



The glory of cricket



Stumpy, the official mascot
Stumpy, a three dimensional plush mascot is the brainchild of ICC to commemorate the tenth year of ICC World Cup and create a face for the tournament. Stumpy is available in various sizes.

ICC Cricket World Cup 2011

The countdown is already on and the entire nation is again in high spirits with the hope of becoming the champions for the second time in the history of the World Cup games. Our cricketers are oozing in confidence. So, let's cheer and support them to win back the cup. The tenth edition of the International Cricket Council (ICC) World Cup Cricket Championship is scheduled to begin on February 17. The opening ceremony to this much awaited sporting event will be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, with the participation of the 14 contesting teams.

The idea of a World Championship cricket tournament of any kind was first conceived in 1912 when the three Test playing nations at that time, England, Australia and South Africa made arrangements to organise one. But bad weather which prevailed prevented the competition from getting off the ground and the experiment was abandoned. However, in 1975 following a highly successful domestic limited over tournament in England, the idea of a World Cup cricket tournament surfaced again.

In 1975 the World Cup tournament was played in England with six Test playing nations, namely England, Australia, West Indies, New Zealand, India and Pakistan, joined by associate members of the ICC, Sri Lanka and East Africa. The final match was played at the world famous cricket grounds, Lords in London.

The tournament which is held once in four years is conducted for the third occasion in the sub-continent. It was held jointly in India and Pakistan in 1987. Then in 1996 it was again held in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. It was during this time that our national team created history. They succeeded in entering the finals and the Sri Lankans beat Australia in the decisive match played at Lahore to become the World Champions. What a great achievement it was with the entire nation celebrating the historic win.

However, matches will not be played in Pakistan in this year's tournament due to security reasons.

The Sri Lankan team led by Kumar Sangakkara seems to be a favourite side to win the 'Cup' this time along with India, because of the experience they have in playing in the sub-continent. But we know, that cricket is a glorious game filled with uncertainties. There is so much of unexpected drama, twists and turns that takes place and so predictions cannot be made, until the last ball is bowled.

- Ranjan Anandappa



First World Cup -Clive Lloyd receives the trophy from Prince Philip .

Arjuna proudly holds aloft the trophy when Sri Lanka won the World Cup.



Australians celebrating victory.

Participating countries

The 14 countries taking part have been divided into two groups.

In Group 'A'

Defending champions Australia, Pakistan, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, Canada, Kenya.

In Group 'B'

India, South Africa, England, West Indies, Bangladesh, Ireland, Netherlands.



Sri Lankan squad

Kumar Sangakkara (Captain), Mahela Jayawardena (V.Captain), T.M. Dilshan, Upul Tharanga, Chamara Kapugedera, Chamara Silva, Thilan Samaraweera, Angelo Mathews, Thisara Perera, Nuwan Kulasekera, Dilhara Fernando, Ajantha Mendis, Muthiah Muralitharan, Rangana Herath, Lasith Malinga.

Previous winners of the World Cup

1975. In England. West Indies beat Australia.
1979. In England. West Indies beat England.
1983. In England. India beat West Indies.
1987. In India and Pakistan. Australia beat England.
1992. In Australia and New Zealand. Pakistan beat England.
1996. In India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka beat Australia.
1999. In England. Australia beat Pakistan.
2003. In South Africa. Australia beat India.
2004. In West Indies. Australia beat Sri Lanka.

Venues and dates

The opening ceremony will take place on **February 17** in Bangladesh.

Altogether 29 matches will be played in India - Mumbai, Mohali, Ahmedabad, Nagpur, Kolkata, Bangalore, Chennai and New Delhi.

Twelve matches will be played in Sri Lanka - Colombo, Hambantota, Pallekele.

Eight matches are scheduled to be played in Bangladesh - Dhaka and Chittagong.

Some of the fixtures

Feb.19 - India Vs Bangladesh. Dhaka
Feb. 20 - New Zealand Vs Kenya. Chennai.
Sri Lanka Vs Canada. Hambantota.
Feb. 21 - Australia Vs Zimbabwe. Ahmedabad.
Feb.23 - Pakistan Vs Kenya Hambantota.
Feb. 24 - West Indies Vs South Africa. New Delhi
Feb. 26 - Sri Lanka Vs Pakistan. R. Premadasa Stadium
March 1 - Sri Lanka Vs Kenya. R. Premadasa Stadium.
March 3 - South Africa Vs The Netherlands. Mohali
Pakistan Vs Canada. R Premadasa Stadium
March 5 - Sri Lanka Vs Australia. R. Premadasa Stadium.
March 8 - Pakistan Vs New Zealand. Pallekele
March 10 - Sri Lanka Vs Zimbabwe. Pallekele
March 14 - Pakistan Vs Zimbabwe. Pallekele
Bangladesh Vs Netherlands. Chittagong.
March 17 - England Vs West Indies. Chennai
March 18 - Sri Lanka Vs New Zealand. Mumbai
Ireland Vs Netherlands. Kolkata.
March 19 - Australia Vs Pakistan. R. Premadasa Stadium.
Bangladesh vs South Africa. Dhaka.
March 23 - First quarter final. Dhaka
March 24 - Second quarter final. R. Premadasa Stadium.
March 25 - Third quarter final. Dhaka
March 26 - Fourth quarter final. Ahmedabad
March 29 - First semi final. R. Premadasa Stadium.
March 30 - Second semi final. Mohali.
April 2 - Final - Mumbai

History of the trophies

Prudential Cup trophy

The Prudential Cup trophy was awarded to the winners of the World Cup from 1975-1983 when Prudential plc was the primary sponsors. The trophies' designs changed when the sponsors changed until the 1999 World Cup.

Therefore, the first three World Cups had a similar trophy while 1987, 1992 and 1996 had different trophies, because of different sponsors. The ICC then decided to award its own trophy. The current trophy was created for the 1999 championships and is the first permanent prize in the tournament's history. The trophy was designed and made in London.

A replica of the ICC Cricket World Cup trophy is presented to the winning team of the Cricket World Cup. The current trophy which is 60 cm high, is made from silver and gold, and features a golden globe held up by three silver columns, shaped as stumps and bats. These represent the three fundamental aspects of cricket: batting, bowling and fielding, while the globe characterises a cricket ball. It is designed with platonic dimensions, so that it can be easily recognised from any angle. The trophy weighs approximately 11 kilograms and has the names of the previous winners inscribed on its base. There is still room for another ten teams to have their names inscribed.

The ICC keeps the trophy with the inscriptions while an exact replica without the inscriptions is awarded to the winners. The replica, is identical in all aspects apart from the inscription of the previous champions.



The 2011 trophy



The first trophy

Winners - Prudential Cup and other trophies

Australia - 1987
West Indies - 1975, 1979
India - 1983
Pakistan - 1992
Sri Lanka - 1996
ICC Cricket World Cup Trophy
Australia - 1999, 2003, 2007

