Lanning’s side secured the prize by virtue of winning the ODI series 2-1 and achieving victory in the one-off Test match, and although it lost the Twenty20 International series 2-1 it was still enough to earn the prize.

The inaugural ICC Women’s Championship, the tournament that began in August 2014 to determine qualification for the ICC Women’s World Cup 2017, to be held in England and Wales, continued with the cut-off date of December 2016 looming for the eight teams taking part – Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and the West Indies. Only the top four sides will go through automatically to the 2017 event with the others facing the prospect of taking part in a qualifying tournament.

Oman became the 22nd side to achieve Twenty20 International status when it beat Namibia in the ICC World Twenty20 Qualifier in Ireland in July 2015. The win confirmed Oman’s passage to the ICC World Twenty20 India 2016, the country’s first appearance in an ICC global event.

Shane Watson joined a select club in January 2016 when he scored an unbeaten 124 from 71 balls against India in a Twenty20 International. It made him the first Australia player and only the 10th player from any country to score a hundred in all three formats of the game at international level. He joined McCullum and Martin Guptill (New Zealand), Rohit Sharma and Suresh Raina (India), Tillakaratne Dilshan and Mahela Jayawardena (Sri Lanka), Chris Gayle (the West Indies), Francois du Plessis (South Africa) and Ahmed Shehzad (Pakistan) in achieving that feat and those players were later joined by an 11th member, Tamim Iqbal of Bangladesh, when he scored 103 not out from 63 balls against Oman in the ICC World Twenty20.
Cricket mourned the loss of three figures of global significance in 2015-16 – one rightly regarded as one of the sport’s great players, one an administrator who played a key role in setting the game on the path to its current state of financial wellbeing and one whose voice adorned the game for the best part of 50 years.

The deaths of former New Zealand captain Martin Crowe, ex-ICC President Jagmohan Dalmiya from India and broadcaster Tony Cozier from Barbados made headlines around the world – and given their stature in cricket it was hardly a surprise that they did so.

Crowe passed away in March 2016 at the age of 53 having suffered from lymphoma since 2012. He was diagnosed with terminal double-hit lymphoma in September 2014.

In an international career that spanned 14 years he played in 77 Tests and 143 One-Day Internationals and will best be remembered for leading an unfashionable and un-fancied side to the brink of immortality as the Black Caps reached the ICC Cricket World Cup semi-final in 1992.

Crowe, whose brother Jeff also captained his country before going on to become an ICC Match Referee, scored 91 in that match at Eden Park to go with an unbeaten 100 in the tournament opener against co-hosts Australia at the same venue.

But during the course of that semi-final innings against Imran Khan’s Pakistan side he damaged a hamstring, sat out the second half of the match and was forced to look on as the visitors won by four wickets en route to ultimate victory against England.

For 23 years he held the record for the highest score in a Test for his country with 299 against Sri Lanka in 1991 before Brendon McCullum eventually surpassed it with 302 against India, ironically on the same ground – Wellington’s Basin Reserve.

Only Stephen Fleming and McCullum scored more Test runs for New Zealand but neither they nor anyone else could match Crowe’s tally of 17 Test hundreds for the Black Caps and he scored a further four in One-Day International action. And few players in the past 40 years have been able to match either his grace at the crease or the time he appeared to have to play his strokes.

Crowe captained his country in 16 Tests and 44 ODIs and although his career was cut short by a knee injury he still continued to make a telling contribution to the sport he loved, even in retirement.

As an executive at Sky TV in New Zealand he masterminded the concept of Cricket Max, the forerunner to Twenty20, and he became renowned for his trenchant but always fair views on cricket both as a broadcaster and a writer, as well as being a mentor to many of the current generation of New Zealand players.

Crowe’s induction into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame at a packed Eden Park in Auckland during the New Zealand – Australia ICC Cricket World Cup match in 2015 was an electric occasion and one that he described as one of his career highlights.

Dalmiya suffered a heart attack in September 2015 and passed away soon afterwards, aged 75.

His legacy to cricket is the money that continues to pour into the sport today.

It was Dalmiya who, as ICC President, set up the ICC Knock-Out tournament – the forerunner to the ICC Champions Trophy – in 1998 and used it as a vehicle to generate funds for developing the sport outside its then narrow circle of competing countries by selling the broadcast and commercial rights.
That deal acted as the catalyst for the ICC to begin to realise the value of its assets – its events – and so raise money for its members to grow the game.

Before that he had been a key figure in lobbying for the ICC Cricket World Cup to move out of England and Wales, its home for the first three editions in 1975, 1979 and 1983 and, as a result, it was staged successfully in India and Pakistan in 1987. Dalmiya also oversaw the massive growth in popularity of cricket on television in India, something that helps sustain the game to this day.

His constituency was the Cricket Association of Bengal, whose iconic Eden Gardens staged the final of that 1987 tournament when Australia beat England by seven runs to lift the trophy for the first time, but Dalmiya also served as BCCI President from 2001 to 2004 and took over the top job again in 2013 when N Srinivasan stepped down.

Cozier died in May 2016 after being admitted to hospital in his native Barbados for infections to his neck and legs. His death brought to a close a remarkable career in which he was recognised as the chronicler of West Indies cricket.

He began broadcasting on the West Indies tour of Australia in 1965 and in the decades that followed he produced books – some under his own name and others on behalf of players such as former West Indies captain Clive Lloyd – wrote newspaper articles and commented for radio and television across the world.

Among his more notable achievements were that he edited the West Indies Cricket Annual between 1970 and 1991, and wrote the book The West Indies: 50 Years of Test Cricket, published in 1978. He was awarded a lifetime membership of the Marylebone Cricket Club in 2011 for his services to the game. His was the voice everyone in the Caribbean knew but, similarly, he was for decades a familiar face and voice in the Channel Nine commentary box in Australia, while the same was true in the United Kingdom with his appearances on BBC Radio's Test Match Special.
Among other international players, in addition to Martin Crowe, who passed away during the past 12 months were:

**Israr Ali**
When he died, aged 88, he did so as Pakistan's oldest Test cricketer, playing four Tests for his country as a left-handed all-rounder between 1952 and 1959.

**Richard Barber**
Another player who, when he died, did so as his country's oldest Test player, aged 90. He played one Test for New Zealand against the West Indies in 1956 and was renowned as an attacking right-handed batsman.

**John Caldwell**
Former President and Chairman of Cricket Ireland John Caldwell passed away at the age of 75. He was Chairman of the Irish Cricket Union from 2000-2002, and was President of Cricket Ireland in 2008.

**Steve Camacho**
A top-order batsman who played 11 Tests for the West Indies from 1968 to 1971, he later made his name as an outstanding administrator of the game, working as an official and a team manager during the period of dominance under Clive Lloyd and Vivian Richards. He died aged 69.

**Brian Close**
England's youngest Test cricketer, he made his debut aged 18 against New Zealand in 1949 and although he made just 21 further appearances in the longest form of the game, he had the distinction of appearing for his country in four decades, his last match coming against the mighty West Indies in 1976, when he was 45. A left-handed batsman and right-arm medium-pacer and off-spinner, only one player's Test career spans a longer period than Closes' – fellow Yorkshireman Wilfred Rhodes – and Close actually played first-class cricket until he was 55. He captained his country in seven Tests and all three of the One-Day Internationals he played, and as captain of Somerset in the autumn of his career, he was the mentor of both Ian Botham and Vivian Richards. He died aged 84.

**Andy Ganteaume**
A right-handed opening batsman, Ganteaume – who was the West Indies' oldest Test cricketer when he died, aged 95 – had the distinction of scoring a hundred in his only Test innings, 112 against Gubby Allen's touring Marylebone Cricket Club side on his home island of Trinidad in 1948. He toured England nine years later but did not add to his solitary cap.

**Tom Graveney**
Regarded as one of the most elegant batsmen of his generation, he played 79 Tests for England between 1953 and 1969 but only came into his own in the latter part of his career. He scored 11 Test hundreds and captained England in one Test, against Australia in 1968, when Colin Cowdrey was injured. He became the first former professional cricketer to hold the post of Marylebone Cricket Club President, in 2004-05, and is one of only 25 players in history to score 100 first-class hundreds. He was, for many years, a distinguished television commentator and died aged 88.

**Hasan Jamil**
A left-handed all-rounder, he played six ODIs for Pakistan against England and India in 1977 and 1978 before dying, aged 63, in 2015.

**Hemant Kanitkar**
A highly respected batsman-wicketkeeper who scored 13 first-class hundreds for Maharashtra, he played two Tests against the West Indies in 1974 and scored 65 on debut, in Bangalore. He died aged 72. His son Himshikesh also played two Tests for his country, as well as 34 ODIs.

**Lindsay Klune**
A left-arm wrist spinner who played for Australia, took a hat-trick in his second Test, against South Africa in Cape Town in January 1958, but is equally well-remembered for his batting as he faced the final ball of the tied Test against the West Indies in 1960 and then batted for 100 minutes to salvage a draw in his final match in the same series, in Adelaide. He died aged 81.

**Arthur Morris**
The man who was at the other end when Don Bradman was out for a duck in his final Test innings at The Oval in 1948, Morris – who died aged 93 – went on to score 196 in that match, following on from his 182 in the previous Test at Headingley as Australia chased a seemingly impossible 404 in the final innings. He made 12 hundreds in 46 Tests, was named in Australia's Test team of the twentieth century and captained his country twice, in 1953 and 1954.

**Jim Pothecary**
Jim Pothecary was a well-built right-arm fast-medium bowler who could swing the ball either way. He toured England with South Africa as a new-ball bowler in 1960, taking nine wickets in his three Tests. His ten-year first-class career brought him 143 first-class wickets at 28.34 apiece. He died aged 82.

**Peter Petherick**
A New Zealand off-spinner who died aged 72, he is one of only three players – England's Maurice Allom and Damien Fleming of Australia are the others – to have taken a hat-trick on Test debut, doing so in October 1976 against Pakistan in Lahore. He went on to play a total of six Tests, having made his first-class debut at the age of 33.

**Clive Rice**
South Africa's captain when it was readmitted to international cricket in 1991 following more than two decades of isolation because of apartheid, he played only three One-Day Internationals at the back-end of a stellar first-class career as an all-rounder for Transvaal, Natal and Nottinghamshire in which he scored 26,331 runs and took 930 wickets. Rice went on to help Kevin Pietersen settle in England. He was diagnosed with a brain tumour and died aged 86.

**Fred Ridgway**
A right-arm fast bowler who died aged 92, he played five Tests for England in India in 1951-52 but then lost his place to the emerging Brian Statham and Fred Trueman, amongst others, although he was good enough to take 1069 first-class wickets.

**Deepak Shodhan**
Became the first Indian to score a century in his first Test innings. Coming in at 179-6 in reply to Pakistan's 257 all out at Kolkata in 1952 he scored 110 to guide his side to a 140-run lead. He died in Ahmedabad aged 87. Shodhan, a left-handed batsman who could bowl medium pace, played just three Tests in all, and was India's oldest living Test cricketer at the time of his death.

**Michael Shrimpton**
A leg-spinning all-rounder who died aged 34, his 10 Tests for New Zealand came between 1963 and 1974 before he went on to coach the New Zealand women's team to a World Cup triumph on home soil in 2000.

**Ian Smith**
A leg-spinner who played nine Tests for South Africa between 1947 and 1957, he was a good enough bowler to capture 365 first-class wickets. He died aged 90.

**Frank Tyson**
There has only ever been one fast bowler called the Typhoon, the man who took 28 wickets against Australia in 1954-55 and a key factor behind England winning a series there for the first time in more than 20 years. Regarded as one of the quickest bowlers to play the game, Tyson – who died aged 85 – played 17 Tests between 1954 and 1959 and later worked as a successful coach and commentator in Australia.

**Raymond Van Schoor**
The Namibia all-rounder died tragically of a stroke suffered on the field during a match in Windhoek in November 2015, aged just 25. He played 92 first-class matches and was regarded as one of the Associate world's brightest talents, with five first-class hundreds.

**Jj (John James) Warr**
Took 956 first-class wickets before his retirement in 1960. He played in two Test matches on the Ashes tour to Australia 1950-51, and also captained Middlesex in the final three years of his career. After retiring he moved into cricket administration, and served as president of the Marylebone Cricket Club in 1987-88. He was elected an honorary life vice-president of the MCC after leaving the club's committee in 1996. He died at the age of 88.

**Basil Williams**
A Jamaican right-hander, he played seven Tests for the West Indies during the dispute between the region's cricket board and the players who had signed to player for Kerry Packer's World Series Cricket. One of only 13 West Indians to score a hundred on his debut – against Australia in Guyana – Williams died aged 65.

**Ruth Westbrook**
Enjoying a distinguished career as a player and then a coach, Ruth played 11 Tests for England between 1957 and 1963 before becoming the national team's first full-time coach in 1988, helping to mastermind the World Cup triumph in 1993. She died aged 85.
And among the players who announced their retirements from domestic or international cricket in 2015-16 were the following:

- SHIVNARINE CHANDERPAUL
- BRAD HADDIN
- CHRIS ROGERS
- MICHAEL CLARKE
- MITCHELL JOHNSON
- KUMAR SANGAKKARA
- CHARLOTTE EDWARDS
- ZAHEER KHAN
- VIRENDER SEHWAG
- IMRAN FARHAT
- BRENDON McCULLUM
- JAMES TAYLOR (Retired from all cricket)
- RYAN HARRIS (Retired from all cricket)
- SHANE WATSON
THE WORLD’S FAVOURITE SPORT
The strategy covered the following four broad areas of activity:

**CRICKET**
Providing a world-class environment, making sure men's and women's international cricket is attractive to play and watch

**INTEGRITY**
Protecting the integrity of the game

**MAJOR EVENTS**
Delivering successful major events and building their value

**GAME AND MARKET DEVELOPMENT**
Improving the quality and reach of international cricket

The thinking behind the strategy was outlined by the-then ICC Chairman Mr N Srinivasan, who said: “It is an ambitious and long-term vision for the ICC and its Members.

“We need the game to become more popular and sustainable in more countries. It is important that ICC events continue to grow and that all international cricket becomes more appealing to the public.

“We also have an important role to play in protecting the integrity of the game and increasing the number of truly competitive teams.”

When Mr Srinivasan was succeeded by Mr Shashank Manohar as ICC Chairman in October 2015 after the latter was re-elected as the BCCI President following the death of Mr Jagmohan Dalmiya, it was determined by the ICC Board that the changes agreed in 2014, including a new financial model and the make-up of various sub-committees of the ICC Board, including the Executive Committee and the Finance and Commercial Affairs Committee, would be reviewed. Additionally the constitution and entire governance structure of the organisation would also be reviewed in consultation with all the members, with all measures designed to ensure optimal governance of the global game.

Former Pakistan batsman Mr Zaheer Abbas was confirmed as ICC President for one year at the Annual Conference in Barbados, succeeding Mustafa Kamal from Bangladesh, although the position was effectively made redundant following the appointment of Mr Manohar as the organisation's first independent Chairman in May 2016 and it was agreed that the role of President would lapse following the 2016 ICC Annual Conference in Edinburgh, Scotland.

New ICC Directors during the period under review were Mr Manohar – in his second stint as a Director as he had also been in the role during an earlier stint as President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India from 2008 to 2011 – Mr Abbas – the PCB nominated President, Mr David Peever on behalf of Cricket Australia, succeeding Wally Edwards in October 2015 and Mr Thilanga Sumathipala on behalf of Cricket Sri Lanka, his role effective from 5 January 2016.

Mr Shashank Manohar was elected by the ICC Board unanimously and unopposed as the Chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC) in May 2016 following the ICC Full Council’s approval of constitutional amendments proposed by the Board following its April 2016 meeting.

Mr Manohar had earlier resigned as the President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India in May 2016 so as to become the first elected independent Chairman of the game’s governing body and he commenced his two-year term with immediate effect.

According to the election process, ICC directors were each allowed to nominate one candidate, who had to be either a
Nominees with the support of two or more Full Member directors would have been eligible to contest the election, which was scheduled to have been concluded by 23 May.

However, given that Mr Manohar was the sole nominee for the position and the ICC Board unanimously supported his appointment, the independent Audit Committee Chairman, Mr Adnan Zaidi, who was overseeing the election process, declared the process complete, and Mr Manohar the successful candidate.

The ICC Full Council is made up of all Associate Members, as well as the 10 Full Members and five representatives of the 57 Affiliate Members. The ICC Chairman, President (until the conclusion of the Full Council meeting in June 2016) and Chief Executive Officer are also members of the Full Council, but none of the three have voting rights. 😊
“We need the game to become more popular and sustainable in more countries”

**OTHER ICC COMMITTEES**

- ICC Cricket Committee
- ICC Audit Committee
- ICC Finance and Commercial Affairs Committee
- ICC Governance Review Committee
- ICC HR & Remuneration Committee
- ICC Nominations Committee
- ICC Code of Conduct Commission
- ICC Women’s Committee
- ICC Executive Committee
- ICC Development Committee
- ICC Disputes Resolution Committee

**ICC CHIEF EXECUTIVES’ COMMITTEE**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>David Richardson (CEO)</td>
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<td>Ex-Officio</td>
<td>Shashank Manohar (Chairman)</td>
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<td>Ex-Officio</td>
<td>Anil Kumble (Chairman - Cricket Committee)</td>
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<td>Ex-Officio</td>
<td>Clare Connor (Chair Women’s Committee)</td>
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**FULL MEMBERS**

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<td>Wilfred Mukondiwa</td>
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<td>Associate Member Director</td>
<td>Dr John Cribbin (Hong Kong)</td>
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<td>Warren Deutrom (Ireland)</td>
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<td>Greg Campbell (PNG)</td>
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The game's top umpires demonstrated their skills to an impressive degree in 2015-16 by achieving a correct decision percentage in 220 matches across the three formats of Tests, One-Day Internationals and Twenty20 Internationals of 94.7%, the highest such percentage for four years and an improvement on 2014-15's figure of 93.8%.

There were changes to both the Emirates Elite Panel of Umpires and Match Referees during the year. Roshan Mahanama from Sri Lanka stood down as a match referee and he was replaced on the panel by Richie Richardson, a former West Indies captain and more recently the team's manager.

Steve Davis of Australia retired as an umpire while New Zealand's Billy Bowden lost his place on the Emirates Elite Panel and, in their places, came Sundaram Ravi from India and New Zealand's Chris Gaffaney.

And in addition to the 12 officials on the Emirates Elite Panel of Umpires, Joel Wilson (the West Indies), Ranmore Martinesz (Sri Lanka), Simon Fry (Australia), Johan Cloete (South Africa), Michael Gough (England) and Ruchira Palliyaguruge (Sri Lanka) were all identified as being eligible to stand for internationals outside of their home countries.

Aleem Dar, four times named as the Umpire of the Year at the ICC Awards, became only the third umpire after Steve Bucknor and Rudi Koertzen to stand in 100 Tests, achieving the feat in Cape Town during the South Africa – England series.

Continuing on from the clamp down on suspect bowling actions that took place in 2014-15, umpires once again showed a willingness to report bowlers with whom they had concerns. During 2015-16 ten bowlers were reported for a suspect bowling action.
The ICC has five accredited testing centers around the world – Brisbane, Cardiff, Chennai, Loughborough and Pretoria – where testing of bowling actions can take place with the process speeded up to the extent that if a report is made during an ICC event (as was the case with Taskin Ahmed and Arafat Sunny during the ICC World Twenty20) then that process – reporting, testing and revelation of the result – is intended to take no more than seven days.

There were 42 ICC Code of Conduct reports from the period immediately after the 2015 ICC Cricket World Cup through to the Namibia versus Afghanistan ICC Intercontinental Cup match in April 2016. Two of the offences saw captains Jason Holder of the West Indies and Zimbabwe’s Elton Chigumbura banned when their sides were found guilty of maintaining slow over-rates. Four of those 42 offences occurred during ICC Intercontinental Cup matches – the first-class competition for the leading international sides below Test level – and one took place in ICC World Cricket League Division 6.

In an attempt to evaluate the technology available to match officials as part of the Decision Review System, the ICC enlisted the assistance of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) to make an independent assessment of the accuracy of various broadcasting aids. The MIT staff looked at HotSpot and Real-Time Snicko in Christchurch and Melbourne and was scheduled to report back to the ICC Cricket Committee in mid-2016 with its findings.

The ICC also undertook to review its own Pitch and Outfield Monitoring Process in 2015-16, including the guidelines for rating pitches and the sanctions that could be imposed. The results of this review were also due for discussion by the ICC Cricket Committee in mid-2016.

That committee underwent changes in its personnel for 2016 with both Mark Taylor, the former Australia captain, and ex-Sri Lanka captain Kumar Sangakkara stepping down following the 2015 meeting having completed nine years in their positions, the maximum time allowed. They were replaced by another former Sri Lanka captain, Mahela Jayawardena, and Rahul Dravid, the ex-India captain, while the former Chief Executive Officer of the Federation of International Cricketers’ Associations Tim May returned to the committee in place of Laxman Sivaramakrishnan and the ICC umpire of the year Richard Kettleborough took over from the retired Steve Davis.

In the wake of the inaugural day-night Test match between Australia and New Zealand in Adelaide in November 2015, there has been heightened interest from Members around the concept, with several expressing interest in hosting day-night Tests in their territory. The ICC had given its approval for day-night Tests in 2012.

There was a significant staffing change within the Cricket Operations department in 2015-16 with the retirement of Vince van der Bijl as Senior Manager – Umpires and Referees. Vince’s replacement was the former West Indies opening batsman Adrian Griffith, promoted from his previous role as Match Officials Administration Manager.
From 2011 to 2015 participation levels among male and female players within the Associate and Affiliate world rose from 585,000 to 1.5 million and that increase shows the appetite for cricket is continuing to grow across the globe.

Following on from a successful ICC Cricket World Cup in the early part of 2015, when Ireland beat the West Indies and Zimbabwe and Afghanistan took part in the tournament for the first time, major strides continued to be made towards growing the game outside its traditional centres.

In the ICC U19 Cricket World Cup in Bangladesh in January and February 2016 the seven Associate teams – Afghanistan, Canada, Fiji, Ireland (taking part after Australia withdrew over security concerns), Namibia, Nepal and Scotland – secured five wins between them including two against Full Members, as Namibia overcame South Africa and Nepal beat New Zealand.

That effort was even more commendable as, for the first time in that tournament’s history the Associate players taking part were all under 19 years of age; in previous events the emerging teams were allowed to field players under 20.

Less than two months later and, in the ICC World Twenty20 in India, Afghanistan reached the Super 10 stage by beating Zimbabwe, became the only team to triumph against the eventual champion side the West Indies, doing so by six runs in a low-scoring thriller, and also reduced the losing finalist England to 57-6 in their Super 10 encounter. And while Oman did not make it to that Super 10 stage, it could still be well pleased with its debut at cricket’s top table, downing established emerging nation Ireland in a thrilling encounter in Dharamsala.

Meanwhile, in the women’s edition, Ireland qualified for the tournament ahead of Full Member Zimbabwe by winning all five matches played at the qualifier in Thailand in December 2015, including victory over Bangladesh in the final.
That progress on the field was married with an increasing fixture list for the leading Associate sides, not only against each other but also against Full Members. Between the 2011 and 2015 ICC Cricket World Cups there were 24 Full Member versus Associate Member ODIs and that figure was set to be trumped within two years of Australia beating New Zealand in Melbourne in April 2015, a tangible sign that the issue of developing the game is receiving buy-in from increasing numbers of administrators across the world.

That buy-in was well illustrated by the increasing numbers of initiatives between Full Members on the one hand and Associate and Affiliates on the other.

Those initiatives in 2015-16 included:

- Associate and Affiliate players being given rookie contracts by franchises in the inaugural Women’s Big Bash League in Australia;
- An ICC Americas team taking part in the West Indies Cricket Board Nagico Super50 tournament in the Caribbean in January 2016;
- Four Associate teams – Afghanistan, Hong Kong, Oman and the United Arab Emirates – taking part in the Asia Cup in February and March 2016;
- Kenya and Namibia taking part in the Africa T20 Cup against sides from South Africa and Zimbabwe in South Africa in September 2015; and
- The ICC Europe office moving into the offices of the England and Wales Cricket Board at Lord’s.

As Tim Anderson, the ICC’s Head of Global Development, said: “Teams below Full Member level are now playing better than ever before, they are playing more than ever before and the level of interest in the emerging countries from the media, the public and cricket’s officials is greater than ever before.”

Off the field, and in keeping with one of the main pillars of the ICC’s new strategic plan, to target game and market development by focusing on countries with the potential to grow on the field and to offer the global game economic benefits through that growth, there were positive moves in both the United States of America and China in 2015-16.

Following the suspension of the USA Cricket Association, an extensive consultation process took place with the USA cricket community to develop a strategic framework for the game’s future development. This has resulted in a four-pronged approach aimed at increasing participation, enhancing elite performance, engaging with fans and ensuring a sustainable foundation is in place.

Participation in the Nagico Super50 was an example of the approach in action, as was the sanctioning of Caribbean Premier League matches for 2016 in Florida and the awarding of CPL contracts to the leading Americas players. The ICC Americas office will, in 2016, be relocated from Toronto in Canada to Colorado Springs, the home of USA sports administration, and with the ICC World Cricket League Division 4 set to be staged in Los Angeles in the second half of 2016, the hope is that momentum can be maintained.

China’s women performed creditably in the ICC Women’s World Twenty20 Qualifier in Thailand and that fact, allied to significant participation levels of around 80,000 people across the country, provided the ICC with the impetus to look to step up its quest to grow the game there.

In early 2016 cricket formed part of an Australian trade delegation that included the Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, bringing with it the chance for the sport to engage with key decision-makers within the country. Australia women’s captain Meg Lanning formed part of the delegation, another example of a Full Member taking responsibility for trying to grow the game within emerging countries.

“From 2011 to 2015 participation levels among male and female players within the Associate and Affiliate world rose from 585,000 to 1.5 million and that increase shows the appetite for cricket is continuing to grow across the globe.”
The commercial department of the ICC was the organisation's beating heart in 2015-16 and rarely has it beat faster or more effectively.

The commercial department dealt with everything from event budgets to sponsor servicing and its licensing programme, as well as corporate hospitality, the marketing and the broadcasting of ICC events, and looking after the ICC's digital footprint.

Having sold the broadcast rights for ICC events in 2014, covering the period from the second half of 2015 through to the ICC Cricket World Cup 2023 to STAR Sports India and STAR Sports Middle East, the ICC retained its own production rights and that brought about the birth of ICC TV.

It meant that, for the first time, the ICC produced its own coverage of events, starting with the ICC U19 Cricket World Cup in Bangladesh in early 2016, and it was a strategy that bore fruit, most notably during the ICC World Twenty20 2016 in India.

The in-house production allowed for the ability of the ICC to tell stories about the action, both past and present, and also to seek to build heroes out of the players, and around 300 different features were created during both the events for use by broadcasters and digital rights holders around the world and on ICC's own digital platforms.

The new set-up also allowed the ICC to deal directly with equipment suppliers and broadcast personnel, something that produced cost savings, as well as engaging in joint marketing with broadcasters, offering increased value for money.

The World Twenty20 2016 proved to be a broadcasting winner for the ICC with cumulative television viewership of more than one billion sets of eyeballs, making it the most watched ICC World Twenty20 to date. In major markets including India, Pakistan, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States of America viewing figures were especially impressive, not only for the men's matches but also for the
women's action too. The cumulative figures for India alone for the action as a whole saw a 114% increase in viewers compared to the 2014 edition.

The ICC World Twenty20 2016’s potential to expand digital traffic was recognised across the board, and witnessed a renewed interest from digital platforms. The ICC signed on 13 licensees for the event including Hotstar in India, BBC and ESPN in the UK, Willow and The Times Group in Canada and USA, Channel 2 in South Africa, OSN in the UAE, Khaleef in Pakistan, Bongo in Bangladesh, Dialog in Sri Lanka, and Sky in New Zealand.

These platforms recorded more than 250 million video views.

ICC’s digital platforms figures were also impressive with 20 million unique visits to the official tournament website (a 300% increase on 2014) and 159 million page views (up 550% from the previous edition).

There were 2.5 million active users for the ICC’s Mobile App, while ICC digital content had more than 320 million video views.

The ICC’s Facebook page reported 10 million views of the 85 media conferences streamed live during the ICC World Twenty20, while 46 million of its users interacted with the event and it experienced 180 million video views of #wt20 content.

Twitter had a record 5.75 billion impressions from the tournament, Snapchat had nine million video views, the ICC’s Instagram account topped one million followers and the ICC Fantasy League saw nearly one million teams created.

The attractiveness of cricket and ICC events was reflected in the diverse stable of commercial partners, both long-established and new, that the ICC was able to attract in 2015-16, including Nissan, OPPO, MRF Tyres, Hotstar, Emirates, MoneyGram, Hublot, Pepsi, Pernod Ricard, and Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank.

The ICC’s licensing programme partnered with Velocity Brand Management who managed the first ever successful merchandise programme in India for the ICC World Twenty20, whilst Sports Travel & Hospitality Group sold over 2,000 travel and tour packages to the event.

Following the success of the events in early 2016 the focus of the commercial department will switch to the events set to take place in 2017, including the ICC Champions Trophy and the ICC Women’s World Cup, both to be held in England and Wales.

To that end, site visits and logistics meetings were held with the England and Wales Cricket Board, broadcasters and venues, with the confetti barely cleared away from the Eden Gardens playing area following the successful conclusion of the ICC World Twenty20 2016.
For the ICC’s Anti-Corruption Unit (ACU), 2015-16 represented a hugely significant twelve-month period.

Its activities could be divided into the following:

- Implementing the recommendations of the Integrity Working Party (IWP);
- Attending international and domestic tournaments across the globe;
- Educating players and officials on the issue of corruption;
- Working to bring cases of suspected corruption to fruition; and
- Sharing intelligence with other relevant organisations within cricket, other sports and law-enforcement agencies.

The IWP was set up in April 2014 to review all aspects of cricket’s approach to the issue of dealing with corruption. It reviewed anti-corruption structures in place at international and domestic level to determine whether the measures were sufficient to protect the game from threats to its integrity.

The IWP’s report was reviewed and adopted by the ICC Board in June 2015 and among its recommendations acted upon was the establishment of an Anti-Corruption Oversight Group, a body that will meet regularly to review the ACU’s strategy and make recommendations, where necessary and appropriate, to the ACU Chairman Sir Ronnie Flanagan and the unit’s General Manager YP Singh.

This ongoing fresh perspective was and is designed to ensure that no detail is ever overlooked and no approach is ever disregarded without due consideration.

The IWP also recommended the creation of an intelligence hub for the game, based at the ACU’s offices in Dubai, whereby all information from across the world can now be fed into one central location and then dispersed, where appropriate, to agencies and bodies in the field for their consideration and action. The IWP proposed additional staff too – as regular employee/consultants, in Dubai and in the field – to strengthen the ACU’s effectiveness and its visible presence and this has also been acted upon.

The increase in staffing numbers was necessary given the volume of work the unit got through in 2015-16. Its representatives attended all bilateral international matches during the period under review, as well as high-profile domestic competitions, including the Caribbean Premier League and the Indian Premier League. On top of that, there was an extensive ACU presence at both the ICC World Twenty20 Qualifier in Ireland and Scotland and the ICC World Twenty20 itself in India. The ICC World Twenty20 was the highest profile event in that time and passed off successfully.

The ACU presence at matches and tournaments serves multiple uses: it acts as a visible deterrent to would-be corruptors; it provides a means of gathering intelligence; and it allows ACU staff to educate players and officials. And in terms of the latter exercise, more than 1700 personnel were spoken to on the issue of corruption during 2015-16.

The work of the ACU over 16 years has ensured there has been no repeat of the crisis that threatened to engulf the sport in 2000, a crisis that caused the unit to be formed in the first place. But that is not to say the threat has gone away and it is as real now as it has ever been, a fact illustrated by the suspension of Irfan Ahmed for two-and-a-half years in April 2016.

He was found guilty of breaching the ICC Anti-Corruption Code by failing to disclose full details of approaches or invitations to engage in corrupt conduct made to him between January 2012 and January 2014.

During the investigation, he admitted that he was aware of his obligations under the Code and that his failure to report such approaches was a breach of the Anti-Corruption Code. And having been provisionally suspended in November 2015 he will now be absent from the game until May 2018.

Reflecting on the decision, Sir Ronnie Flanagan said: “This penalty should act as a reminder to all Participants of the need to comply with their obligations under the Code at all times, and in particular the requirement to report corrupt approaches to the ACU without any delay.”

The ACU has been something of a trailblazer for anti-corruption operations in other sports and during 2015-16 its work involved sharing best practice not only within cricket but also with other sports.

Its staff were involved in meetings and seminars with organisations as diverse as the Hong Kong Jockey Club, World Rugby and the World Professional Snooker and Billiards Association as well as with numerous law enforcement agencies across the world, many of whom have understandings with the ACU concerning information sharing.

With the ICC Champions Trophy and the ICC Women’s World Cup set to take place in 2017 and an ever-increasing volume of international and domestic action to be monitored, the ACU continues to serve a pivotal role in ensuring cricket is doing all it can to be viewed as a sport with the highest levels of integrity.
The ICC remains committed to ensuring cricket has a zero-tolerance approach to doping. This commitment is evident in ICC’s anti-doping programme which aims to (a) maintain the integrity of the sport of cricket; and (b) protect the health and rights of all participants in the sport of cricket.

The ICC runs a comprehensive testing programme and in 2015-2016, conducted almost 500 urine tests which were administered across 37 teams. This widespread testing programme incorporated in-competition (match day) and out-of-competition (non-match day) testing on men’s, women’s and U-19 teams. Of the tests in 2015-2016, over 38 per cent were conducted at ICC Events, specifically the ICC World Twenty20 Qualifier 2015, the ICC U19 Cricket World Cup 2016 and the ICC World Twenty20 2016 and the remaining 62 per cent tests were conducted around bi-lateral series.

The ICC Code recognises and accepts that no advance notice, out-of-competition testing is at the core of effective doping control, and therefore over 60 per cent of the tests carried out in 2015-2016 under the ICC’s jurisdiction were out-of-competition tests. In the programme’s continued efforts to maintain an effective and intelligent testing programme, the ICC implemented the Sports Specific Analysis in 2015 which focuses specifically on additional analysis of player’s samples for those Prohibited Substances and/or Prohibited Methods which are most at risk in cricket.

Over the course of 2015, there was a total of 989 tests (urine and blood) conducted in both international and domestic cricket worldwide.

In addition to an effective testing programme, the ICC recognises the importance of effective education in the fight against doping in sport. In 2015-2016, the ICC took the opportunity to deliver interactive anti-doping education to over 600 players and support personnel at ICC events. The ICC also continues to assist Members by developing effective anti-doping resources in their territories and raising awareness on anti-doping matters.

During 2015-2016 there were three Anti-Doping Rule Violations in cricket (i) Yasir Shah tested under the auspices of the ICC’s Anti-Doping Code was suspended for a period of three months; (ii) West Indies domestic cricketer, Odean Brown, received an 18-month suspension for a whereabouts violation under the authority of the Jamaican Anti-Doping Commission; and (iii) on 22 May 2015, a 24-month suspension was handed out to Raza Hasan who was tested under the jurisdiction of the Pakistan Cricket Board.

The ICC also charged and provisionally suspended Kusal Perera in December 2015 under the ICC Anti-Doping Code but later withdrew the disciplinary proceedings against the player when the WADA accredited laboratory withdrew its Adverse Analytical Finding and reported an Atypical Finding instead. The charges were dropped and the player was free to train and compete domestically and internationally again without restriction.

“The ICC runs a comprehensive testing programme and in 2015-2016, conducted almost 500 urine tests which were administered across 37 teams”
DELIVERING WORLD-CLASS EVENTS
MEN’S

“Carlos Brathwaite – remember the name,” said former West Indies fast bowler Ian Bishop, commentating on the climax of the sixth edition of the tournament that brought together the 16 leading international sides from across the globe.

And sure enough, after Brathwaite’s remarkable feat of hitting the first four balls of the last over of the final for six, off England’s Ben Stokes, there was precious little chance of anyone ever forgetting the identity of the Barbados-born all-rounder.

Brathwaite’s power hitting, coming with his side wanting 19 runs from that concluding over, brought him instant global recognition and his side the accolade of becoming the first team to win the world title twice in the game’s shortest form, following on from success in Sri Lanka in 2012.

But despite his batting heroics, which backed up an earlier return with the ball of 3-23, Brathwaite was passed over for player of the match honours, with that prize going to the man at the other end when he produced his batting pyrotechnics – Marlon Samuels.

Samuels made an unbeaten 85 from 66 balls as the West Indies chased down England’s 155-9, winning by four wickets with two balls in hand, and his performance represented a nice bit of symmetry as he was also player of the match in the 2012 final, when he scored 78 from 56 deliveries against the hosts in Colombo.

The 2016 edition event saw 35 matches played at seven venues – Bengaluru, Delhi, Dharamsala, Kolkata (which hosted the final on 3 April), Mohali, Mumbai and Nagpur – across 27 days and the West Indies secured its triumph despite losing three players before a ball was bowled – Sunil Narine and Kieron Pollard to injury and Darren Bravo, who opted out to concentrate on long-form action – plus a fourth, Andre Fletcher, once the tournament got underway.

Pollard’s withdrawal gave Brathwaite the opportunity to flourish while Fletcher’s departure allowed Lendl Simmons, originally ruled out with a back injury, the chance to return to action, a chance he grabbed with both hands by scoring 82 not out from 51 balls in a thrilling semi-final chase against host India in Mumbai.

The West Indies blueprint for success in the tournament was straightforward – all five of its wins came batting second as its power hitters, including Chris Gayle (who became the first man to score two hundreds in ICC World Twenty20s when he made an unbeaten 100 from 48 balls in the Super 10 match against England to go with his 117 from 57 deliveries against South Africa in 2007) and Andre Russell, backed themselves to chase down whatever the opposition set them.

The only blip to that plan came in a defeat against Afghanistan in its final Super 10 match as it failed to overcome a seemingly modest 123-8.
MEN'S
DELIVERING WORLD-CLASS EVENTS
ICC WORLD TWENTY20 2016

MAIN: Carlos Brathwaite celebrates after hitting the fourth six of the 20th over, which helped the West Indies win its second ICC WT20 title.

LEFT: Ben Stokes of England reacts after Carlos Brathwaite hit the winning six.
DELIVERING WORLD-CLASS EVENTS
ICC WORLD TWENTY20 2016

But that apart it was an assured campaign from Darren Sammy’s side and one that ultimately left losing finalists England to reflect on what might have been.

Eoin Morgan’s side was unrecognisable from the one that had crashed out of the ICC Cricket World Cup before the quarter-finals the previous year, playing positively throughout. It overcame South Africa’s seemingly insurmountable 229-4, winning by two wickets thanks in large measure to 43 from only 16 balls from Jason Roy and Joe Root’s 83 from 44 deliveries, and although it also had a wobble against Afghanistan, slumping to 57-6 before recovering to win by 15 runs, it came within that one dramatic over in the final of adding to the title won in 2010.

Losing semi-finalists New Zealand and India could reflect on missed opportunities. New Zealand, under new captain Kane Williamson, had looked the most assured side of the Super 10 phase, starting off with a win against Mahendra Singh Dhoni’s side and remaining unbeaten – the only side to do so in the Super 10s – until losing its way in the second half of its innings in the semi-final meeting with England in Delhi. India could point to the difficulties its bowlers had with dew in its semi-final clash with the West Indies but that would ignore the fact that Lendl Simmons was dismissed twice from no-balls and also dropped once en route to his match-winning contribution; and that early loss against the Black Caps, as well as a nerve-shredding one-run win against Bangladesh, proved to be perfect illustrations that the side was simply not at its best.

India reached the last four courtesy of a winner-takes-all group match against Australia in Mohali where Virat Kohli’s brilliance in making 82 not out from 51 balls ultimately decided the outcome. Kohli was named player of the tournament for his 273 runs from five matches, a mark only bettered by Bangladesh’s Tamim Iqbal, whose haul of 295 runs included 103 not out against Oman, the only other three-figure score in the tournament in addition to Gayle’s effort.
TOTAL MATCHES 35
NUMBER OF PLAYERS 214
TOTAL RUNS SCORED 9732
NUMBER OF CENTURIES 2
TOTAL SIXES 314
TOTAL FOURS 831
Of the other sides in the tournament, the Netherlands fell agonisingly short in its pursuit of a second consecutive appearance in the second round, losing a nail-biting opener to Bangladesh by eight runs before a wash-out against Oman meant its victory against Ireland in a match reduced to six overs a side by further rain counted for nothing other than pride.

Oman proved to be the story of the first round. In its first outing at cricket’s top table it beat Ireland in its opening match, a remarkable come-from-behind victory when, wanting 65 from six overs and with half the side dismissed, Amir Ali made 32 from 17 balls to script a remarkable two-wicket win.

Scotland also had cause to celebrate, finally winning its first match at a major ICC event after 17 years of trying when it beat Hong Kong by eight wickets in a rain-affected encounter in Nagpur.

Bangladesh reached the Super 10 stage thanks to success in the first round in Group A, made up of the Netherlands, Ireland and Oman, but lost its way in that second section after two of its bowlers, Taskin Ahmed and Arafat Sunny, were reported for having suspect actions.

Afghanistan’s feat of reaching the Super 10s came thanks to wins against Scotland, Hong Kong and Zimbabwe in Group B and its charge was led by Mohammad Shahzad, whose 222 runs at the top of the order came at a strike-rate of 140.50 runs per hundred balls. His cameo of 44 from 19 balls against South Africa provided some fantastic memories for all who saw it.

Afghanistan also had the top two wicket-takers in the tournament in off-spinner Mohammad Nabi (12) and Rashid Khan (11), the teenage leg-spinner who bounced back from being hit for 29 runs in one over by South Africa’s AB de Villiers.

Australia’s campaign was hamstrung by a debate about its batting order as David Warner and Aaron Finch, two of the game’s most devastating openers, were either dropped down the order (in Warner’s case) or left out altogether (in the case of Finch) to accommodate Usman Khawaja and Shane Watson. Finch later returned when Watson slipped down the list but the batting never really fired and that, together with the absence of the injured fast bowler Mitchell Starc, proved crucial in ensuring the ICC World Twenty20 remains the only major ICC title Australia is yet to win.

South Africa’s endured a lacklustre tournament, with a hard-fought win against Afghanistan and a victory against Sri Lanka when both sides were already eliminated its only highlights, while the Sri Lankans – now without Kumar Sangakkara and Mahela Jayawardene – and Pakistan, both former winners, looked completely out of sorts.

The Jury which selected the Player and the Team of the Tournament comprised Geoff Allardice (ICC General Manager-Cricket), Ian Bishop, Nasser Hussain, Mel Jones, Sanjay Manjrekar and Lisa Sthalekar.
**HIGHEST STRIKE-RATE**
(MIN 100 RUNS) 194.82
CHRIS GAYLE

**TOTAL WICKETS** 421

**BEST BOWLING** 5-22
MUSTAFIZUR RAHMAN (BAN v NZ)

**BEST ECONOMY RATE**
(MIN 16 OVERS) 5.18
IMRAN TAHIR

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TEAM OF THE TOURNAMENT
IN BATTING ORDER

Jason ROY  (Eng)
Quinton DE KOCK (WK)  (SA)
Virat KOHLI (C)  (Ind)
Joe ROOT  (Eng)
Jos BUTTLER  (Eng)
Shane WATSON  (Aus)
Andre RUSSELL  (WI)
Mitchell SANTNER  (NZ)
David WILLEY  (Eng)
Samuel BADREE  (WI)
Ashish NEHRA  (Ind)
MUSTAFIZUR Rahman (12th Man)  (Ban)

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FAR LEFT: Joe Root reacts after taking the wicket of Chris Gayle in the final in Kolkata

ABOVE: Virat Kohli (R) greets Shahid Afridi at Eden Gardens a day before India-Pakistan match in Kolkata

TOP: Hashim Amla and Quinton de Kock make their way out to bat

LEFT: Captains Preston Mommsen of Scotland and Hamilton Masakadza of Zimbabwe lead their teams out onto the pitch during Round 1 Group B match

RIGHT: Mitchell Santner of New Zealand is congratulated by his teammates after he dismissed Rohit Sharma during the ICC World Twenty20 India 2016 match in Nagpur

BOTTOM: Bangladesh’s Mustafizur Rahman registers the best bowling figures in the tournament of 5-22 against New Zealand at Eden Gardens in Kolkata
Women’s cricket took a giant leap towards becoming a mainstream spectator sport following an intense and exciting ICC World Twenty20 in India which ended with the West Indies dethroning three-time defending champion Australia to win the title for the first time.

The 10-nation event lived up to the hype of being the most wide-open and evenly-contested of the five editions played so far, with sizable crowds at several venues lapping up the excitement generated by thrilling finishes and the never-say-die attitude of the cricketers.

The West Indies squeaked past Pakistan by four runs and India by three runs, mainly due to spot-on bowling by Deandra Dottin at the death. The 24-year-old from Barbados then capped a memorable tournament by conceding just one run in the 20th over of the final against Australia.

The Caribbean women were involved in another edge-of-the-seat thriller, this time in Dharamsala against England, when it grabbed nine wickets while defending a modest target of 109 before Charlotte Edwards’ side won off the final delivery.

Stafanie Taylor’s West Indies went into the final with a six-run win over New Zealand in the semi-final in Mumbai, while Meg Lanning’s Australia overcame old foe England by five runs in New Delhi.

Australia, which had won the last three editions in 2010, 2012 and 2014 after England had taken the inaugural title at home in 2009, was the firm favourite to make it four in a row in the final at the iconic Eden Gardens in Kolkata.

Half-centuries from opener Elyse Villani and captain Meg Lanning, followed by a 23-ball 28 by Elyse Perry, lifted the Southern Stars to a challenging 148 for five after they elected to take first strike.

Set the second-highest chase in the tournament’s history, the West Indies made light of the daunting task to cruise home by eight wickets and end Australia’s reign.

Hayley Mathews, one of the youngest players in the tournament, aged 18, teamed up with her captain Taylor in a rollicking opening stand of 120, with both players scoring half-centuries.

The brilliant start left the West Indies needing just two runs off four deliveries and wild celebrations broke out when victory was achieved as the result of an overthrow.

The women were joined by their male counterparts, who completed a memorable double by winning their second World Twenty20 title later in the evening, as they jubilantly sang and danced in the middle.

Matthews, whose 45-ball 66 was the highest individual score across five finals, said she was excited at the crowd support for her team during the tournament, especially the final.

“It was good to see crowd coming in towards the end of our match,” said the teenager of her first ICC World Twenty20 experience. “I hope women’s cricket improves as the years go by and we see a lot more support for it.”
MAIN: West Indies women celebrate after winning their maiden ICC World Twenty20 title

LEFT: Darren Sammy congratulates Stafanie Taylor
DELIVERING WORLD-CLASS EVENTS

TOTAL MATCHES 23
TOTAL RUNS SCORED 5294
TOTAL SIXES 43
TOTAL FOURS 483
HIGHEST TEAM SCORE 177-3
(NZ v IRE)
HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORE 82
SUZIE BATES (v IRE)
MOST RUNS STAFANIE TAYLOR (246)

TOP LEFT: Ellyse Perry celebrates the wicket of Natalie Sciver during the semi-final match against England

TOP RIGHT: Charlotte Edwards celebrates her team’s victory over India

MIDDLE: Dilani Manodara of Sri Lanka removes the bails with Sophie Devine of New Zealand short of her ground

BOTTOM RIGHT: Stafanie Taylor in action during the final match against Australia

BOTTOM LEFT: Smriti Mandhana of India in action

OPPOSITE LEFT: Rachel Priest of New Zealand collides with Deandra Dottin
Lanning, whose Southern Stars had won three back-to-back titles to add to their overflowing cupboard of honours, said the West Indies victory proved the gap had narrowed between teams.

“There’s lots happening with women’s cricket,” said the Australian captain, widely regarded as the best batter in the modern game. “It’s building all the time. The skill levels are really increasing as well.

“Everyone’s sort of catching up and going past us and we need to keep improving to make sure we stay on top. The West Indies are an example of that. Throughout the whole tournament, the standard has been really good.

“There’s no easy games in women’s cricket any more. If you are not 100 percent, you are not going to win. We have found that out in this tournament.”

The West Indies had begun planning after its third successive semi-final defeat in 2014, replacing skipper Merissa Aguilleira with Taylor, recalling Afy Fletcher and Britney Cooper, and inducting youngsters like Matthews and Shamilia Connell. Cooper justified her recall with a match-winning 61 off 48 balls in the semi-final against New Zealand and Taylor led from the front to emerge as the tournament’s leading scorer with 246 runs from six matches.

Other notable moments included a brilliant spell of five wickets for eight runs by South Africa’s leg-spinner Sune Luus and 36-year-old Edwards becoming the first player – man or woman- to surpass 2,500 runs in T20 Internationals.

New Zealand’s Suzie Bates hit 82 against Ireland, the highest individual score of the tournament, while team-mates Leigh Kasperek and Sophie Devine finished with nine wickets each, a mark they shared with Dottin.

Enthralling cricket from the women could not have come at a better time. Unlike previous events, the women’s event was fully integrated with the men’s competition as the women’s matches were held at the same venues as the men’s, with the semi-finals and the final taking place ahead of the men’s matches. A total of 13 women’s matches were shown live, unlike the four previous editions when only the semi-finals and finals were shown live, another illustration of the progress being made.
ABOVE: Sri Lanka women look on from the players' dugout during their match against Australia

TOP LEFT: Katherine Brunt catches Sana Mir of Pakistan

BOTTOM LEFT: Bismah Maroof of Pakistan in action

BOTTOM RIGHT: Meg Lanning bats during the semi-final against England

OPPOSITE TOP: Harmanpreet Kaur of India (L) celebrates her four-wicket haul with teammates against the West Indies in Mohali

OPPOSITE BOTTOM: Bangladesh captain Salma Khatun in action
NUMBER OF PLAYERS 132

BEST BOWLING 5-8
SUNE LUUS (v IRE)

MOST BOWLERS USED IN A MATCH 14 (AUS v SA)

WON BATTING FIRST 12

WON BATTING SECOND 11

MOST WICKETS
LEIGH KASPAREK, SOPHIE DEVINE, DEANDRA DOTTIN (9)

TOTAL WICKETS 284
The 14-team ICC World Twenty20 Qualifier 2015, which was jointly hosted in July 2015 by Cricket Ireland and Cricket Scotland, will most likely be remembered for being highly competitive, indicating that there is very little difference in quality between the leading Associate teams when it comes to the shortest format of the game.

Unfortunately, bad weather on the final day in Malahide, Dublin, meant the title had to be shared by Scotland and the Netherlands but, up to that point, good crowds at venues across Ireland and Scotland were treated to exciting and unpredictable Twenty20 cricket.

The teams were split into two groups, with Ireland, Hong Kong, Nepal, Namibia, the United States of America (USA), Papua New Guinea (PNG) and Jersey making up Group A and Scotland, Afghanistan, the Netherlands, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Kenya and Canada forming Group B. The two group winners automatically qualified for the ICC World Twenty20 in India while second, third and fourth-placed teams progressed to play-offs.

No team was undefeated after the group stage with Ireland and Scotland finally topping their respective groups despite losing twice each. In Group A, only a single point separated first place from fourth while Group B was even closer with one point separating top spot from fifth. Accordingly, net run-rate was an important factor in establishing final placings.

In the play-offs, Hong Kong surprised Afghanistan to win by five wickets in a last-ball thriller that was arguably the game of the tournament. Chasing 161 and needing 16 to win off the final over, two wickets fell and 14 runs were scored off the first five balls, leaving Babar Hayat to hit the winning double through the covers for a famous victory.

The Netherlands beat Namibia by four wickets in the other play-off to set up a semi-final against defending champion Ireland, with Scotland and Hong Kong going head-to-head in the other one. The Irish never really found top gear during the tournament, especially in the batting department, and were beaten by five wickets by a well-drilled Dutch team that showed a steely determination throughout.

In the other semi-final, Scotland ended Hong Kong’s impressive run with bowlers Alasdair Evans, Safyaan Sharif and Rob Taylor taking three wickets apiece as Hong Kong struggled to 116 all out, a total the Scots passed inside 13 overs.

Before that, Oman and Afghanistan had booked their places at the ICC World Twenty20 2016 with victories over Namibia and Papua New Guinea respectively in the last two qualifier play-offs, completing the line-up for India. It was a huge result for Oman, which qualified for its first-ever major global event in any format, and earned itself Twenty20 International status for the next four years.

With the last day’s final and third-place play-off rained out, there was a sense of anti-climax to the tournament but there was also a sense that it was an excellent event with teams like PNG, Jersey, Oman and Hong Kong performing very well against some of the best Associate teams. Namibia’s Bernard Scholtz was named player of the tournament. The 24-year-old left-arm spinner was the stand-out bowler in the competition taking 14 wickets for 154 runs at an average of 11 and an economy-rate of just 5.70.

When all the player-of-the-tournament points – awarded by the match officials – were tallied, Scholtz was the clear winner on eight points, ahead of a group of players on seven that included Ireland’s John Mooney, Namibia’s Gerrie Snyman, Akeem Dodson of the USA and Scotland’s Alasdair Evans.

There was unparalleled coverage for the event on ICC digital and social media channels, with overall traffic numbers making it the second largest ICC digital event in recent years. The dedicated event website attracted 3.75 million unique
users, more than double the figure for the ICC World Twenty20 2014 in Bangladesh. These visitors created nearly 20 million page views, which is more than treble the figure of the ICC World Twenty20 in 2014.

For the first time at an ICC qualifying event, 20 matches were broadcast globally and short form match clips were hugely popular right across the world on ICC’s digital channels. The video content reached fans in over 200 countries, with over 13 million video views and over 12 million minutes of online video content consumed.

Another first was the launch of the ICC World Twenty20 Qualifier 2015 App, which aimed at building on the success of the record-breaking ICC Cricket World Cup 2015 App. It was available for free on both Android and iOS, it had over 2.2 million users from more than 200 countries. The App was very well picked up in the participating countries, and it topped the charts as the Number 1 downloaded sports App in 6 countries whilst reaching the Top 10 list in the same category in 22 other countries.

On ICC social media channels, there was also huge interest in the tournament as fans were given their opportunity to get involved with the global broadcast and interact with the players and commentators in Ireland and Scotland. The reach of the ICC’s posts on Facebook topped over 129 million people in July, whilst there was 35 million impressions of ICC tweets during the tournament.

Fans also got their chance to vote for both the Play of the Day video and the Play of the Tournament video, which attracted over two million votes. The eventual winner of the inaugural Play of the Tournament at the ICC World Twenty20 Qualifier 2015 was Nepal’s Siddhant Lohani for his remarkable helicopter shot.
The ICC Women’s World Twenty20 Qualifier held in Thailand in November and December 2015 saw eight teams battle it out for two Women’s World Twenty20 2016 spots. The competing sides were Bangladesh, Scotland, Papua New Guinea and Thailand in Group A, with Ireland, Zimbabwe, China and the Netherlands making up Group B.

Bangladesh and Ireland eventually emerged as champions in a tightly-fought competition where experienced sides had no easy rides against newcomers. China and Thailand showed remarkable spirit and determination as they set out to prove their credentials on the global platform.

China made history by winning its first-ever match at an ICC Global event when it beat the Netherlands by five wickets. It then added a second win to its tally after defeating fellow Asian side Thailand by five runs. China did not advance, but came remarkably close to doing so, as China captain Huang Zhuo finished the tournament as the second highest run-scorer with 122.

Ireland’s road to the final was flawless, as was that of Bangladesh, both teams unbeaten, until Ireland emerged as the eventual winner by virtue of a last-ball victory in the final.

Bangladesh’s leg-spinner Rumana Ahmed walked away with player of the match in the final, and she was also named player of the tournament. Cecilia Joyce of Ireland finished as top run-scorer with 152 runs from five games.
Opposite top: Opposite captains Salma Khatun of Bangladesh and Isobel Joyce of Ireland pose before the final.

Opposite middle: Sun Meng Yao of China plays an attacking shot against Zimbabwe.

Opposite left: Thailand captain Somnarin Tippoch runs for a single against PNG.

Opposite right: Lucy O’Reilly of Ireland took 3-16 against Scotland and helped her side win the match by nine wickets.

Top: Ireland’s women celebrate their victory over Scotland which helped them qualify for the ICC World Twenty20 India 2016.

Bottom: Bangladesh women delighted after beating Zimbabwe to secure a spot in the ICC World Twenty20 India 2016.
Shimron Hetmyer’s West Indies side was crowned champion for the first time when cricket’s finest young talent featured in the ICC U19 World Cup 2016, which was hosted successfully across Bangladesh from 27 January to 14 February.

The Caribbean youngsters banked on their fast-bowling arsenal led by Alzaari Joseph to record a tense five-wicket victory over three-time winner and pre-tournament favourite India in the final in Mirpur.

The pace trio of Joseph, Ryan John and Chemar Holder shone on a spicy, moisture-laden pitch at the Sher-e-Bangla Stadium to demolish India’s fancied batting line-up for 145 after electing to field.

Sarfaraz Khan played a lone hand for the Rahul Dravid-coached Indian team with 51, his fifth half-century in six matches, as Joseph and John picked up three wickets each and Keemo Paul two.

West Indies slipped to 77 for five in reply against the steady India attack before player of the match Keacy Carty (52 not out) and Paul (40 not out) put on an unbroken 69 to steer their team home with three deliveries to spare.

It was a remarkable triumph for Hetmyer’s under-rated team which bounced back after a shaky start to defeat three sub-continent teams – Pakistan, Sri Lanka and India – in the knockout rounds.

“We were not supposed to be the champions, but we did it,” Hetmyer said after the West Indies ended India’s unbeaten 22-match unbeaten streak. “I feel good, words can’t explain how good I feel.”

The finale capped an eventful and memorable three weeks in Bangladesh where starry-eyed teenagers drawn from nine Test-playing nations and seven Associate and Affiliate Members – Afghanistan, Canada, Fiji, Namibia, Nepal, Ireland and Scotland – vied for supremacy.

In an indication that there was little to choose between rivals, defending champion South Africa and New Zealand were knocked out in the first round, as was another Test nation, Zimbabwe.

Unheralded Nepal and Namibia fought their ways into the quarter-finals, host Bangladesh rode on boisterous home support to enter the semi-finals and Afghanistan won the Plate championship.

Ireland, which was handed a last-minute entry after Australia withdrew due to security concerns, overcame lack of match-practice to finish 13th in the 16-team tournament – just behind South Africa and New Zealand.

The previous 10 editions of the ICC U19 CWC had thrown up such cricketing luminaries like Brian Lara, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Chris Gayle, Virender Sehwag, Michael Clarke, Yuvraj Singh, Steven Smith, Virat Kohli, Brendon McCullum, Angelo Mathews, Kagiso Rabada, Mushfiqur Rahim, Joe Root and several others.

The 2016 event is likely to be no different, unveiling several stars of the future who left a mark with their bold and strong cricketing prowess.

There was West Indies opener Gidron Pope, whose power-packed batting reminded of Chris Gayle; team-mate Joseph, the latest in the seemingly unending production line of fast bowlers his region produces, who clocked a jaw-dropping 147-kmph against Zimbabwe.

There was the England batting duo of Jack Burnham, the tournament’s leading scorer with 420 runs in six games that included three hundreds, and Dan Lawrence, who finished third in the list of aggregates with 315 runs. In second place was the stocky Sarfaraz Khan, who anchored India’s fragile middle-order with 355 runs.

The previous 10 editions of the ICC U19 CWC had thrown up such cricketing luminaries like Brian Lara, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Chris Gayle, Virender Sehwag, Michael Clarke, Yuvraj Singh, Steven Smith, Virat Kohli, Brendon McCullum, Angelo Mathews, Kagiso Rabada, Mushfiqur Rahim, Joe Root and several others.
Bangladesh captain and all-rounder Mehidy Miraz showed he was ready to step up to the next level by scoring 242 runs and claiming 12 wickets, earning himself the player of the tournament award.

Nepal’s little known leg-spinner Sandeep Lamichhane emerged as the second highest wicket-taker with 14 wickets, just one behind Fritz Coetzee of Namibia. Lamichhane claimed a hat-trick against Ireland, only the fifth bowler in the history of the tournament to achieve the feat.

The players became household names since the ICC, in conjunction with its live production partner Sunset & Vine, beamed a record 20 matches live through 15 broadcasters which included STAR Sports (India and sub-continent), Sky Sports (UK and Republic of Ireland), SuperSport (Africa and sub-Saharan Africa), OSN (Middle East and North Africa) and Willow TV (the United States of America).

The tournament was also covered comprehensively on ICC digital channels with the official website www.icc-cricket.com providing live scoring and full match-centre coverage for all matches.

It was the first time an ICC U19 Cricket World Cup had a dedicated mobile App, available on both Android via the Google Play store or iOS via the App Store. Both the website and the App contained the latest news, columns, video clips, official tournament standings, statistics etc.

The next edition of the tournament will be held in 2018 in New Zealand with seventh-placed Namibia, the highest-ranked Associate Member, qualifying directly along with the 10 Test-playing sides.

The remaining five qualifiers in the 16-nation tournament will be determined through regional qualifying competitions.
The ICC U19 Cricket World Cup Qualifier 2015 was held in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur in October at two venues – The Royal Selangor Club and The Kinrara Oval.

The five teams participating were Ireland, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Uganda and the United States of America, who had all finished second in their respective regional qualifying tournaments. This was their final shot at ICC U19 CWC 2016 qualification, with one spot up for grabs.

Nepal emerged victorious in the tournament, and was the standout team, winning all four of its group matches by impressive margins, before defeating Ireland in the final by three wickets.

The South Asian team opened its tally with a nine-wicket win over Papua New Guinea, which was followed by a 171-run win over Uganda. Then came a six-wicket win over the USA, and finally an eight-wicket win over Ireland.

Nepal’s Sunil Dhamala was the top run-scorer in the tournament with 170 runs, while Raju Rijal was the only player to score a century (101) in Nepal’s win over Uganda.

Amongst the bowlers it was Ireland’s Rory Anders who took top honours with 13 wickets, but the best bowling figures belonged to Nepal’s Dhamala, with 5-15 against Uganda to go with his batting brilliance. Aarif Sheikh from Nepal was player of the tournament for a haul of 10 wickets, four of which came in the final.
“Nepal emerged victorious and was the standout team, winning all four of its group matches by impressive margins”
The latest edition of the ICC Intercontinental Cup, which provides a clear pathway to Test cricket, kicked off in May 2015. The tournament, to be played over a two-and-a-half-year period, will culminate at the end of 2017 with the winner to qualify for the ICC Test Challenge against the 10th-ranked Test side.

This series of four matches will be played in 2018 on a home and away basis. If the ICC Intercontinental Cup winner clinches the ICC Test Challenge, then it will become the 11th Test-playing nation until the second ICC Test Challenge, which is scheduled for 2022.

After three rounds of a total of seven, Ireland was in a commanding position after winning its matches against the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Namibia and Papua New Guinea (PNG). William Porterfield’s side was sitting on 60 points, 14 points ahead of Peter Borren’s Netherlands, which recovered from a shock five-wicket defeat against PNG in its tournament opener, to win against Scotland and the UAE.

Afghanistan was on 41 points following a drawn match against Scotland and victories against PNG and Namibia. Hong Kong was fourth on 30 points, followed by Scotland (23), PNG and Namibia (20 each), and the UAE, which was yet to register any points.

Ireland launched its title-defence with a convincing victory by an innings and 26 runs over the UAE in Dublin. The victory was dominated by Ed Joyce, who scored his country’s highest individual score of 231, while putting on 231 runs for the second wicket with Paul Stirling (146). Left-arm spinner George Dockrell and fast bowler Craig Young then shared 14 wickets between them as the visitors managed 213 and 253 against the home side’s 492.

PNG produced a significant upset when it celebrated its maiden first-class appearance with a victory, by coming back from an 81-run deficit to defeat the Netherlands by five wickets in Amstelveen. Assad Vala (124 not out) and Mahuru Dai (91) added 200 runs for the fifth wicket after the visitors had slipped to 82 for four after being set a victory target of 305.

Hong Kong also made history when it registered a first-ever victory in the ICC Intercontinental Cup by defeating the UAE in Dubai. Babar Hayat (113) and Tanwir Afzal (104) put on 139 runs to lift the visitors to 378. 18-year-old left-arm spinner Anshuman Rath then picked up four for 34 to skittle out the UAE for 181. With a 197-run first innings lead under the belt, Hong Kong scored 184 in its second outing. The 382 runs proved to be too much for the home side, which was shot out for 105 with Haseeb Amjad (four for 10) and Nadeem Ahmed (four for 40) taking the bowling honours.
Hong Kong’s chance of making another piece of history by hosting its maiden first-class match was ruined by weather when not a single ball was bowled in its fixture at Mission Road against Scotland.

Ed Joyce followed his 231 against the UAE with another double-century when he scored 205 against Namibia in Windhoek as Ireland won by an innings and 107 runs. In the same match, Ireland captain William Porterfield scored 186, which remains the third highest individual score to date and the pair combined in a partnership of 326 runs.

Other hundred-makers in the tournament included the UAE’s Shaiman Anwar (148 against Netherlands) Mohammad Shahzad of Afghanistan (139 and 116 versus Namibia and PNG respectively), as well as his team mates Asghar Stanikzai (127 against PNG) and Hashmatullah Shahidi (112 versus PNG), the PNG duo of Mahuru Dai (129 against Afghanistan) and Assad Vala (124 not out and 120 versus Netherlands and Ireland respectively) and Namibia’s Xander Pitchers (105 not out against Hong Kong).

Following two double-centuries, Joyce was the leading run-getter after three rounds with 529 runs from four innings, followed by Vala (409), Shahzad (291), Dai (286) and Anwar (239).

Zahir Khan’s (Afghanistan) eight for 62 against Namibia at Greater Noida in India – a location used as an adopted home by the Afghan side – was the best bowling performance in the tournament up to the end of the period under review. Zahir was also the leading wicket-taker after three rounds with 15 wickets, followed by Ireland’s George Dockrell and Craig Young and UAE’s Ahmed Raza, all of whom had collected 14 wickets.

The fourth round was due to begin on 29 July 2016 when Afghanistan were set to travel to Voorburg to take on the Netherlands.
The ICC World Cricket League went from strength to strength in 2015-16 as it continued to provide the leading Associate and Affiliate Members a means of rising up the game’s first-class and limited-overs pyramids.

The latest edition of the ICC’s 50-over World Cricket League Championship (WCLC) runs from 2015-2017, and is being contested by eight teams, four of which have ODI status (Scotland, UAE, Hong Kong and Papua New Guinea) while the other four (the Netherlands, Namibia, Nepal and Kenya) were promoted from the ICC World Cricket League Division Two in early 2015.

The ICC WCLC is the pathway for participating teams to play in the ICC Cricket World Cup Qualifier 2018 (ICC CWCQ) and subsequently have a chance to qualify for ICC Cricket World Cup 2019.

Three out of a total of seven rounds of the tournament have been completed, with each team having competed in six matches. The Netherlands leads the table with four wins out of six, and is ahead of second-placed Hong Kong by just a point with PNG jumping to third following a series win over Kenya.

PNG’s historic win came in Port Moresby in the last week of May 2016. The 50-over matches were the first-ever ICC fixtures to be held in PNG, with Amini Park recently receiving ICC approval to host international games.

Chad Soper starred for PNG in the first game with his maiden five-wicket haul, while in the second 50-over match, Vani Morea’s unbeaten 102 was instrumental in PNG’s 21 runs win, to wrap up the series two-nil.

Another highlight this year was the third-round Nepal versus Namibia clash in Kathmandu in April. Nepal, a first-timer in the competition, found itself bottom of the table in eighth place before the third round matches.

The games in Kathmandu were a huge success, with thousands of people pouring into the Tribhuvan University Ground to watch their team in action, and millions more enjoying the cricket on local television. Egged on by massive local support, and a hundred by captain Paras Khadka in the second encounter Nepal went on to win both matches and jump up the table from eighth to fifth place.

Hong Kong hosted its first ODI against Scotland at the Mission Road Ground in Mong Kok. Rain played spoilsport and allowed just one of two games to be played, Hong Kong winning that by a margin of 109 runs.

The UAE and Namibia have won just a game apiece, and have some catching up to do, in the remaining four rounds of the WCLC.
Host Jersey beat Oman by 44 runs in the final of the six-team ICC World Cricket League Division 5 tournament, which took place from 21-28 May 2016. Both the finalists were promoted to Division 4, and will have a chance to lock horns once again in November, when they travel to Los Angeles in the United States of America to play the Division 4 tournament.

Meanwhile, Guernsey, which defeated Vanuatu by 19 runs to finish third, retained its place in Division 5, while Vanuatu, along with fifth-placed Tanzania and sixth-placed Nigeria were relegated to their respective regional-qualifying events. Vanuatu will head down to the East-Asian qualifying event, while Nigeria and Tanzania will have to fight for a spot in Division 5 via the African regional qualifying event.

The World Cricket League (WCL) Division 6 was in action in Essex from 7 to 13 September 2015, at the end of which Guernsey and Vanuatu were promoted to play in Division 5.

The eight teams participating were Guernsey, Vanuatu, Norway, Fiji, Botswana, Cayman Islands, Saudi Arabia and Suriname, with the top two-teams assured of promotion to Division 5.

Suriname emerged champion after a six-wicket win over Guernsey.

However Suriname withdrew from Division 5 (to which they had been promoted) after defaulting on eligibility regulations, and were subsequently relegated to the WCL Americas Division 1.

Following this, third-placed Vanuatu was then invited to join Guernsey in WCL Division 5.

The event was promoted heavily on social media, and short videos of the matches were circulated widely, gaining over 100,000 views.
The West Indies came back from behind to beat Sri Lanka (2-1) and also notched up series successes against Pakistan (3-0) and South Africa (2-1), while England, after losing to Australia 2-1, defeated South Africa by the same margin. India lost both its series against New Zealand and Australia by an identical 2-1 margin before beating Sri Lanka 3-0, and New Zealand carved out away wins against India and Sri Lanka losing only to Australia.

While five individual hundreds were scored in the 2014-2015 season, eight were recorded in the 2015-2016 season with three alone coming from the willow of Australia’s Lanning. She scored 104 against England in the second ODI in Bristol in July 2015, and then hit back-to-back three-figure scores against New Zealand (114 not out and 127) in Mount Maunganui in February.

Other hundred-makers were New Zealand’s Suzie Bates (110 v Australia), New Zealand wicketkeeper-batter Rachel Priest (108 and 157 v Sri Lanka), India’s Smriti Mandhana (102 v Australia) and Australia’s Alex Blackwell (114 v India).

In the period between May 2015 and February 2016, Meg Lanning’s Australia retained its early lead and by the end of the period under review sat on the verge of qualifying for the biggest event in women’s cricket. Australia had played 15 out of a maximum of 21 matches and following victories in 12 matches, had 24 points to its name. Stafanie Taylor’s West Indies was in second position with 20 points after 10 wins in 15 matches.

The competition for the top four positions in the ICC Women’s Championship remained tight as 30 matches in 10 series between the eight sides were played in the period from May 2015 to February 2016.

The concept was approved at the January 2014 ICC Board meeting on the recommendation of the ICC Women’s Committee and subsequently launched in August 2014. The aim was to create more meaningful bilateral series in the women’s game and expand playing opportunities.

The top four sides from this event earn themselves qualification to the ICC Women’s World Cup 2017 in England, to be held from 26 June – 23 July, while the bottom four sides are handed another chance to qualify through participation in the ICC Women’s World Cup Qualifier in the first half of 2017.
claimed five for 34 against South Africa in the first ODI in East London along with Jess Jonassen who took five for 50 against New Zealand in Mount Maunganui.

Overall, Lanning was the lead run-scorer with 920 runs at an impressive average of just over 70. Perry, who had played three fewer matches, was second on the list with 703 runs at an average of just over 70, while Bates sat third with 686 runs from 15 games at an average of 49.

Amongst the bowlers, Australia’s Jonassen led the charge with 25 wickets, followed by Anisa Mohammed of the West Indies (24 wickets), South Africa’s Shabnim Ismail (23 wickets) and England’s Heather Knight (20 wickets). Board
This photograph by the Rwanda cricket Association won the ICC Development Programme Awards 2015 for the Image of the Year. This picture was taken at a coaching clinic in Rwanda.
SPIRIT OF CRICKET
Smith won the Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for the ICC Cricketer of the Year and also scooped the Test Cricketer of the Year prize.

And that meant he became the third Australian player in succession to win both accolades in the same year, following on from Michael Clarke in 2013 and Mitchell Johnson in 2014.

Smith also became the seventh player to do the ICC Awards double of Cricketer of the Year and Test Player of the Year after Rahul Dravid of India (2004), South Africa’s Jacques Kallis (2005), Ponting (2006), Kumar Sangakkara of Sri Lanka (2012), Clarke and Johnson.

And the prizes were due recognition for his form during the voting period, which ran from 18 September 2014 to 13 September 2015.

In that span of time Smith was the leading run-scorer in Tests with 1734 runs, scoring seven hundreds and six fifties, and he became the second youngest player in history (after India’s Sachin Tendulkar) to achieve the number one placing in the ICC Player Rankings for Test batsmen, reaching that mark after scoring 199 and 54 not out against the West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica in June 2015.

In One-Day Internationals (ODIs) he was just as impressive, scoring 1249 runs with four hundreds and eight fifties and he was a part of the Australia side that won the ICC Cricket World Cup.

And to complete the recognition of his successful 12 months, Smith was also named in both the ICC’s Test and ODI Teams of the Year. In the Test side he was joined by fellow Australians David Warner and Josh Hazlewood – who was also named as the ICC Emerging Player of the Year following a haul of 40 wickets in nine Tests during the period under review – while Mitchell Starc, the player of the tournament in the ICC Cricket World Cup 2015, joined him in the ODI line-up.

AB de Villiers of South Africa was named as ODI Cricketer of the Year for the second year in succession and the third year in total having also won the award in 2010, hardly a surprise after he scored 1265 runs at an average of just over 79 and a strike-rate of 128.4 runs per hundred balls.

Steve Smith completed a remarkable treble by Australia’s players by securing two of the top honours in the ICC Awards for 2015.
De Villiers’ efforts included a 31-ball hundred against the West Indies in Johannesburg in January 2015, the fastest three-figure score in the history of the format. He was also named as captain of the ICC’s ODI Team of the Year, with fellow South Africa players Hashim Amla and Imran Tahir joining him in that side.

Australia captain Meg Lanning was selected as the ICC Women’s ODI Cricketer of the Year after scoring two hundreds and three fifties in seven ODIs, while Stafanie Taylor, the West Indies captain, picked up the ICC Women’s T20I prize with 340 runs in nine matches.

Faf du Plessis received the award for the T20I Performance of the Year for his 119 from 56 balls against the West Indies in Johannesburg in January 2015 while Khurram Khan, the former UAE captain, received a perfect gift after announcing his international retirement by winning the Associate and Affiliate Player of the Year Award after scoring 425 runs in nine ODIs.

Another international retiree, Brendon McCullum of New Zealand, was awarded the ICC Spirit of Cricket Award for his exemplary conduct, most notably following the superb ICC Cricket World Cup semi-final against South Africa in Auckland where, after his side secured a narrow four-wicket win off the penultimate ball, he invited the Proteas players and officials into the Black Caps dressing room.

Umpire Richard Kettleborough won the David Shepherd Trophy for the ICC Umpire of the Year for the third year in a row and so became the third umpire to achieve a hat-trick of titles after Simon Taufel (2004 – 2008) and Aleem Dar (2009 – 2011). Kumar Dharmasena is the other past winner, in 2012.

2015 marked 12 years of the ICC Awards, the prizes that recognise the major individual and team achievements in world cricket.

The Awards began in 2004 as part of the ICC’s aim to celebrate the game’s heroes and role models and are now made up of 10 individual awards, as well as the naming of composite Test and One-Day International Teams of the Year.

The awards have honoured some of the biggest names in men’s and women’s international cricket. 2015 saw the awards judged by a voting academy, entirely independent of the ICC, while the Test and ODI Teams of the Year were chosen by a specially-appointed selection panel chaired by the ICC’s Cricket Committee chairman and former India captain Anil Kumble and also featured former West Indies fast bowler Ian Bishop, ex-England batsman Mark Butcher, former Australia women’s captain Belinda Clark and Mr G Viswanath, Deputy Editor of The Hindu & Sportstar.
In 48 Tests spanning 11 years, from 1958 to 1969, he took 192 wickets including nine five-wicket hauls and one ten-wicket match, 11-126, in just his second Test, against India in Kanpur in December 1958.

Sir Wesley became the first West Indies bowler to claim a Test hat-trick when he achieved the feat against Pakistan in Lahore in 1959, and he bowled the final over in two of the most dramatic Tests of them all – the first-ever tied Test, against Australia in Brisbane in 1960, and the Lord’s Test against England in 1963, which finished as a draw after Colin Cowdrey came out to bat with a broken arm.

After retirement Sir Wesley became an ordained minister as well as the Minister for Sport and Tourism in the Barbados Government. He also managed West Indies touring sides and, in 2001, took over as President of the West Indies Cricket Board. In 2012 he was knighted for services to sport and the community.

Hailing from Barbados, Sir Wesley was regarded as one of the fastest and best bowlers of his generation.

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The cap was presented during the West Indies – Australia Test match at Sabina Park in June 2015, and also present at the ceremony were two other greats of the game from the Caribbean - Clive Lloyd and Sir Everton Weekes, as well as ICC Director and West Indies Cricket Board President Dave Cameron.

Hailing from Barbados, Sir Wesley was regarded as one of the fastest and best bowlers of his generation.
Cricket Scotland took the top prize in the annual ICC Development Programme Awards 2015, claiming the Best Overall Cricket Development Programme Award.

The award winners were announced in April 2016 following deliberations by a judging panel including ICC Chairman Shashank Manohar and President Zaheer Abbas.

Cricket Scotland’s Development Programme continues to go from strength to strength, growing cricket across the country with a number of innovative new programmes introduced in 2015. These programmes included Thriving Clubs which has provided hands-on professional support to cricket clubs, the expansion of Last Man Stands across Scottish cities and the first Cricket Force scheme, which was launched in conjunction with building material suppliers Jewson to help improve facilities in local communities.

The Lifetime Service Award was won by Jim Bennett for his dedication to the administration of youth cricket in Ireland. Mr Bennett sits on the Executive Committee for Cricket Leinster, the group tasked with the running and administration of the club game in that province. Mr Bennett is also heavily involved in his club side the Hills as Club President – a position he has held with distinction for the past 15 years.

Competition for the Spirit of Cricket Award was high with Vanuatu and Malaysia named as joint winners. Vanuatu was recognised for its Women’s Island Cricket Programme which assisted with clean-up efforts following the destruction caused by Cyclone Pam in March 2015. Malaysia was named co-winners, thanks to its Bat for Nepal fundraising match that generated thousands of dollars for the stricken country following the earthquake in April 2015.

Rwanda Cricket Association picked up the Image of the Year award for its photo capturing cricket development at a coaching clinic in the country.

Other winners were Ivan Thawithemwira of the Uganda Cricket Association – and a player who has represented his country since 2008 – who won the Volunteer of the Year award thanks to his contribution to cricket development in the Western Uganda district of Fort Portal, and Gemma Dunning from the Jersey Cricket Board, who won the Women’s Cricket ‘Behind the Scenes’ award for her work to inspire more girls to take part in sport through the vehicle of cricket called Crick-Fit @ The Beach.

The award winners – as well as a host of nominees not recognised in the final analysis – illustrated the terrific amount of dedication and enthusiasm to grow the game across the globe in emerging nations.

All ICC Development Programme Annual Awards 2015 winners received a cricket equipment grant to its national cricket body.
Then, during the event itself, players from International men’s and women’s teams involved in the tournament took time out of their schedules to engage with underprivileged children in specially designed coaching clinics.

UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Sachin Tendulkar and players from the Indian team also featured in a public service announcement played out during all matches in the ICC World Twenty20.

The Emirates Elite Panel of ICC Umpires also got together to donate US$10,000 to the Voluntary Health Service charity in Chennai, a unique service that provides free healthcare for underprivileged people living in the city.

Amid a seemingly never-ending debate about what the spirit of cricket actually means, the one thing that is undeniable is that cricket can be a force for good and a vehicle that can be used to raise awareness of issues that might otherwise garner little or no publicity.

In that regard the period 2015-16 saw the ICC use its profile and the profile of its events to publicise significant subject matter that affects people way beyond the boundaries of a cricket ground.

Cricket For Good was created as the ICC’s global community outreach programme aimed at leveraging the vast power and reach of cricket to positively impact the lives of children and families worldwide.

Cricket For Good announced a five-year Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) partnership with the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) in October 2015 and that partnership will be used as the ICC’s platform to advocate for children in India and other countries where cricket is a popular sport.

At a global level, Cricket For Good in partnership with UNICEF will collaborate in specific areas of nutrition and child development, water and sanitation hygiene, quality education, empowering adolescents, child protection and child health, all aimed at improving children’s lives.

At the ICC World Twenty 2016, Cricket For Good teamed up with UNICEF and the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to launch the Team Swachh campaign. The collaboration aimed to build a social movement for sanitation and toilet use, thereby eventually leading to an open-defecation free India.

One of the successful initiatives of the campaign included the participation of several former and current Indian stars in cricket clinics with disadvantaged children. As a part of the eight city Nissan Trophy Tour, legends like Yuvraj Singh, Venkatesh Prasad, and Mithali Raj spent time playing cricket-based sanitation and hygiene games to get the message across.

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It followed on from them donating US$10,000 each to the Fred Hollows Foundation in Melbourne and Ronald McDonald House Charities in Melbourne during the ICC Cricket World Cup.

The Fred Hollows Foundation is one of the world’s leading eye health organisations dedicated to ending avoidable blindness while Ronald McDonald House Charities take care of New Zealand families while their children are receiving medical treatment.

The ICC’s formal commitment to using itself and its events as a means of promoting causes of global significance dates back to 2003 when the organisation linked up with UNAIDS to address the issue of HIV/AIDS in cricket-playing countries, and in 2006 UNICEF also joined the prominent partnership supporting the ‘Unite for Children, Unite Against AIDS’ campaign.
SUMMARY CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015
It was an honor to continue in my role as Chair of the ICC Audit Committee during 2015-16. With each Audit Committee meeting, and since the addition of Independent Audit Committee Members, the Committee's overall effectiveness has enhanced with more experience onboard.

2015-16 has seen some exciting developments for international cricket with significant governance and financial reforms on the horizon such as the creation of the position of an Independent Chairman on the ICC Board, a comprehensive review of the 2014 constitutional amendments, and a review of the Members’ financial distribution model. Good governance is at the heart of the ICC’s vision to grow cricket’s popularity around the globe.

In an unprecedented move, the ICC conducted an independently managed election process for the appointment of the first wholly independent ICC Chairman. Since electoral integrity was important, it was my duty to ensure professionalism, impartiality and transparency throughout the election process.

This year, we welcomed the ICC Chairman, Mr. Manohar, to the Audit Committee. The Chairman’s involvement in the Committee meetings in his capacity as Ex-Officio, lends valuable expertise and experience to the functioning of the Audit Committee. His legal and sports governance background will indeed complement the overall skill-set and experience of the current Audit Committee and play a key role in the effective oversight of the ICC’s operations.

From the period between the 2015 and 2016 Annual Reports, the ICC Audit Committee met on two occasions. The Committee continued to focus on ensuring that the ICC’s internal systems and controls are effective and responsive to a challenging external environment while evolving in line with the ever increasing need to be more efficient in all operational matters. The Committee continued to discuss a number of important issues, including Corporate Taxation which remains a high-risk area in a multi-jurisdictional and geographically widespread organisation such as ICC.

As per the Committee’s Terms of Reference, the Committee is required to review the audited Financial Statements and External Auditor’s report and make appropriate recommendations. At our last meeting held in April 2016, we reviewed and discussed the External Auditor’s report and draft ICC audited Financial Statements for the period 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2015. The review included the assessment of the accounting principles used, significant estimates made, Auditor’s independence and overall presentation of the Financial Statements.

One of our core roles is to assess the objectivity and independence of the External Auditors and highlight any conflicts of interest. We confirm that we had free access to the ICC External Auditors and periodically evaluated their performance, independence and the impact of any non-audit services on their objectivity.

At the first meeting each year, we also issue a Statement of Internal Control to the Board confirming the effectiveness of the ICC Internal Control Framework. This Statement is prepared after due consideration of the Risk Based Internal Audit Plan, results of the audits undertaken by the Internal Audit function, responses received from Management on Internal Audit issues, the extent of implementation of audit recommendations, the integrity of ICC’s risk management process, minutes of key ICC Committees, and knowledge gained from any other pertinent reviews performed during the respective period. Based on the Committee’s assessment of the above in 2015-16, we are satisfied to provide reasonable assurance to the Board that ICC has been operating in a controlled manner.

Finally, I wish to conclude by expressing the Committee’s gratitude to the Chairman, Directors, and Management, who have shown utmost cooperation in working with us and extending their assistance.

For the Audit Committee

Adnan Zaidi
ICC Audit Committee Chairman
Dubai, 16 May 2016
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS’
ON THE SUMMARY CONSOLIDATED
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
THE INTERNATIONAL CRICKET COUNCIL

The accompanying summary consolidated financial statements, which comprise the summary consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2015, the summary consolidated statement of comprehensive income, summary consolidated statement of changes in Members’ Funds and summary consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and related notes, are derived from the audited consolidated financial statements of The International Cricket Council and its subsidiaries (the “ICC Group”) for the year ended 31 December 2015. We expressed an unmodified opinion on those consolidated financial statements in our report dated 24 May 2016 which included an emphasis of matter paragraph. The matter emphasised is set out in Note 25 to the consolidated financial statements of the ICC Group available on the ICC Website (www.icc-cricket.com).

The summary consolidated financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by International Financial Reporting Standards. Reading the summary consolidated financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited consolidated financial statements of the Group.

Directors’ Responsibility for the Consolidated Financial Statements
The directors are responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited financial statements on the basis described in notes to the summary consolidated financial statements.

Auditors’ Responsibility
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary consolidated financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with International Standard on Auditing (ISA) 810, “Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements”.

Opinion
In our opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited consolidated financial statements of the ICC Group for the year ended 31 December 2015 are consistent, in all material respects, with those consolidated financial statements, on the basis described in notes to the summary consolidated financial statements.

Signed by:
Anthony O’Sullivan
Partner
Registration No. 687
24 May 2016
Dubai

SUMMARY CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT
OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event related activities</th>
<th>2015 USD’000</th>
<th>2014 USD’000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue from ICC Events</td>
<td>440,420</td>
<td>195,816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costs relating to ICC Events</td>
<td>(158,342)</td>
<td>(44,810)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net surplus relating to ICC Events</td>
<td>282,078</td>
<td>151,006</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other activities</th>
<th>2015 USD’000</th>
<th>2014 USD’000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other revenue</td>
<td>10,657</td>
<td>6,857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest and investment income - net</td>
<td>2,479</td>
<td>1,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General and administrative expenses</td>
<td>(31,515)</td>
<td>(31,748)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign exchange (loss) gain - net</td>
<td>(65)</td>
<td>593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net (loss) gain on financial asset at fair value through profit or loss</td>
<td>(6)</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net loss from other activities</td>
<td>(18,450)</td>
<td>(22,917)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Net surplus before taxation                     | 263,628      | 128,089      |
| Taxation                                        | (444)        | (17)         |

NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR                          | 263,184      | 128,072      |

Other comprehensive income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss</th>
<th>2015 USD’000</th>
<th>2014 USD’000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reclassification adjustment relating to realized gain on sale of available-for-sale investments</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrealised (loss) gain on revaluation of available-for-sale investments</td>
<td>(938)</td>
<td>493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comprehensive (loss) income for the year</td>
<td>(601)</td>
<td>664</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR             | 262,583      | 128,736      |

The attached notes 1 to 3 form part of these summary consolidated financial statements.
## SUMMARY CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015 USD'000</th>
<th>2014 USD'000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-current assets</td>
<td>123,917</td>
<td>149,637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current assets</td>
<td>25,131</td>
<td>261,369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cash resources</td>
<td>88,795</td>
<td>42,688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>237,843</td>
<td>453,694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus in cricket development funds</td>
<td>23,692</td>
<td>6,337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution cost</td>
<td>3,841</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test Cricket fund</td>
<td>4,375</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advances received (current)</td>
<td>9,725</td>
<td>170,503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advances received (non-current)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposit received (non-current)</td>
<td>95,000</td>
<td>95,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable, accruals and provisions</td>
<td>39,456</td>
<td>14,556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other non-current liabilities</td>
<td>4,405</td>
<td>4,348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities</strong></td>
<td>180,494</td>
<td>291,244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REPRESENTED BY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserves</td>
<td>45,702</td>
<td>43,455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allocable surplus</td>
<td>11,647</td>
<td>118,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Total Members’ Funds</td>
<td>57,349</td>
<td>162,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS’ FUNDS</strong></td>
<td>237,843</td>
<td>453,694</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Shashank Manohar  
Chairman  
24 April 2016

David Richardson  
Chief Executive  
24 April 2016

The attached notes 1 to 3 form part of these summary consolidated financial statements.
### SUMMARY CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN MEMBERS’ FUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Allocable surplus USD’000</th>
<th>Retained surplus USD’000</th>
<th>Reserves USD’000</th>
<th>Total USD’000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>At 1 January 2014</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net surplus for the year</td>
<td>128,072</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>128,072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comprehensive income</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>664</td>
<td>664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total comprehensive income for the year</td>
<td>128,072</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>664</td>
<td>128,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Appropriations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends to Members</td>
<td>(52,496)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(52,496)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allocation to ICC Global Cricket Development Programme</td>
<td>(11,650)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(11,650)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer</td>
<td>2,574</td>
<td>(393)</td>
<td>(2,181)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>At 31 December 2014</strong></td>
<td>118,995</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>43,455</td>
<td>162,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net surplus for the year</td>
<td>263,184</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>263,184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other comprehensive loss</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(601)</td>
<td>(601)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total comprehensive income for the year</td>
<td>263,184</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(601)</td>
<td>262,583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Appropriations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends to Members</td>
<td>(342,799)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(342,799)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allocation to ICC Global Cricket Development Programme</td>
<td>(24,885)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(24,885)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer</td>
<td>(2,848)</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,848</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>At 31 December 2015</strong></td>
<td>11,647</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>45,702</td>
<td>57,349</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NOTES TO SUMMARY CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 ACTIVITIES

The International Cricket Council (the “Company” or “ICC”) is a company limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital, it is incorporated in the British Virgin Islands. The registered office of ICC is at Craigmur Chambers, P.O. Box 71, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands. There are currently 105 Members.

The International Cricket Council (“ICC”) is the international governing body for International Test Match, International One-Day and International Twenty20 cricket. The ICC is primarily responsible for all aspects of the day to day running and the development of international cricket. This extensive remit includes management of the ICC Code of Conduct, the playing conditions and all other regulatory functions and services relevant to the international game, provision of qualified and independent Match Officials for Tests, One-Day and Twenty20 Internationals and initiating and implementing key policy decisions for the benefit of the game.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION

Summary consolidated financial statements

The summary consolidated financial statements have been derived from the audited consolidated financial statements of the ICC Group which were approved by the Board on 24 April 2016. These summary consolidated financial statements were authorised for issue on 24 May 2016.

The aforementioned audited consolidated financial statements are available at the Headquarters of the ICC in Dubai Sports City. The summary consolidated financial statements are presented in considerably less detail than annual audited consolidated financial statements for the convenience of readers and represent a fair summary of the audited consolidated financial statements.

The consolidated financial statements have been presented in US Dollars, which is the functional currency of the Group. All values are rounded to the nearest thousand (USD'000) except otherwise stated.

Consolidated financial statements

The aforementioned financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as issued by the International Accounting Standard Board (IASB).

The aforementioned financial statements comprise the financial statements as at 31 December 2015 of the ICC and its following subsidiaries (“the ICC Group”):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the subsidiary</th>
<th>Country of incorporation</th>
<th>Percentage shareholding</th>
<th>Principal activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ICC Business Corporation FZ LLC</td>
<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
<td>100% 100%</td>
<td>To manage the commercial rights relating to cricket events of ICC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICC Development (International) Limited (IDI)</td>
<td>British Virgin Islands</td>
<td>100% 100%</td>
<td>To manage the commercial rights relating to cricket events of ICC. It also manages the ICC Development Program and provides administration services as are required by ICC.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following are the Subsidiaries of IDI

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the subsidiary</th>
<th>Country of incorporation</th>
<th>Percentage shareholding</th>
<th>Principal activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International Cricket Council FZ-LLC</td>
<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
<td>100% 100%</td>
<td>To provide administrative services to IDI.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICC (Events) Ltd</td>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>100% 100%</td>
<td>To manage certain commercial rights of IDI.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDI Hungary Kft</td>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>100% 100%</td>
<td>To manage certain commercial rights of IDI.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDI Mauritius Ltd</td>
<td>Mauritius</td>
<td>100% 100%</td>
<td>To manage certain commercial rights of IDI.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The ICC Group’s principal place of business is at Street 69, Dubai Sports City, Sheikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Road, P.O. Box 500070, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

3 DISCLOSURE RELATING TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The audited consolidated financial statements of the ICC Group are available on the ICC Website. The website address is www.icc-cricket.com. For the significant accounting policies and detailed notes to the consolidated financial statements please refer to the audited consolidated financial statements on the Website.
ABOVE: Sarah Coyte of Australia claims the final wicket of Anya Shrubsole of England to win the Ashes Test in Canterbury on 14 August 2015.