

April 25, 2007

Local team takes out Bali Cricket 6s

Udayana cricket club, a team comprised solely of Indonesian cricketers, took out the annual Bali 6s cricket tournament, held at the Udayana University oval over the Easter weekend.

Udayana, who also won the event in 2006, defeated Jakarta team Indorama by four runs in a well-contested final. In its 10th year, this year's event attracted 11 teams from across Indonesia and Australia.

With the rain holding out during games for the three-day event, a total of 26 games were played prior to Sunday's finals. After the round-robin part of the tournament, Indorama, Bogor, and local teams Udayana and Bali Geckos made it through to the semi-finals, while Darwin team Topenders were to take on the Bali International Cricket Club (BICC) in the plate final.

While overnight rain made the turf pitch too wet, organisers were well prepared with an adjacent concrete pitch with a special carpet covering ready for the finals. In the first semi-final, the Bali Geckos were unable to reply to a strong batting performance by Indorama. Indorama batted first making 69 after the 5 overs, while the Geckos struggled against excellent bowling and made 5 for 53 in reply. Strong batting and a number of wides led Udayana to a total of 62 in the second semi-final against Bogor. Bogor replied well after a great opening stand, but then two run-outs and good bowling saw them with a total of 53.

The Plate Final between Topenders and BICC was played in good spirit, with the Topenders playing good cricket to win by three runs in a wicketless game.

The Final between Jakarta team, Indorama, and last year's winners, Udayana, was a fitting end to the tournament. Udayana won the toss and batted, with their score held to 53 by accurate bowling and good fielding by Indorama. Indorama were quickly in trouble in their innings, but steadied to need 14 runs off the last over to win the match. Udayana handled the pressure, limiting the scoring opportunities to win by four runs.

During the presentations, the losing Indorama captain commented on the fantastic development of the Balinese cricketers, saying that an Indonesian team beating a team of expats in the final was a fabulous thing for Indonesian cricket. Apart from the well-deserved winner's trophy, other awards given out during the presentations were the Player of the Tournament and Most Notable Play awards. Govind of Indorama was presented with the Player of the Tournament, while Most Notable Play went to JP Schutz of Sumbawa for being one of the slowest players in the tournament and being run out by the

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other two slowest, Ray Elliott and Alan Wilson of the BICC! Cricket will now continue in Bali with the 2007 season of the Bali Cricket League. The league strengthens this year with an additional team, the Metro Galaxy CC joining the competition. Additionally it is a shortened season with only one round of matches, leaving five preliminary games per team before the finals. For more details contact the Indonesian Cricket Foundation on iniradef@indo.net.id.
BIWA Charity Tennis Tournament

The BIWA Charity Tennis Tournament concluded recently and organizers BIWA and Bali Tennis Academy were very happy to inform the public that the tournament was a complete success, raising almost Rp. 24.000.000 to help charitable foundations in Bali.

Approximately 150 players from both local and expatriate community participated in this yearly fun tennis tournament. Held at Bali Tennis Academy's three indoor tennis facility located at the Nikko Bali Resort & Spa, the event saw some of the best tennis players on the island competing in Open, Amateur, Senior and Junior categories.

Both BIWA President Joyce Nelwan and BTA Director of Tennis Jordan Sanchez would like to thank all the players for participating and contributing to this tennis event and to all the sponsors who donated prizes and cash to help raise funds for scholarship of underprivileged children, women's health and education in Bali.

Another Title for Tami!

Bali's 9 year old Tami Grende took home another national junior tennis title for Bali recently. Tami won the 10 and under girls singles title at the Walikota Malang Cup in East Java, demolishing all of her opponents to secure herself as the number one ranked player in her division in Indonesia. A trainee of the Yayasan Beringin Berapi and Bali Tennis Academy, Tami now has 3 national tennis titles under her belt. She has already surpassed her objectives this year and still is improving every day. Future plans for Tami is to compete in the upcoming summer junior tennis national circuit and possibly travelling overseas for some international tennis tournaments.

Snorkelling expedition around Bali

By the time you read this article, a trio of snorkellers would have just completed their 480km snorkel around Bali. The expedition, which began on the 12th of March 2007, aimed to increase awareness about the current state of Bali's coastlines, emphasizing the need to protect and preserve of our marine environment. It also aimed to promote the marine tourism industry in Bali and Indonesia. The three snorkellers, Saheem from the Maldives, Japanese/Indonesian Gochi (who is only nine years of age!) and Balinese Angel, collected litter as they snorkelled the coast, in addition to documenting their journey on film. With the large amounts of pollution, dead marine life and the affects of the current use of dynamite for fishing and cyanide for trapping tropical fish that they encountered, the trio felt compelled to visit many villages along their route to explain the present condition of the environment and the future consequences. Accounts of their journey, including worrying descriptions of the amount of pollution they faced, can be found

on the expedition website
<http://snorkel.balidivermagazine.com>.

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