

Summer of Bangladesh Gold Cup Cricket

Nasim Samad

Firstly, we offer our sympathy to those in Blue Mountains and Central Coast Region who have lost all their belongings and assets to the ravaging fire. The fire has turned homes into ashes and reduced suburbs into rubbles but the Aussie spirit lives on. We as a community should be ready to put our hands up not only by raising money also offer to volunteer if called for. Let us show the spirit of our liberation war that we can take on any challenge and help others to rebuild their dreams from ashes.

As most of you are aware that BD Gold Cup Tournament is being run for the last 17 summers without any interruption and with each passing year the tournament is getting bigger and better and attracting more teams and getting more competitive. This is bringing more youths of our society into the fold and creating an opportunity for them to bond, make new friends, renew friendship and catch up those missing moments.

You should come and see the exuberance and the fun filled and highly charged tournament where mate versus mate, friends versus friend try to out class each other and takes each match seriously and plays hard to win. No wonder winners are grinners in this tournament there are no losers as we all win by coming together forgetting our differences of political ideology, affiliation or our background.

So much said, what is happening with the tournament this year:

- 20 teams have registered to play to win the BD Gold Cup 2013-14.
- Every team is getting jersey with their team name.
- We are procuring high quality balls for the tournament which are of Australian cricket standard.
- 4 cricket playing fields have been booked in Auburn with 8 matches being played EVERY Sunday till February 2014.
- The Tournament started from 3rd November (Sunday). The first ball will be bowled at 9.30am are of 25 over and the second game starts at 1.10pm
- The semi Final is scheduled on 9 February 2014 and the Final on 16 February 2014.
- This year we are also giving the Best Batsman, Best Bowler Trophy.

- We are giving prize money to the Champion and Runners Up team.
- No team is an underdog until the all the overs are bowled and you have to hold your breath till the last ball to know who is the winner
- We hire Professional Umpires from Umpires Association which is helping us finish all matches without controversy.
- I am proud to mention that all teams are well disciplined and well behaved.
- So much have changed so many new players has been added so if you have missed the last tournament chances are you will not know half of them as new players, new teams are joining the tournament.
- The spirit has not waned in 17 years as the tournament is still played with much fun fare and treated as a perfect family event to be enjoyed by all of any ages.

All we now need is **YOU**, we need a large crowd to cheer, celebrate and encourage the younger generation before they get lost in busy Australia scene with a big mortgage, car loan, looking after the kids while they are growing up and keeping the job.

Bring a picnic rug and the family they will love the open space and outdoor setting, while they enjoy themselves you can relax and enjoy the game and catch up with friends.

This is an excellent opportunity to mix, learn and engage with a generation who are ahead of our time. It is so fascinating to know how well some our youth are placed in Australian public and private life, while you will hear some stories of success and also untold story of pain and misery.

At the field you will be able to gauge that our society have changed a lot from day when you came to Australia with your child with a dream. This generation are more analytical can analyze a problem and suggest the best outcome, they look much sharper and brighter, they do not speak of problems but solutions, they do not talk about failures but what lessons they have learned to be successful., They are ready to take challenges as they are confident that they can succeed. They are the best set of example that our dreams are coming true and we can be proud that they are better Australian of Bangladeshi parents than we can think of.

The youth of this generation makes us proud to be a born as a Bangladeshi and they are our and Australia's hope and they are the epitome that they are upholding our culture and adapting to Australian way and advancing with a future.

All teams, players, organizers invite you EVERY Sunday join us. Your presence will encourage us as the organizers and the player as they sacrifice their working day to entertain show their batting and bowling power. We need your support.

The matches are played at Peter Hislop Park, Auburn (Everley Road, next to Auburn Golf Club). Webbs Park, Webbs Avenue, Auburn, Coleman Park (2 fields) (Corner Joseph Street & Georges Avenue, Regents Park, Guilfoyle Park, Regents park (next to Regents Park Station.(All venues have ample parking)

We have taken an initiative to publish a magazine to be distributed at the final prize giving ceremony. BD Gold Cup Committee invites write up which reflects the history of the Gold Cup from the beginning till to date. The write up can be mailed to bansw52@hotmail.com. BANSW Inc has been pivotal in promoting the BD Gold Cup Cricket in Sydney.

Nasim Samad, Member, BD Gold Cup Committee