

# From The Editor-in-Chief

Dear All,

I am pleased to present the third quarter's edition of 'The Wicket'. In a quarter which is traditionally off-season in Nigeria, we had a packed activity programme.

The most significant development was the pioneer appointment of a General Manager in the person of George Wiltshire, a seasoned cricket administrator and communications and image manager. With this appointment, the work of the Federation is expected to assume better professionalism and more intensity come 2011. He assumes office from October 2010.

The NCF had a Board meeting and held its AGM recently in continuous compliance of corporate governance principles. 20 states were represented at the AGM which is a critical achievement out of the 36 states in the Nigerian Federation.

Our U19 team emerged champions of the CWCQ Division 2 tournament in Swaziland

and earned a promotion to the CWCQ Division 1 in Namibia where it placed 7th retaining a place in division 1 at the end of the tournament. With that 7th place placement in Africa, it complements the senior team's 6th position in Africa and represents the measure of growth of Nigerian participation in recent years.

Ibeju-Lekki wins the 5th National Cricket Club Championship and retains the trophy for keeps after winning three years in succession with Kaduna Crocodiles emerging as runners-up. For the first time, the tournament final series was competed in coloured clothing and white balls in alignment with international ODI standards.

The 2nd FCT Secondary Schools Development Day held in Abuja organised by the Cricket Club of Abuja with the strong support of the NCF who provided the supervising development officer in Endurance Ofem and bat-shapes and soft balls. About 160 students attended the programme.

The NCF also partnered with the Howzat Foundation for Cricket in conducting a holiday

coaching clinic in Lagos supplying a supervising coach in Okon Ukpogon and also bat-shapes and soft balls.

The NCF sent in a strong delegation to the funeral of the erstwhile Ghana Cricket Association Chairman, Prince Daniel Vanderpuye-Orgle; the following were in the President's entourage: Yinka Fisher, a former Chairman of the NCF and West Africa Cricket Conference(WACC); Soki Dakoru, NCF 2nd Vice-President and Bob Osaghae, a former Board member of the NCF.

The reception by the Ghana Cricket Association(GCA) was immense and honour was accorded the deceased in a qualitative fashion. One of the outcomes of the visitation is a pledge of sponsorship of a trophy in memory of the deceased by the NCF for an annual tournament to be held in Accra between the two countries U19 teams.

Enjoy the edition.

- Kwesi Sagoe



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• George Wiltshire GM/COO Nigeria Cricket Federation

## Nigeria Cricket Federation appoints Wiltshire as GM/COO

The Board of Nigeria Cricket Federation (NCF), has appointed Mr. George Wiltshire as the General Manager/COO- designate of the Federation. Wiltshire will be the pioneer Chief Operating Officer of the NCF to be appointed.

In a statement, the Federation said Wiltshire is a seasoned administrator and ex-International Cricketer with over 20 years of cognate administrative experience. He holds a Masters degree from the University of Lagos in Political Science and has attended various courses at home and abroad. He started his Sports Administration career in 1990 as the Secretary of the Club Cricket Committee (CCC) Lagos, the body responsible for running the biggest cricket league in West Africa, which he co-founded and later became the Chairman of Lagos State Cricket Association (LSCA) where he served for 9 years before his recent appointment as the GM/COO of the Nigeria Cricket Federation (NCF).

Wiltshire, who is a Member of the Publicity & Logistics Sub- Committee of the NCF and Editor of its Newsletter, previously worked at the Federal Ministry of Information as a Ministerial Aide. He also served as Head of Corporate Affairs Departments of Financial Merchant Bank, Federal

Mortgage Finance, EIB International Bank Plc, AGM General Services of EIB International Bank and AGM Project Monitoring, Skye Bank Plc.

Wiltshire, the Federation stated, has extensive experience spanning various areas of Cricket administration such as formulation and Implementation of Cricket Development programmes, Budget and Planning, Marketing & Communications, Organisation of Tournaments and liaison with Stakeholders of Cricket, among others.

The board is confident that the incoming leadership and administrative experience that Wiltshire will bring will add value to the growth that has been achieved by the Kwesi Sagoe led Board of the NCF. The appointment of Wiltshire is in alignment with the ICC criteria for its Associate Members, which Nigeria is one.

Nigeria is the last Associate Member to comply with this requirement. Non-compliance has financial and administrative sanctions which may have a drawback effect on the progress the Federation has recorded in the last few years.

## COMMUNIQUE OF THE FULL COUNCIL/AGM OF NIGERIA CRICKET FEDERATION HELD IN ABUJA ON SEPTEMBER 18, 2010

A Full Council /AGM of the Nigeria Cricket Federation was held on Saturday, September 18, 2010 at the Boardroom of Package B, National Stadium, FCT, Abuja.

The meeting was chaired by the NCF President, Mr. Kwesi Sagoe, attended by Board members, delegates from Cricket playing States and some observers.

Activity reports and programmes from various states, detailing their achievements and challenges were discussed. At the end of the deliberations, the AGM:

1. Ratified the appointment of a fulltime General Manager/COO in the person of Mr. George Wiltshire who will be in charge of the day to day running of the Federation and report to the Board.
2. Approved the Audited Accounts for the year ended 31st, December 2009.
3. Commended the Under-19 team for winning the CWCQ Under-19 Africa Division 2 and gaining promotion to Division I and also for retaining a place in Division I.
4. Commended the Federation for holding three Cricket Administration Programme (CAP) Modules and for being the only Federation in Africa that has executed the CAP 2010 Modules.
5. Resolved that the Zonal Co-ordinators should be more effective in the discharge of their duties and that the GM/COO monitors them effectively henceforth.
6. Commended the Federation for holding the Inaugural National Women's Cricket Championship in the country.
7. Directed the Technical Committee to put modalities in motion for the organization of the NWA All-Rounder Academy and the hosting of the ICC NWA U15 Tournament in the last Quarter of 2010.
8. Resolved that the process for the appointment of the National Development Manager be completed within the shortest possible time.
9. Resolved to adopt a standardized reporting format for the State Associations to ease database updates.
10. Resolved that a database for Players, Umpires, Coaches and Administrators should be compiled by all States.
11. Noted that the Senior National Cricket Team is still ranked 6th in Africa and 39th in the World and the U19 team is now ranked 7th in Africa.

Dated 18th September 2010

Mr. Kwesi Sagoe  
President

Mr. Patrick Okeke  
Secretary- General



- *Under-19 players displaying their awards received at the ICC-ACA CWCQ Div 2 held in Botswana.*

## NIGERIA U19 CRICKET TEAM RETAINS DIVISION 1 STATUS

The Nigerian U19 cricket team that campaigned for honours at the U19 Cricket World Cup Qualifiers(CWCQ) Africa Division 1 has retained its position in Division 1 at the end of the tournament.

The CWCQ Division 2 champions had been the least ranked team in division 1 among Namibia, Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, Botswana, Sierra Leone and Tanzania before the tournament but secured 4 points by defeating Botswana and Tanzania along with Sierra Leone; but finished in 7th place by virtue of Sierra Leone's better net run rate.

Namibia, the host country was undefeated in the tournament and have qualified to represent Africa at the global U19 tournament in Argentina next year along with Kenya who placed 2nd. Botswana, Zambia and Uganda finished 3rd, 4th and 5th respectively whilst Sierra Leone was 6th.

Nigerian cricket is now placed 7th in Africa at the U19 level while at the senior level it is currently placed 6th in Africa and 39th in the world as the Nigeria Cricket Federation(NCF) continues the task of establishing a solid framework for the Sport within the country.

The team comprised of Abiodun Abioye(Captain), James Chukwu(Vice Captain), Olumide Adeniran, Varun Behani, Rotimi Adesanya, Tobi Majaro, Seun Adebayo, Sola Anyia, Benjamin Anyia, Dayo Ogunbayo, Joshua Ayannaikie, Usman Adebiyi, Segun Ilori and Toyesh Shukla.

The officials that supported the team were Sean Phillips(coach) and Okon Ukpong(Team Manager).

## NCF Hails Victorious Under 19 Team

The country's cricket Under - 19 victorious team returned from Swaziland on to a moderate reception organized by the Nigeria Cricket Federation (NCF).

The team defeated Gambia, Rwanda, hosts, Swaziland and Mozambique to qualify for the final round of the Cricket World Cup Qualifier (CWCQ).

Speaking at the reception in Lagos, the President of NCF, Mr. Kwesi Sagoe congratulated the boys for doing the country proud adding the whole cricket enthusiasts are happy with their performance."You have done the country proud with your performance on and off the field. This is a wonderful performance and I believe you will form the nucleus of the senior national team in the next two years or so," he said.

Nigeria came back from Swaziland with lots of awards such as the Best Bowler of the tournament won by Adeniran Olumide, Best Batsman by James Chukwu who scored a century in one of the matches, Man of the Series Olumide Adeniran with a total of 180 runs in all his innings and so many man of the match awards.They were later rewarded with cash prizes by the President for their efforts.

## IBEJU LEKKI CRICKET CLUB OF LAGOS WINS THE 2010 NCF NATIONAL CRICKET CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Ibeju Lekki Cricket Club of Lagos won the 5th Edition of the Nigeria Cricket Federation National Cricket Club Championships held at the National Stadium Cricket Oval, Abuja from September 17-19, 2010.

The Lagos club defeated the Crocodile Cricket Club of Kaduna by 70 runs. In the first innings of the 40 overs finals umpired by Joseph Eshua and Taiwo Oladunjoye, the Ibeju Lekki team scored 179 runs for 9 wickets in 40 overs. Sean Phillips (Ibeju) got 46 runs off 57 balls.

Kaduna team had a total of 109 runs, all out, in 30.4 overs out of which Joseph Moses scored 26 runs off 52 balls.

Among other outstanding players of the match also included Emmanuel Gowon of Crocodile Cricket Club who had 3 wickets for 22 runs in 8 overs, Akolade Saheed of Ibeju who got 3 wickets for 10 runs and Sean Phillips who also had 3 wickets for 16 runs in 6 overs.

Ibeju Lekki Cricket Club won the Cup for keeps having won the 2008, 2009 and 2010 editions. The result of the 1st Semi final encounter between University of Nigeria Nsukka Cricket Club of Enugu State and Crocodile Cricket Club of Kaduna, umpired by Emeka Igwilo and Joseph Eshua ended in favour of Kaduna team. The match was reduced from 40 to 30 overs because of the rain that fell in the morning of that day.

University of Nigeria team scored a paltry 34 runs, all out in 21.4 overs while the Crocodile team scored 35 runs for 1 wicket in 9.5 overs to clinch victory.

Chinweze Collins of UNN scored 12 runs, not out, off 37 balls. Onoja Godwin of Crocodile Cricket Club took 4 wickets for 6 runs in 4.3 overs while Salako Azeez(Crocodile) scored 20 runs not out off 16 balls.

The 2nd semi-final match played between Whales Cricket Club of Port Harcourt and Ibeju Lekki Cricket Club of Lagos officiated by Taiwo Oladunjoye and Emeka Igwilo ended in favour of the Lagos team.



- *Femi Solebo of Ibeju Lekki Cricket Club batting, putting the pressure on Crocodile Cricket Club of Kaduna.*

Whales won the toss and elected to bat, scoring a total of 55 runs all out in 26.5 overs. The Lagos team surpassed the low target losing only a wicket in the process. Leke Oyede of Ibeju Lekki team took 4 wickets in 7 overs. Lekan Awolowo and Femi Solebo had 21 and 22 runs consecutively.

The Tournament Awardees included:

Cricketer of the Series	-Sean Phillips (46 runs off 57 balls and 3 wickets) - Ibeju
Bowler of the Series	-Saheed Akolade (5 wickets) - Ibeju
Fieldsman of the Series	- Emmanuel Okwudili - Crocodiles
Wicket keeper of the Series	- Lucas Tisgin - Crocodiles
Batsman of the Series	-Sean Phillips (46 runs off 57 balls) - Ibeju
Man of the Final Match	-Sean Phillips - Ibeju

During the closing ceremony, the President of NCF, Mr. Kwesi Sagoe in his address appreciated the country's current position in International Cricket placing 7th in Africa at the Under 19, CWCQ Division 1 tournament, complementing the Senior Team's 6th ranking in Africa. He also praised the teams for the quality of performance displayed during the tournament.

The Guest of Honour, Engr. Emeka Onyeama who is also the Chairman of Cricket Club of Abuja while thanking NCF for the quality of organization stressed that the introduction of the use of white ball and coloured clothing as witnessed in the tournament has brought a new dimension to the game in the country.

The game was witnessed by many dignitaries who included Dr. Karlada Iruenebere (Former President NCA), Members of the Board of NCF- Dr. Yahaya Ukwanya, Ms. Bimbo Sowoolu, Mr. Okon Ukpong, the newly appointed GM/COO of the Federation, Mr. George Wiltshire and other sports enthusiasts.

Super Sports, NTA, FRCN and other media organizations covered the event. The makers of Red Bull products were also on the ground to give out free drinks.

## 2nd FCT Schools Development Day in Abuja

On July 6th 2010 the 2nd schools cricket development festival was hosted by Cricket Club Abuja at their ground at the National Stadium Complex, Abuja.

The schools development festivals are an initiative by Cricket Club Abuja with the support of the Nigerian Cricket Association to introduce and sustain cricket in government secondary schools in the Federal Capital Territories and beyond. The first programme held in December 2009 saw 80 children from four FCT schools participate. The latest event attracted nearly twice the number of participants with 165 children from 10 schools in FCT.

Fifteen volunteer coaches (including five from Kaduna) gave up their time and under the guidance of NCF development manager Endurance Ofem, CCA programme manager Telema Daregoe and Schools Development Programme founder Richard Pembroke, they assisted the children through a range of activities.

A DJ and PA system set the tempo and atmosphere of the day and hundreds of meat pies, sausage rolls and mineral drinks kept thirst and hunger at bay. The schools that attended were:

- Federal Government College, Kwali
- Army Day Secondary School, Asokoro

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● Schools Development Programme founder Richard Pembroke doing some coaching work at the FCT Cricket Fair Abuja.

- Government Secondary School, Kwali
- Federal Government Boys College, Apo
- Government Secondary School, Nyanya
- Federal Science & Technology College
- Whiteplains British School, Jabi
- Loyola Jesuit College, Gida Mongoro
- Modern Secondary School, Maitama, Abuja
- Government Secondary School, Tundun Wada, Wuse

The format of the festival followed the same format of the last programme where for the first half basic skills of cricket are introduced through a variety of fun games and activities. There is little or no technical coaching but instead the children got used to catching, fielding, throwing and holding and swinging a bat.

After a refreshments break the second half of the programme featured an 'FCT Schools Kwik Cricket World Cup'. 20 teams from the 10 schools (2 team per school) played in pool matches, quarter-finals and semi-finals until we had two teams through the Grand Final Government Secondary School, Karo and Army Day Secondary School, Asokoro.

After a thrilling match, played in front of all the rest of the children and coaches, Army Day Secondary School sneaked home defending their impressive 53 run total by just 8 runs.

Player of the tournament was awarded to Daramola Seun of GSS, Karo who top scored in the final with 22 runs.

With flourishing interest and participation, the schools development programme will now extend to on-site visits to individual schools by a dedicated grassroots development coach funded by Cricket Club Abuja and the Schools Programme. The next festival has been scheduled for December 2010.

## 16th HOWZAT HOLIDAY CRICKET COACHING CLINIC FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> TO SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2010

### REPORT

In this year's Coaching Clinic, there were eight (8) sessions in eight (8) consecutive days, it ran from Friday 6<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2010 excluding Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### Period:

10:00am	-	1:00pm	Morning session
1:00pm	-	2:00pm	Break
2:00pm	-	4:00pm	Afternoon session

#### Venue:

Cricket pitch, Tafawa Balewa Square, Race course, Lagos.

#### The curriculum of activities was divided into two parts:

1. Class work
2. Field work

#### Class work:

##### The underlisted were taught in class:

1. Ethics, culture and etiquette of cricket
2. History of Cricket
3. Laws of Cricket
4. Games strategy
5. Captaincy
6. Umpiring and scoring

#### Field work:

##### Skills and techniques of the following were taught on the field:

1. Batting
2. Bowling
3. Fielding
4. Wicket keeping
5. Umpiring and scoring

A test was conducted to assess the cricket knowledge of the participants.

#### Equipment:

Locally produced batshapes and wickets were used. Rubber balls were also utilized.

#### Coaching Crew:

1. Austin Areghan (Ass. Co-ordinator)
2. Joseph Eshua (Co-ordinator)
3. Friday Udoh
4. Emmanuel Okwudili
5. Azeez Salako
6. John Tamuno

#### Guest Coach:

Okon Ukpong

#### Support:

1. Professor Osato Giwa-Osagie
2. Nigeria Cricket Federation
3. Mr. Kwesi Sagoe
4. Mr. Roland Ilube
5. Chief Kole Ojutalayo
6. Hon. Justice Bode Rhodes Vivour
7. Mr. Garen Siekpe
8. Mr. George Wiltshire
9. Mr. Cyril Djebah:
10. Mr. Goke Idris



● Kids being taught the basic of bowling at the 16TH Howzat Holiday Cricket Coaching Clinic held in Lagos.

#### Certificate of Attendance:

Certificate of attendance were presented to thirteen participants who met all the requirements for the issuance of certificates i.e. must be fully registered and must have attended at least six (6) out of the eight (8) sessions.

#### Observations:

1. There was low turn out due to sudden change of venue
2. Drinks were served during break period
3. BRT bus tickets were given to participants to assist their transportation.

#### Recommendations:

1. More efforts should be put to attract sponsors
2. More Primary school children should be encouraged to participate

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Statistics:

Total number of sessions / days	8
Hours per session	6
Primary school children	6
Secondary school pupils	33
Post secondary school	6
Higher institution	2
Total number of participants	52

Schools represented:

Primary schools:

1. Reginaro Nursery & Primary School, Surulere	2
2. Hossana Private School, Orile Iganmu	1
3. De Assemblies of God Nursery & Primary School, Surulere	1
4. St. Thomas Aquinas Primary School, Surulere	1
5. Bonny camp children school	1

Secondary School:

1. Adebola Baptist High School, Surulere	1
2. Anser-Ud-deen Grammar School, Surulere	4
3. Ansar-Ud-deen High School, Surulere	2
4. Coker Secondary School, Orile Iganmu	1
5. Community High School, Surulere,	4
6. Ebute Elefun Secondary School, Lagos	2
7. Onitolo Community High School, Surulere,	5
8. Obele Community High School, Surulere,	11
9. Surulere Secondary School, Surulere	2
10. Methodist Boy's High School, V/Island	1

Higher Institutions:

1. University of Abuja	1
2. Lagos State Polytechnic	1

Age Range:

	5-21
Unavailable Data	11



**Prince Daniel Vanderpuye-Orgle**

**The Servant-Leader of Ghanaian and West African Cricket**

I have led a Nigerian delegation here to Accra to pay our last respect to a brother and friend. The measure of the love and brotherhood we shared with our departed friend is reflected in the composition of this delegation which comprises a former Chairman of the Nigeria Cricket Association (NCA) and West African Cricket Conference (WACC), Mr. Olayinka Fisher, the current 2nd Vice-President of the NCF, Mr. Soki Dakoru, and a former Board member of the NCA, Mr. Bob Osaghae.

It is a statement of fact that Prince Daniel Vanderpuye-Orgle (VanP) was the Chairman of Ghana Cricket Association (GCA) a few weeks before he passed on.

Before he became the Chairman of GCA, he was Chairman of the Juvenile Association of the GCA.

He was therefore a leader of Ghanaian cricket.

In these positions, he was able to contribute to the development of Ghanaian cricketers so much so that Ghana became quite competitive as an Affiliate Member of the International Cricket Council (ICC).

At meetings of the Africa Cricket Association (ACA), he was well respected for his seemingly simple but weighty contributions.

Yet VanP did not start as a leader! For to lead, you have to be a follower first; you have to be led first!

So VanP was led when he started his cricket at Achimota College, I presume. He must have been led when he played cricket for his University or higher institution. He certainly was led when he started playing for the Ghanaian National Cricket team where I first met him many years ago. He distinguished himself as a player and as a follower. He learnt the trade well.

He continued his stewardship of this noble game of gentlemen when in 1994 he was selected to represent West Africa not as captain but as a player; he was still led.

He continued to be led when he became Chairman of the Juvenile GCA. When I became the President of the Nigeria Cricket Federation in 2006, VanP had risen to become the Chairman of GCA a couple of years earlier and shortly after another colleague in our West African team of 1994, Johnny Gomez became Chairman of the Gambia Cricket Association. It seemed a new era had arrived for West African cricket with former players becoming administrators.

Under VanP, Ghana cricket had definitely grown in stature winning tournaments both within West

Africa and beyond.

Ghana under VanP became the dominant team in West Africa from 2004 to 2006 at the senior level winning the NWACC tournaments during that period. The Ghanaian senior team also qualified from the WCLQ Africa Division 2 to the WCLQ Africa Division 1 in 2008 playing with African Associate members even though Ghana is an Affiliate member.

At the age-grade level, Ghana won the NWACC U-17 tournament hosted by Nigeria in 2008 and successfully hosted the U-13 NWACC version.

These are but a few examples to illustrate how Ghana cricket grew under VanP.

My charge to the new Board members of the GCA is that they should not allow VanP's dream for Ghana cricket to go to waste. The legacy he left behind must not be allowed to die. This is the time for all cricket lovers in Ghana to come together to ensure the continuation of the programmes and structures of this champion of Ghanaian cricket.

On our part in Nigeria, and I must reiterate the significance of the special cricket relationship between Ghana and Nigeria, in the sense that the first officially recorded match in Nigeria was played in 1904 between Nigeria and Gold Coast (now Ghana). This underscores the strong ties between us cricket-wise which is also eased by the proximity between the two nations. VanP recognized this relationship and many a time we discussed how we could build the relationship further. For example, in 2009, a Nigerian U-19 team visited Accra to play some warm-up friendly matches before going for a tournament in Zambia. This year also, we planned that our senior team visit over Easter for some friendly matches, a plan that had to be aborted because of a health scare in Achimota.

On Nigeria's part, we are favourably disposed with the consent of the GCA towards sponsoring a

**At meetings of the Africa Cricket Association (ACA), he was well respected for his seemingly simple but weighty contributions.**

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PRINCE DANIEL VANDERPUYE-ORGLÉ TROPHY to be contested between the U-19 teams of the two countries to be held in Ghana annually in his memory. We believe this, along with other initiatives of the GCA will go a long way in situating the contributions of our departed friend and brother VanP that extended beyond West Africa.

To the family, I deeply commiserate with you on the passage of your son. Let me assure you that his life has not been in vain and I know that he is an angel of the Lord that was sent for a specific purpose which has been fulfilled and he has been called back in a wave of glory. It is not for us to question the ways of the Lord but to accept them.

We may feel a sense of loss that at 57, he has been called too soon, but let me remind you that very few of us have been able to achieve what VanP has done in his time here: cricketer/sportsman extraordinaire, cricket administrator, businessman, hotelier, GOC member etc. He lived his life with a zeal, as if he was in a hurry to accomplish some assignment that he had been entrusted with. He led with a conviction and passion because he had followed with similar attributes; he has done well as a leader of cricket in Ghana and West Africa.

**To the family, I deeply commiserate with you on the passage of your son. Let me assure you that his life has not been in vain and I know that he is an angel of the Lord that was sent for a specific purpose which has been fulfilled and he has been called back in a wave of glory. It is not for us to question the ways of the Lord but to accept them.**

Last year at the Africa Cricket Association he was appointed Regional Director of North/West Africa region, a job he also carried out with his usual zeal.

Beyond all these, he touched all that he came across with his guile, his humour and his magnanimity of heart. Here was a man who always put himself out for his friends.

May his soul have eternal rest in Jesus name.

Farewell, VanP, servant-leader of Ghanaian and West African cricket, rest in the bosom of the Lord till we meet to part no more.

Kwesi Sagoe  
President, Nigeria Cricket Federation (NCF)  
Vice-Chairman, Africa Cricket Association (ACA)