

Cricket in Canada

Sport Trivia: Did You Know?

Cricket Facts

- Cricket was played in many cities, towns, and villages in the early 1800s.

- The Canada vs. USA cricket match is the oldest annual international sports competition in North America.

- "It isn't cricket"! This expression pays tribute to the high regard the sport has attained in its insistence on fair play.

- Cricket is probably the only active team sport which includes many good players well into their 50s and 60s.

- Because of its origin in Britain, cricket was well-founded throughout the British empire, and flourishes today in most parts of the world.

- The Ontario Cricket Association was formed in 1880, some 95 years after the first games were played. Prior to that, most games were played as "friendly matches," either with nearby villages or cities or touring teams from other cricket-playing countries such as England, Australia, and the U.S.A. The term "friendly match" is still used to refer to a game arranged with another team which is not a league or provincial fixture for points.

- The Canadian Cricket Association was established in 1892. There are currently eight provincial associations who are members of the Canadian Cricket Association—New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatch-



ewan, Alberta, and British Columbia. Cricket is played in the other provinces, but not on an organized basis. The Canadian Cricket Association sponsors inter-provincial tournaments at both the senior and junior level and in 1979, in England, a Canadian team played in the World Cup for the first time.

- An annual cricket match is played on Labour Day between the actors from the Stratford Festival and the Shaw Festival Theatres with tea in the afternoon. The game alternates between Stratford and Niagara-on-the-Lake.

- There are more than 200 teams in league play in Ontario and an estimated 50 additional teams who play "friendly cricket," plus several teams playing in private schools. There are still teams waiting for admission to the Toronto Area

Cricket Associations, but a shortage of grounds prevents their joining and being able to accommodate regular fixtures.

— info & pic provided by the Canadian Cricket Association

Canada to Play Host in 2001

Calcutta, India, and Canada will host the International Cricket Council Trophy in the year 2001, ICC president Jagmohan Dalmiya said yesterday. Twenty-five teams from non-test playing countries will participate in the tournament.

Three of them, Kenya, Scotland, and Bangladesh, had participated in the recently concluded cricket World Cup after qualifying at the last ICC trophy contest held in Malaysia two years ago. ♦

— *The National Post*, June 29, 1999

Photo Caption: Players from the Ontario team smile in victory after defeating Quebec in the Atholstan Trophy Annual Contest held at the Governor General's Grounds, Rideau Hall, Ottawa.



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