

# ISRAEL CRICKET ASSOCIATION



# התאחדות הקריקט בישראל

## שנתון | א N N U A L 2 0 0 5

- History of Israel Cricket
- 2005 Maccabi Games
- Israel at the ICC U19 World Cup Qualifier, Scotland
- 2004 Season Review
- European Cricket Development Report
- ICA Strategic Plan



Foreword by Malcolm Speed  
CEO, International Cricket Council

[www.israel.cricket.org](http://www.israel.cricket.org)

# MESSAGE FROM STANLEY PERLMAN

## CHAIRMAN - ISRAEL CRICKET ASSOCIATION



On behalf of the Israel Cricket Association I wish to welcome the cricketers and their supporters from all over the world who have gathered in Israel to participate in the 17<sup>th</sup> Maccabi Games.

The Maccabi Games is not only a sporting occasion. For all participants it is a fulfillment of a dream to come to Israel and to be part of such a special event with such significance to the Jewish People. While you are in Israel I hope you will realize and appreciate the importance of the State of Israel to the Jewish people.

In addition it is a great honour for me to welcome Malcom Speed, the CEO of the International Cricket Council to Israel. Malcom's visit is recognition for Israeli cricket on the world scene.

Israeli cricket has made tremendous strides since the last Maccabiah. We set up a youth development program in late 2000. At least 3000 boys and girls have participated in the programme. The results of our youth teams have been outstanding. Three European Championships have been won and twice we have finished runners up. An ICC Global Award and various European Awards have made the past five years so rewarding.

I wish our U19 team, participating in the ICC World Cup qualifying tournament in Scotland at the end of July, the best of luck. I have no doubt that the team will continue their winning ways and be ambassadors for Israel while in Scotland. I thank the Scottish Cricket Union for their efforts in arranging what will surely be a highly successful tournament.

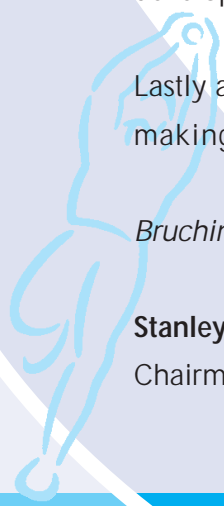
I would like to thank all our sponsors whose contributions have made the publication of this annual possible and special thanks to Michael Ziff for his continued support of our youth development program.

Lastly a special word of thanks to all those people who have given up so much of their time in making the Maccabi Games cricket competition the success it will undoubtedly be.

*Bruchim Habaim* and may you all enjoy a wonderful stay in Israel. We look forward to your return.

**Stanley Perlman**

Chairman, Israel Cricket Association



# FOREWORD BY MALCOLM SPEED

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER - INTERNATIONAL CRICKET COUNCIL



Cricket today is a truly global sport so it is fitting that it should feature in an international event like the 17<sup>th</sup> Maccabi Games.

The roots of our sport may be in England and the branches in Australasia, the Indian sub-continent, Southern Africa and the West Indies but cricket is blossoming throughout the world.

The International Cricket Council today has almost 100 member countries including, of course, Israel.

I am delighted that there will be teams from Israel in the senior and junior events at the Maccabi Games and I wish them well against their more established opponents.

It will be a daunting task for the home side when they take to the field against strong teams from Australia, Great Britain, India and South Africa but the experience will serve them well for the future.

With a record number of matches at four venues I have no doubt that the event will prove memorable for everyone involved.

I send best wishes to the players, match officials, spectators and tournament organisers and urge them all to embrace the spirit of cricket and enjoy the experience. I very much look forward to my visit during the second week of the the Games.

**Malcolm Speed**

Chief Executive Officer, International Cricket Council



# ABOUT THE MACCABIAH

MACCABIAH, international games, recognized and approved by the International Olympic Committee, held every four years in Israel and open to athletes of the Jewish faith from all countries. The aim of the Maccabiah is to raise the standard of physical culture and sports among Jewish youth and to encourage and foster a sense of belonging to the Jewish people.

The idea of a Jewish Olympics was conceived by one of the founders and veteran leaders of the Maccabi movement in Palestine, Joseph Yekutieli, who advocated it with zeal from 1921. After he had succeeded in persuading the mayor of Tel Aviv, Meir Dizengoff, to build the first sports stadium in the country, he brought his plan before the Maccabi World Congress at Ostrava, Czechoslovakia, in 1929 and it was enthusiastically approved. In 1932 the first Maccabiah was held and thus the games became not only a tool for

stimulating sports but also an important means for promoting Aliyah. The second Maccabiah in 1935 was even more of an "Aliyah Maccabiah", since most of the 1,700 sportsmen from 27 countries, and their escorts, remained in Palestine because of the anti-Semitism which was sweeping Europe following the Nazis' access to power in Germany. The third Maccabiah could not be held until 1950.

In 1953 the fourth Maccabiah was held. The Maccabi World Union congress which followed it adopted a resolution to build a Maccabiah village to house the visiting contingents. Since then the Maccabiah Games have been held regularly every four years, with an ever-increasing participation of athletes from over 30 countries. The main sports embraced by the Maccabiah are track and field events; gymnastics; swimming and water polo; boxing, judo, wrestling, and fencing; tennis and table tennis; soccer, basketball, cricket, and volleyball.

The Maccabi World Union Executive, which sponsors and organizes the Maccabiah Games, appoints the International Maccabi Games Committee (IMGC). This generally includes the chairmen of the territorial Maccabi organizations. In countries where no organization exists, leading Jewish sportsmen and people connected with the athletes are appointed to select and arrange the training of the various teams.

The program for the Maccabiah Games includes festive opening and closing ceremonies under the patronage of the President and the Prime Minister of the State of Israel, with contingents parading under their national flags.

**Bibliography:** J. Yekutieli, *My Road to the First Maccabiah* (1969); Maccabiah, the 8th, *Maccabiah Omnibus* (1969).

## The 9th Maccabiah Cricket Final, South Africa v Australia

Contributed by Arnie Katz, SA Team Manager, 1973

The final of the first Maccabiah Games cricket tournament was a thrilling match between South Africa and Australia, played in Ashdod on July 17, 1973. Both teams sported many players with first class experience from the Sheffield Shield or the Currie Cup.

Dennis Gamsy, the South African captain, who played two tests in the 1970 series against Australia, won the toss and elected to bat. Jeff Closenber (51), Gamsy (47) and Anthony Vidergauz (43) all played well as South Africa made 231/7 in their allotted 50 overs.

The Australians battled for runs against the South African attack but skipper Marshall Rosen, a New South Wales state player, kept them in the hunt with a solid half century. Julian Wiener, who went on to play six test matches and seven one-day internationals for Australia in 1979/80, had fallen cheaply to the determined South African bowling.

At one stage, at 165/8 and still needing 67 runs at more than 7 per over, Australia's position looked hopeless. However the ninth-wicket pair of Phillip Antman (43) and Phillip Sheezel added 60 in quick time. At 228/8 Sheezel was bowled by Mervyn Goldsmith.

With Australia needing four runs to win with one wicket in hand, Gamsy made the surprise move of bringing on schoolboy Brian Levenstein, a left arm spinner, to bowl the last over.

Antman lofted the first ball and Aaron Sher, running to midwicket, made a valiant effort but spilled the catch. The batsmen ran a quick single, and then took a second as Sher threw at the wicket at the bowler's end but missed.

Two to win and five balls left. Antman hit out at Levenstein again and this time Closenber, on the deep mid-off boundary, took a one handed catch above his head leaving Australia all out for 230 and South Africa winners by one run.

**Best wishes to all  
cricketers participating  
in the 17<sup>th</sup> Maccabiah**



# HISTORY OF CRICKET IN ISRAEL

Israel is known as a land of miracles and the survival of cricket in the Holy Land must surely rate as one of those miracles. The odds have always been heavily stacked against the game succeeding here, yet cricket has survived and even flourished, despite lacking adequate playing surfaces, substantial playing numbers, and financial backing.

In November 1917 General Allenby and the British Army arrived in Tel Aviv after vanquishing the Turks from the Middle East. Cricket had arrived. During the pre-state Mandate era there were pitches in Jerusalem, Haifa and the Tel Hashomer army camp outside Tel Aviv, where British and Australian military personnel and members of the Anglo Saxon Mandatory civil service regularly took part of the games subtle pleasures.

In June 1952 a few men in Tel Aviv were trying to get a team together, and play a match against a team from Haifa. The team was eventually arranged, named an Air Force X1 as it consisted primarily of ex-South Africans serving in the Israel Air Force. The Haifa team consisted of predominantly British nationals, working for companies such as Shell and Barclays Bank in Haifa. The match took place on a beautiful field near the seashore in Haifa, equipped with a matting wicket and a pavilion, all built by the British. The Air Force team included Figgy Gillon, a left handed opening bowler, Bert Beach and Billy Pillesky.

Another ex-South African, Dr Bernie Cohen, a tall opening bowler and aggressive batsman, was working at Sheba hospital, and he discovered a concrete pitch the British had used in the adjacent Tel Hashomer army camp. Practices were organized by the few enthusiasts in the Tel Aviv area, although they had very little equipment with which to play.

Ashkelon became the location for a settlement project financed by the South African Zionist Organization, with numerous South African families settling in the southern coastal city. Figgy Gillon managed to persuade the mayor, an ex-South African himself, to build a cricket ground. With a team playing in Jerusalem, and another on Moshav Habonim near Hadera, a local league was established (including the already

established Haifa and Tel Aviv teams). In an effort to expand the game, the Tel Aviv team organized a match against a kibbutz in the Galilee. The field was agricultural land, ploughed ready for planting. A mat was laid between the boroughs, promising to make life interesting for the batsmen. The normally powerful Tel Aviv batting line up was dismissed by the first timers for just 36, but any chances of an upset were soon dispelled as the kibbutzniks were ploughed over for just 12.

In 1955 the first Israel team was selected to play against a touring South African Maccabi team. The first game was played at Tel Hashomer, the second in Ashkelon, the third at the YMCA ground in Jerusalem and the final match in Haifa. The Israel team completely outplayed their visitors, winning the series 3-1.

In 1956 a match took place at Tel Hashomer between teams representing Tel Aviv and the Negev desert town of Be'er Sheva. This game was notable chiefly for the fact that the Be'er Sheva side included Ben Abrahams and his seven sons. Bombay born Abrahams was to become the doyen of the local game, playing and umpiring up to his passing in 1974, aged 71. The Ben Abrahams Memorial Cup remains an important trophy in the local league.

In 1957, an unofficial tripartite cricket tournament between players representing England, Israel and South Africa was held at the old Haifa Oil Refineries Ground in the framework of the Maccabi Games.

Local cricket struggled through the ensuing years, due to economic austerity and the draining influence of compulsory military service. However by 1961 large numbers of Indian Jews had settled in Israel, and cricket clubs sprung up in towns such as Be'er Sheva, Ashdod, Ramle and Lod. Immigrants from Britain, South Africa and Australia also began arriving in larger numbers through the 1960's and after the Six Day War.

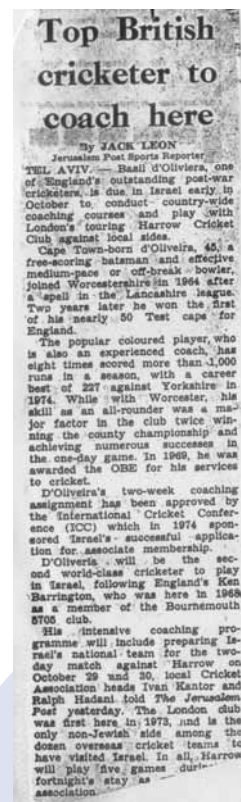
In 1968 the Israel Cricket Association (ICA) was founded. Inspired by it's first chairman, Maxie Kahan, the league prospered despite near impossible conditions. Matches were played on

dusty, grass-less football fields using matting wickets. However the enthusiasm of Israel's cricket fraternity, coupled with determination and tenacity, helped to overcome these drawbacks.

Contacts with overseas clubs proved vital to the games progress. The first touring side to Israel was the Bournemouth Cricket Club in 1968, led by the late test cricketer Ken Barrington of Surrey and England. Mowbray Cricket Club toured Israel the following year, and in 1971 a South African Maccabi Representative X1 played in Israel. Harrow Cricket Club toured in 1972.

Cricket was featured officially in the Maccabi Games for the first time in 1973, with teams from Australia, Great Britain, Israel, South Africa and the United States competing. The South African side was captained by Springbok Dennis Gamsy and went on to win the tournament, beating Australia by 1-run in the final.

Bournemouth Cricket Club toured again in 1975, and Harrow Cricket Club, including the great Basil d'Oliveira, made their second visit in 1976. The club has now visited Israel a total of five times, accompanied on their last two visits by former test umpire Don Oslar, who helped to establish the Israel Cricket Umpires Association, which has played an enormous part in improving this aspect of the local game. Another former test umpire, Zimbabwean Ian Robinson, visited Israel for ten days in 1995.



The Israel national team meanwhile also

began to spread its wings, with tours of England and Ireland in 1970 and 1974. Israel participated in the 1975 Datsun double-wicket competition in Johannesburg, competing against the Australian Chappel brothers, Tony Greig of England, Glen Turner of New Zealand and the South African legend Graeme Pollock.

On July 23 1974 Israel was accepted as an Associate Member of the International Cricket Conference, now known as the International Cricket Council (ICC). Pakistan was the only cricket nation to vote against Israel's membership.

Israel cricket came of age in May 1979, when Israel was one of the fifteen participants in the inaugural ICC Associate Member's Trophy held in Birmingham, as a prelude to the World Cup. The tour was an unqualified success in every sense. While competition results were not outstanding, performances against strong opposition were most credible and several friendly matches against Midland club sides reflected how much Israel cricket was improving. Since then, Israel has participated in all seven ICC Trophy tournaments, winning two matches. In 1990, the team defeated

Argentina by 1-wicket in Holland in a nail-biting finish, and then in 1994, in Kenya, defeated Singapore by 2 wickets. The team was captained by Stanley Perlman in both games.

In March 1997 Israel participated in the ICC trophy in Malaysia, the first ever visit by an Israeli sports delegation to a country that did not have diplomatic relations with the Israel. Throughout the tournament the team was the target of political demonstrations objecting to the visit.

In 1996, Israel, along with Denmark, Gibraltar, Holland, Ireland, Italy and Scotland, founded the European Cricket Council. The Israel team participated in the inaugural European Championships played in Denmark in the same year. Israel has participated in all five championships held thus far (1998, Holland; 2000, Scotland; 2002, Ireland; and 2004, Belgium), recording four victories. As proof of the stature Israel cricket enjoys in the international community, ICA Chairman Stanley Perlman was elected to the Executive Board of the ICC in 2004.

ICC CEO David Richards visited Israel

in September 2000 to officially launch the Development Programme and to open a new net facility at Hadar Yosef stadium in Tel Aviv. In 2001 an Israel junior team participated in a European tournament for the first time. The U15 team surpassed all expectations, reaching the final, which they unfortunately lost to hosts Germany. Israel has now participated in six tournaments at the U13, U15 and U17 levels, winning four and finishing runners up twice.

Apart from providing a new impetus to the local game by developing a new generation of Israel cricketers, the benefits of the ICA's Development Programme have been felt beyond the field of play. Children with particularly difficult social and economic hardships have been specifically included, giving them an opportunity to play a sport when most others are beyond their financial reach. This was acknowledged by the International Cricket Council in March 2003 when Israel was chosen as the Global Award Winner of the inaugural ICC / Flicx Community Development Award.

*Best wishes to all  
cricketers participating  
in the 17<sup>th</sup> Maccabiah*

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# 17<sup>th</sup> MACCABIAH PLAYING SCHEDULE

## SENIOR

DATE			MATCH	VENUE
SUNDAY		10	ISRAEL v INDIA SOUTH AFRICA v GREAT BRITAIN	HADAR YOSEF 1 HADAR YOSEF 2
WEDNESDAY		13	SOUTH AFRICA v AUSTRALIA INDIA v GREAT BRITAIN	ASHDOD 1 ASHDOD 2
FRIDAY	JULY	15	ISRAEL v GREAT BRITAIN AUSTRALIA v INDIA	HADAR YOSEF 1 HADAR YOSEF 2
SUNDAY		17	ISRAEL v AUSTRALIA INDIA v SOUTH AFRICA	ASHDOD 1 ASHDOD 2
TUESDAY		19	ISRAEL v SOUTH AFRICA GREAT BRITAIN v AUSTRALIA	HADAR YOSEF 1 HADAR YOSEF 2
WEDNESDAY		20	FINAL 3rd v 4th	ASHDOD 1 ASHDOD 2

## YOUTH

DATE			MATCH	VENUE
SUNDAY		10	ISRAEL v GREAT BRITAIN AUSTRALIA v SOUTH AFRICA	ASHDOD 1 ASHDOD 2
TUESDAY		12	SOUTH AFRICA v ISRAEL AUSTRALIA v GREAT BRITAIN	ASHDOD 1 ASHDOD 2
THURSDAY	JULY	14	GREAT BRITAIN v SOUTH AFRICA ISRAEL v AUSTRALIA	HADAR YOSEF 1 HADAR YOSEF 2
FRIDAY		15	SOUTH AFRICA v AUSTRALIA GREAT BRITAIN v ISRAEL	ASHDOD 1 ASHDOD 2
SUNDAY		17	GREAT BRITAIN v AUSTRALIA ISRAEL v SOUTH AFRICA	HADAR YOSEF 1 HADAR YOSEF 2
MONDAY		18	AUSTRALIA v ISRAEL SOUTH AFRICA v GREAT BRITAIN	HADAR YOSEF 1 HADAR YOSEF 2

\* Play starts at 10:00. Friday matches start at 9:30.

### ICA KWIK CRICKET YOUTH TOURNAMENT

Tuesday July 19, Hadar Yosef, 17:30-19:30

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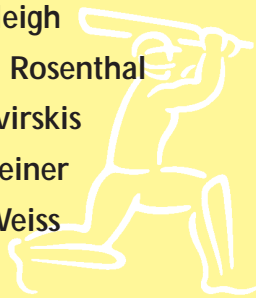
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# AUSTRALIA

## SENIOR

Jonathan Weinstock (c)  
 Daniel Kave (v/c)  
 David Gelbart  
 David Harris  
 Marc Lipsitz  
 Garry Litinsky  
 Daniel Onas  
 Jared Raleigh  
 Jonathan Rosenthal  
 Daniel Svirskis  
 Dylan Weiner  
 Jeremy Weiss



**Manager**  
 Barry Kave

**Ast. Manager**  
 Paul Fink

## YOUTH

Adam Ezekiel (c)  
 Ben Filler (v/c)  
 Sam Benda  
 Brandon Cohen  
 Eitan Kooperman  
 David Leiboff  
 Josh Levin  
 Arie Mitchell  
 Jarad Picker  
 Ben Scholl  
 Jason Sherwin  
 Mark Soffer  
 Jordon Tonkin



**Manager**  
 Daniel Freund

**Coach**  
 Moshe Ezekiel



# GREAT BRITAIN

## SENIOR

Darren Gerard (c)  
 Jeremy Mordrick (v/c)  
 Daniel Becker  
 Lawrence Bensusan  
 Danny Caro  
 Andrew Daniels  
 Eddie Davis  
 Gavin Diamond  
 Alex Haffner  
 Michael Jacobs  
 Richard Reggel  
 Martin Smulovich  
 Saul Weitzman



**Manager**  
 Nigel Rothband

**Ast. Manager /  
 Coach**  
 Sacha Hatteea

## YOUTH

Ashley Connick (c)  
 Richard Black  
 Elliott Coulton  
 Joshua Gaon  
 Alex Goodman  
 Jacob Holden  
 Ben Frais  
 Neil Lederman  
 Mitchell Lee  
 Akiva Lieberman  
 Jack Malnick  
 Zack Pyzer  
 Ben Tibber  
 Alex Ziff



**Manager**  
 Jeffrey Permutt

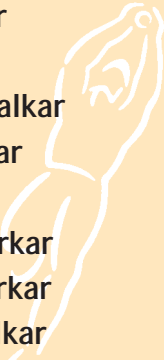
**Coach**  
 Ralph Middlebrook



# INDIA

## SENIOR

Raphael Talkar (c)  
 Simon Bamnolkar  
 Daniel Birwadkar  
 Oren Borgaokar  
 Raymond Chordekar  
 Elijah David  
 Roni Digorkar  
 Abner Jhirad  
 Vikram Nimbalkar  
 Swapnil Penkar  
 Yakob Penkar  
 Daniel Shapurkar  
 Opher Shapurkar  
 Johnson Varulkar  
 Benjamin Waskar



# ISRAEL

## SENIOR

Steven Shein (c)  
 Raymond Aston  
 Jacky Divekar  
 Sanjay Gupta  
 Steve Leigh  
 David Massil  
 Isaac Massil  
 Yefet Nagavkar  
 Yaniv Razpurker  
 Shalom Rubin  
 Isaac Samson  
 David Silver  
 Eshkol Solomon  
 Adrian Vard  
 Yoel Varsulkar



## YOUTH

Gal Matz (c)  
 Dani Hotz (v/c)  
 Artur Arutinyan  
 Oren Chinchulkar  
 Shai Hayun  
 Eyal Matz  
 Michael Muchi  
 Safania Naguakar  
 Alex Ozer  
 Maor Shmuel  
 Adiel Yaakov  
 Solomon Varsulkar  
 Ronen Waskar



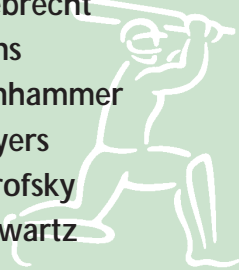
Manager  
 George Sheader



# SOUTH AFRICA

## SENIOR

Adam Bacher (c)  
 Marius Barnett  
 Jeremy Bayer  
 David Bernstein  
 Ryan Maron  
 Jason Kupritz  
 David Lever  
 Michael Lewus  
 Steven Liebrecht  
 Craig Lyons  
 Ryan Eisenhammer  
 Wayne Myers  
 Mark Ostrofsky  
 Jonny Schwartz



Manager / Coach  
 Steven Romberg

## YOUTH

Daniel Cowen  
 Michael Ginsberg  
 Alon Glassman  
 Daniel Gursd  
 Daniel Harrisberg  
 Stephen Joffe  
 Ryan Kulber  
 Joshua Lazarus  
 David Mayers  
 Hillel Richmond  
 Greg Robinson  
 Matthew Rosen  
 David Yach  
 Jayce Zidel



Manager  
 Justin Sher

Coach  
 Barney Girnun

## UMPIRES

### Senior

Ken Amos (England)  
 Neils Bagh (Denmark)  
 Naor Gudker (Israel)  
 Richard Smith (Germany)  
 Stephen Tovey (Holland)

### Junior

Moshe Aarons  
 Hillel Awasker  
 Abe Daniels  
 David Gudker  
 Benzie Kahemkar  
 Avram Penkar  
 Rafi Penkar  
 Yonatan Oskar  
 Norman Sankar

Tournament Referee  
 Eli Yaakov

**Good luck to all  
 cricketers at the  
 Maccabi Games!**

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# PLAYERS TO WATCH AT THE 17<sup>th</sup> MACCABIAH



The Maccabiah Games is the pinnacle of Jewish sport. Over the years it has featured international cricketers such as Dennis Gamsy (SA) Julian Weiner (AUS) Lawrence Sieff (SA) and provincial players such as Neil Rosendorf, Marshall Rosen.

Adam Bacher will be making his second appearance at the Maccabi Games. The South African captain, and opening batsman is among the finest South African cricketers of his generation, Bacher has enjoyed an illustrious career that has spanned over a decade, during which time he has been a consistently heavy scorer for Guateng. He boasts a record of having scored over 7000 first class runs at an average of 38.25, with 18

centuries. Bacher made his test debut against India in 1996. In the 1997-98 series against Australia, he impressed with an innings of 96, a score he repeated later that year against Pakistan. In total he has played in 19 tests for the Proteas, and made 13 one-day internationals appearances, the latest of which was made this past season, against England and Zimbabwe, against whom he scored his highest ODI score of 56.

Top order batsman Ryan Maron is another player with first class experience in the South African team. The left handed Capetonian made his debut for the Western Province senior team in 1996.

Great Britain captain Darren Gerrard, who captains Barnet in the Middlesex County League, made his mark in domestic cricket last season by taking 5-29 in front of 3,000 spectators in the

Varsity match against Cambridge at Lords. A right-arm fast bowler, Gerrard, aged just 21, spent the winter playing in South Africa.

Australia always brings a strong squad to the Maccabiah and this one will be no exception. They are captained by Jonathan Weinstock, a wicket keeper and a solid top order batsman who is a first grade player in Victoria's elite cricket competition.

India could be the surprise package of the tournament, boasting several players with experience of playing in the Ranji Trophy. Swapnil Penkar is perhaps the most highly rated player in their squad.

Israel will rely heavily on Isaac Massil. The stylish middle order batsman and opening bowler has been Israel's most consistent performer in recent seasons.

Joe and Barry and the Anglo-Saxon team wish the Maccabi Games and all the cricketing competitors  
**Good Luck**



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## VENUES



### ASHDOD

40 minute drive South of Tel Aviv on Road 4. Take the Ashdod turn off, left into Bnei Brit, right into Yitzchak Hanassi, and first right into H a n a s s i Weitzmann.



### HADAR YOSEF

From Ayalon Highway - Exit at Rokach (East), right into Sheetrut.  
From 'Kfar Hayarok' - left into Sheetrut.



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# 2004 SEASON REVIEW

## DOMESTIC LEAGUE

2004 had a familiar look about it, as Lions Lod continued to dominate Division 1, winning their seventh title in eight years. Once again their powerful all round team was too strong for the other teams, and they went undefeated throughout the league season.

Tel Aviv, demoted in 2003, returned to their rightful place in Division 1 in 2005 after they won the Division 2 title. A closely fought Division 3 was eventually won by Diamonds, who edged out Negev Academy on net run rate after the teams finished equal on points.

In the ICA Cup knockout competition Diamonds shocked the pundits by beating favoured Ashdod A on the way to the final. However they could not go all the way, losing to Young Ashdod in an extremely tight fought game.

## 2004 League Standings

Division 1	Played	Won	Lost	No Result	Tied	Points	NRR
1 Lions Lod	8	8	0	0	0	32	2.094
2 Ra'anana	8	5	3	0	0	20	0.628
3 Young Ashdod	8	3	5	0	0	12	0.043
4 Ashdod A	8	3	5	0	0	12	-1.185
5 Be'er Sheva A	8	1	7	0	0	4	-1.538

Division 2	Played	Won	Lost	No Result	Tied	Points	NRR
1 Tel Aviv	8	7	1	0	0	28	0.795
2 Neve Yonatan	8	5	3	0	0	20	0.801
3 Lod	8	3	4	0	1	14	-0.557
4 Dimona C	8	3	5	0	0	12	-0.458
5 Ramle	8	1	6	0	1	6	-0.705

Division 3	Played	Won	Lost	No Result	Tied	Points	NRR
1 Diamond	10	7	3	0	0	28	1.266
2 Negev Academy	10	7	3	0	0	28	0.945
3 Lions Be'er Sheva	10	6	4	0	0	24	0.243
4 Dimona A	10	5	5	0	0	20	0.816
5 Petah Tikva	10	3	7	0	0	12	-2.108
6 Kiryat Gat	10	2	8	0	0	8	-1.233

**DUDI SILBOWITZ MEMORIAL TROPHY DIVISION 1 CHAMPIONS**  
Lions Lod

**BEN ABRAHAMS MEMORIAL TROPHY DIVISION 2 LEAGUE WINNERS**  
Tel Aviv

**ASHER JAULIKER MEMORIAL TROPHY DIVISION 3 LEAGUE WINNERS**  
Diamond Cricket Club

**ICA KNOCK OUT CUP WINNERS**  
Young Ashdod

**ICA JUNIOR CRICKETER OF THE YEAR**  
Yaniv Razpurker, Neve Yonatan

**INDIVIDUAL AWARDS - DIVISION 1**  
Batting: Shalom Rubin, Lions Lod  
Bowling: Anim Solomon, Lions Lod

**INDIVIDUAL AWARDS - DIVISION 2**  
Batting: Jacky Divekar, Dimona C  
Bowling: Paul Thomas, Tel Aviv

**INDIVIDUAL AWARDS - DIVISION 3**  
Batting: Sanjay Gupta, Dimona A

## ISRAEL AT THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, BELGIUM

2004 was a disappointing season for the senior team. They lost all five of their matches at the European Championships,



as the batsmen struggled in almost every game, and dropped catches cost the team heavily. Raymond Aston and Isaac Massil were the only two batsmen to show any form, although young Dani Hotz did show his potential with a couple of good innings. Steven Shein took 6 for 61 against Norway, the best bowling figures ever returned by an Israeli bowler.

## RESULTS

**Israel** 154/9 (I. Massil 47, D. Hotz 36) lost to **Gibraltar** 156/6 by 4 wickets.





Israel 164 (H. Gutman 38) lost to **Germany** 165/5 by 5 wickets.

**Norway** 221 (S. Shein 6/61) beat **Israel** 72 by 141 runs.

Israel 164 (R. Aston 44, I. Massil 40) lost to **Italy** 165/4 by 6 wickets.

Israel 131 (I. Massil 32) lost to **France** 134/4 (D. Massil 3/22) by 6 wickets.

## ISRAEL U17 AT THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, ITALY

After a shaky but winning start in the opening game against Belgium, Israel clicked into top gear with massive wins over Italy and Germany, which set up a final with Gibraltar. Gal Matz scored 57\* to lead Israel to a massive score of 195, but an equally impressive batting display by Gibraltar, coupled with the threat of rain, ensured a dramatic finish to the game. With the match in the balance, Adiel Changuakar, who had



bowled outstandingly throughout the tournament, grabbed 3 wickets in one over to seal a deserved win for Israel that at times seemed to be slipping away from them. Other highlights included an innings of 62\* by Michael Muchi, batting with a broken hand sustained in the last net practice ahead of the tour which prevented him from bowling throughout the tournament, and a five-wicket haul for left arm spinner Solomon Varsulkar.

### RESULTS

Israel 111 (D. Hotz 22) beat **Belgium** 97/9. (A. Changuakar 4/11, Y. Razpurker 4/31) by 14 runs.

Israel 172/8 (G. Matz 54, M. Muchi 29) beat **Italy** 72 (S. Varsulkar 5/17) by 100 runs.

Israel 177/4 (M. Muchi 62\*) beat **Germany** 88 (Y. Gordon 4/15, A. Changuakar 3/17) by 89 runs.

Israel 194/4 (G. Matz 57\*, D. Hotz 33) beat **Gibraltar** 171 (A. Changuakar 3/15) by 26 runs.

## ISRAEL U13 AT THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, GIBRALTAR

A talented but very young Israel team participated in a depleted U13 tournament which featured just 4 teams. Israel lost out in a close match to Belgium in the final, a defeat which had most of the players in tears as they left the field, such was their motivation to succeed, especially after all the effort they had put in



preparing for the tour. Captain Nir Dikorkar was named Player of the Tournament, the first time an Israel player has won this award.

### RESULTS

Israel 126/2 (S. Pinto 28) beat **Gibraltar** 100/9 (J. Talkar 3/17, I. Kehimkar 3/18) by 26 runs.

**Belgium** 102/3 beat **Israel** 93/7 (G. Schachat 32) by 9 runs.

Israel 154/3 (N. Dikorkar 40\*, G. Schachat 17) beat **Italy** 100/8 (S. Korman 2/14) by 54 runs.

**Italy** 113/4 (N. Dikorkar 2/22) lost to **Israel** 114/2 (N. Dikorkar 22, S. Pinto 16\*) by 8 wickets.

Israel 108/7 (N. Dikorkar 31) lost to **Belgium** 109/7 by 3 wickets.

## VISIT OF DR. ALI BACHER



Legendary South African cricketer and administrator, Dr. Ali Bacher, visited Israel in September 2004.

Over 60 people attended a special evening at which he was guest speaker. He entertained the crowd with stories from his playing days, during which he captained the South African team to their famous series win over Australia in 1970, his years of experience at the helm of South African cricket, and as organizer of the 2003 ICC Cricket World Cup. In addition he gave his views on the current South African squad, and on the development of South African cricket.

# EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT

RICHARD HOLDSWORTH - ICC EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT MANAGER



ICC Development  
Program - Europe

The ICC Development Program started in 1997 and in Europe now involves 9 Associate and 18 Affiliate member countries as well as 13 Prospective member countries. The program has five key objectives and is run by a staff of five at the European Cricket Council headquarters at Lords Cricket Ground in London.

The objectives cover all areas of development of the game. The program aims to increase the quantity and quality of cricket **participation** in member countries within the region. In order for cricket to become a truly global sport the program aims to close the gap in playing standards between the regions leading Associates and Full Members (Test playing countries) as part of the **high performance** program. The program has put in place an integrated and competitive regional **tournaments** structure that provides a pathway for all member countries to compete internationally. Many activities help to **widen the regional audience** by

embracing the diversity of cricket, promoting the alternative versions of the game and marketing the global game. Finally the last objective is to uphold and promote the positive values associated with the **spirit of cricket**.

It is wonderful for cricket globally that Israel is hosting the 17<sup>th</sup> Maccabiah Games. Cricket in Israel has a long history and the development of the game, particularly at youth level in recent years, has been a huge priority for the country. Israel takes part annually in European Championships at various levels. Since 2002 they have won the European 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Championships at Under 13, 15 and 17 levels, which is a great reflection of the excellent work which has been going on as part of the ICC Development Program. In July this year they will take part in their first Under 19 World Cup Qualifying tournament in Scotland.

I was fortunate to visit Israel last year and was amazed to see the wonderful talent and enthusiasm displayed by the young cricketers, playing the game in very harsh conditions. I watched over 100 children having great fun in a kwik-cricket tournament, clearly indicating that the

game has a bright future in the country. The European program has also allowed Israel to improve the standard of umpiring and coaching by holding training courses at different levels in the country. As part of Europe's contribution to the games, four European panel umpires will be taking part as well as delivering training courses for Israeli umpires during their stay. Facility improvement and the provision of equipment, particularly for youth, is further support the program provides. Young Israeli players have been selected in recent years on the European Centre of Excellence Programme in England, which allows them to benefit from expert coaching over a weeks course. ECC Level 3 coach Roland Lefebvre continues to visit Israel regularly to assist with coaching and development.

The record number of matches being played in the Maccabiah - 24 in total at 4 grounds - with teams from five countries competing, makes the Games a very serious cricket tournament. The International Cricket Council will be represented by Malcolm Speed, CEO who will visit Israel during the Games. The promotion of the sport during these games will only enhance what is a fast growing sport in European countries.

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# ICC U19 WORLD CUP QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT

SCOTLAND, JULY 2005

## ISRAEL SQUAD\*

Artur Arutinyan  
 Oren Chinchulkar  
 Yehuda Gordon  
 Shai Hayun  
 Dani Hotz  
 Gal Matz  
 Eyal Matz  
 Michael Muchi  
 Safania Naguakar  
 Alex Ozer  
 Yaniv Razpurker  
 Maor Shmuel  
 Adiel Yaakov  
 Solomon Varsulkar  
 Ronen Waskar



\* Final squad of 13 not available at time of print.

**Manager** George Sheader

**Coach** Steven Shein

Top two teams from Division 1 to qualify for the 2006 ICC U19 World Cup.

## Fixtures

Date	Division 1	Division 2
Mon 25th	Denmark v Holland Ireland v Scotland	Belgium v France Germany v Gibraltar <b>Israel</b> v Italy
Tues 26th	Denmark v Ireland Holland v Scotland	Belgium v Germany France v <b>Israel</b> Gibraltar v Italy
Wed 27th	Rain day	Belgium v Gibraltar Germany v <b>Israel</b> France v Italy
Thur 28th	Denmark v Scotland Holland v Ireland	Rain day
Fri 29th	Rain day	Belgium v <b>Israel</b> France v Gibraltar Germany v Italy
Sat 30th		Belgium v Italy France v Germany Gibraltar v <b>Israel</b>

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# ICA STRATEGIC PLAN

Sport is not a priority for the citizens of the State of Israel. Whilst Israel has produced numerous award winners in the fields of science, medicine, literature, economics and technology, Olympic medalists can be counted on one hand. Football, far and away the dominant sport in the country, has sent a team to the World Cup finals just once.

There are many reasons that can be given for this - a lack of funding from both the public and the corporate sector; a lack of space to build facilities; compulsory military duty for all citizens aged 18 - 21; a six-day work week leaving little time for recreational activities. Cricket is far from being a mainstream sport in Israel. In fact, it would be fair to say the vast majority of the population has never even heard of the game. The problems listed above are true for all sports, but multiplied several times over for cricket. Proper cricket facilities require a relatively large area, and by nature the game is time consuming. Space and time are both in short supply in Israel. If the big sports like soccer, basketball or tennis struggle to attract sponsorship, how much more so would cricket? Most other countries are sending their best young juniors to academies or season's abroad after school - Israeli youngsters will be conscripted into the army. This list of obstacles goes on and on.

Despite the above, the Israel Cricket Association is not intent with the mere existence of the game in Israel. The dream is to make the game flourish, such that Israel will become one of the leading Associate members of the International Cricket Council. This strategic plan outlines how this dream can become reality.

## ICA MISSION STATEMENT

To advance the game of cricket in Israel, by:

- increasing participation and interest in the game,
- fostering success of national teams, and
- striving for commercial excellence,

in a manner that upholds the traditions, integrity and spirit of cricket, and by using cricket as a tool for social benefit.



## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

**1** *Building a future*  
Youth Development

**2** *More than just cricket*  
Social Contribution

**3** *A team of winners*  
International Success

**4** *Off the field*  
Governance and Finance



# BUILDING A FUTURE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

## THE NECESSITY FOR DEVELOPMENT

With an aging playing population, ever decreasing *aliya* (immigration) from Anglo countries, and continued poor performances by the national team, the future of cricket in Israel was bleak. Attracting Israeli youngsters was the only way to ensure the survival of the game, and thus it was decided to embark on a youth development programme, which was officially launched in 2000.

At the outset of the youth development programme, two main goals were set -

- 1 Raise the standard of the local game by focusing attention on a handful of the most talented players, giving them every opportunity to maximize their potential and successfully represent the national team.
- 2 Attract as many children as possible to the game, putting emphasis on the offering of opportunities to children in disadvantaged areas.

*“Hugely talented players have been discovered. We have a leg spinner, an off break bowler and a slow left armer. There is no shortage of batsmen, quick bowlers or wicketkeepers. But what has really brought the success has been the enthusiasm and dedication, and their motivation to bring pride to themselves, their families, their towns and their country”*

## Strategic Initiatives

### Introduce cricket to all Israeli youth

The most effective way of increasing playing numbers is through the introduction of cricket into schools. With a limited number of coaches, the method of operation will be for the ICA to train sports teachers, who will then be in a position to play cricket with their students during lessons, without the need for an ICA coach being present. Through this initiative, the numbers of children

playing cricket will increase dramatically.

### Recruit and properly train the best coaches available

As in any form of education, the quality of the instructor is crucial to the students' success. Local coaching options are limited, and foreign coaches are either reluctant to visit or too expensive, yet every effort will be made to recruit the best coaches available, and provide them with comprehensive training on the latest coaching methods through regular coaching courses.

### Implement a player progression path

Crucial to the development of young players is the type of cricket they are playing. The outlined player progression path will provide the correct training for the successful development of young players -

### Encourage and acknowledge volunteer assistance

Cricket at the junior level must include the assistance of volunteers, especially parents, whether it be in coaching, umpiring or providing transport. Apart from providing an invaluable service at no cost, adult participation in the development project automatically makes them partners to the project as well.

### Increase the role of club cricket in youth development

All the clubs in Israel have a part to play in youth development. Clubs must be urged to take an active part in the programme, offering coaching sessions in their areas and encouraging and providing opportunities to young players in their teams.

	U7	U9	U11	U13	U15	U17
Age Characteristics	Concentration on the basic coordination skills	More specific cricket skills training	Bridge between soft ball and hard ball cricket	Introduction to hard ball cricket, net practices	Skill specialization	Bridging between junior and senior cricket
Match Type	Tip & Run Kwik Cricket	6-Balls each Kwik Cricket	Inter Cricket	Hard ball cricket on field or court, 30 overs	40 overs	45 overs
League Structure	Local tournaments	Regional tournaments	Regional tournaments / league games	Regional U13 Leagues	National U15 League	Players play for clubs in senior league



## MORE THAN JUST CRICKET SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION

### MOTIVATED BY REALITY

The development project is motivated by the stark realities of Israeli society. Activities are primarily focused on the development towns in the Negev, and specifically on helping immigrant children. The ICA is committed to doing its part to tackle poverty, albeit in a slightly unconventional way. The project is not about handing out food parcels but rather by giving children self esteem, the dreams and the friendships which only sport and cricket in particular can provide. In addition, every child playing cricket is kept occupied and away from wandering the streets.

*In March 2003 Australia won the ICC World Cup. In the same month Israel also won an ICC competition, one that could perhaps be described as even more important than the World Cup - the inaugural ICC / Flicx Community Development Global Award. The winning entry was titled "Dusty fields, scorching heat - how cricket has blossomed in the Negev desert", and was awarded in recognition of the work the ICA has done in promoting the game of cricket in disadvantaged communities.*

## Strategic Initiatives

### Financial activities in disadvantaged communities

Children from disadvantaged homes are encouraged to play cricket, and requested to pay a nominal charge of \$4 / month. This is a token payment and no one is forced to pay. The children participate in weekly practice sessions,

tournaments and games, coaching clinics, transport, equipment, and any other activity or need. The same participation in another sport would be far more expensive.

### Eases the absorption process of immigrant youth

For a child, arriving as a new immigrant in Israel is a very daunting experience. Apart from the language barriers, the Israeli culture is generally different to that to which the immigrant may have been exposed. Cricket has given, and continues to give, new immigrants a chance to enjoy a sport they are familiar with, in the company of friends with a common language and culture.

### Bridge social gaps

Sport is a great unifying tool, and this is true of the development programme as well. Children from vastly different social and economic backgrounds have built up friendships by playing alongside and against each other.

### Educate according to the traditions and cultures of the game

Patience, respect, and concentration are all essential characteristics of the game of cricket and those who play it. Some of these are also the characteristics sadly lacking in Israeli society. A strong emphasis is placed on ensuring participants are aware of the disciplines demanded by the game, which in turn will spill over into their daily lives. Cricket will therefore have a very strong and positive impact on



the individuals.

### Provide a support structure

Many of the players involved in the programme come not only from difficult economic backgrounds, but very often from difficult family backgrounds as well. The ICA attempts as far as possible to give these children a feeling of security and dignity, which is derived from their feeling of belonging to a structure in which they are well looked after and highly valued. Friendships built between the players, as well as between the players and their coaches, provide emotional support for players who may come from broken homes or other personal hardships. Financial support is also provided to the most desperate through a special fund.





### Implementation of an Elite Development Programme

The Elite Development Programme allows for a select group of young players to receive the best coaching available on a regular basis.

## A TEAM OF WINNERS INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS

### PROMOTION TO THE EUROPEAN JUNIOR 1st DIVISION

Years of continued success in European 2<sup>nd</sup> Division junior tournaments, resulted in a request for promotion to the 1<sup>st</sup> Division being submitted to the ECC Executive Committee in October 2003. Although promotion was not granted, the tournament rules were changed to at least facilitate promotion. Playing against the likes of Scotland, Ireland, Holland and Denmark at the junior level will require a doubling of development efforts. Logistically and financially, three teams will have to be prepared each year. The standard of the players will have to be improved drastically so that the teams will be able to at first compete with, and eventually defeat, powerful teams built with resources far greater than those of Israel's.

#### TARGETS

- 1 Develop a domestic playing structure that allows for the maximization of individual talent.
- 2 Create a winning culture within the Israel National team.
- 3 Compete with the leading European Associates at the junior level.

**"Success at the international level provides the inspiration and motivation for continued development."**

## Strategic Initiatives

### Structuring of the domestic league

The domestic league structure was restructured in an effort to increase the competitiveness of matches. Teams were divided into three divisions. The goal to increase the number of teams to 18 by 2005 has been achieved allowing for each division to consist of 6 teams.

### Umpiring Standards

The ICA will strive to work closely with the Israel Cricket Umpires and Scorers Association to ensure the highest standards of umpiring are achieved.

### Infrastructure

Investment in infrastructure in all cricket playing centers to allow players to learn the game on the best surfaces is targeted to result in the following -

**NETS** - Construction of new facilities in Ashdod, Be'er Sheva, Dimona and Ra'anana.

**PITCHES** - Astro turf pitch laid in Lod.

**PLAYING FIELD** - Suitable playing field located in Be'er Sheva.

### Coaching

The future success or failure of a promising young cricketer is largely determined by the type of coaching he receives during his youth and teenage years.

### International competition

The ICA will strive to participate in all European tournaments, as well as in games against other international teams beyond the ECC tournament structure.

## OFF THE FIELD GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE

## Strategic Initiatives

### Attract funding

A strong and sustainable financial base will allow the ICA the resources and flexibility to implement the strategic priorities highlighted in this plan. The funding provided by the ICC is not sufficient. Support from local public bodies is being constantly reduced.

Adapting to the challenging economic climate, finding innovative ways to attract funding from new sources, through effective promotion and good relationships, and continuing to strive to ensure that money is effectively managed, is a prerequisite to the success of all the strategies outlined in this plan. Sources of funding that will be targeted include -

**PRIVATE DONORS** - both local and foreign. People with a love for Israel and a passion for cricket will be urged to become partners to this plan.

**CORPORATE SPONSORS** - as playing numbers increase, results on the international scene improve, and cricket is more widely promoted, corporate sponsors will be approached to become involved.

**PARTICIPATION FEES** - clubs will be required to contribute financially towards the cost of the domestic league, players selected for overseas tours will be required to contribute according to their means, and participation fees for schools and individuals in the youth development programme will be increased where appropriate.



### Effective management

The ICA prides itself in the professionalism with which a completely voluntary management team runs the affairs of the association. Spending is closely monitored and greater corporate efficiency is constantly sought and achieved.

### Marketing and promotion of cricket

Israel is fortunate that both cable and satellite television offer the FOX Sports channel which broadcasts live international cricket. The English print media gives extensive coverage to both international and local cricket. Extending this publicity to the Hebrew press is crucial.

### Develop into the global center for Jewish cricket

The ICA intends to make Israel into the global center for Jewish cricket. Relationships will be forged with Jewish clubs in the Diaspora, the Maccabi Games will be embraced, and Jewish star players will be invited to join in on efforts to promote cricket in Israel.

# WITH BEST WISHES TO THE ISRAEL CRICKET ASSOCIATION AND PARTICIPANTS IN THE 17<sup>th</sup> MACCABIAH

Daryl & Diane Alter and Family

Solly & Sharon Bergman and Family

Geoffrey & Betty Davis and Family (London)

Diamond Cricket Club

Nathan & Terry Mowszowski and Family

Reuben & Ros Mowszowski and Family

Ra'anana Cricket Club

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Anis & Shirin Zaveri and Family



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and to the Israel Under 19 squad  
going to Scotland

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