

2007 Inverhaugh Cricket Club



Winter Games In Inverhaugh

In this our 12th season, we will, once again have another jam-packed schedule. It looks like twenty two regular games, four socials (20/20) and five Junior Games. This year our schedule includes four new teams: Scotia Bank, Civic Masters, Fed USA XI from Florida and a representative match between an Ontario XI and a Trinidadian XI. Returning this year after an absence of a year are the Toronto Ladies and Heritage Cricket Club and Stratford Festival.

Highlights of 2006

Our regular senior team was undefeated last year. However, the Friday Night Social Team lost a historic match against the Copper Kettle team on July 21, 2006. Our junior team also had a good year, winning against the Toronto Cricket Academy, for the first time.

There were several good individual performances during the season but most notably were the number of hundreds scored (four). Roy Singh scored his 7th & 8th and Barry Singh scored his 1st and 2nd.



Contact Information

Please visit our website at www.inverhaugh.com or send any questions or comments to enquiries@inverhaugh.com.

HOW'S THAT?

A snick and caught behind! More times than not, you will see the batsman walking out before the umpire has raised his finger. This is cricket at Inverhaugh, an atmosphere Jan and Bart Singh have developed over the past decade, one which cricket enthusiasts



see as unparalleled in Canada. To qualify as a cricketer here, the rules are simple. Conducting yourself as a gentleman on and off the field is a must. Helping with the work of maintaining and improving the cricket facility is understood.

Bart, and his wife Jan, have their residence on the property and one could say the cricket ground is their backyard. What a backyard! Twelve turf pitches, maintained to a professional level and a field large enough to host teams of the highest standard. The setting is breathtaking, a forest at one end, the Grand River at the back and a beautiful fast-flowing stream at the other end. Thirty cars can be parked adjacent to the field, all completely hidden from view. A grass tennis court is also available for anyone wishing to partake. The old farm silo is a local landmark, now renovated to house a dressing room and a viewing tower, all adding to this magnificent setting.

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What do Cricketers do in the winter ?

Winter in Canada is characterised by cold and snow, which (unless you live in Estonia) are not the best of conditions for playing cricket, or even working to maintain the ground. The best option for Canadian cricketers when the snow comes is to head to somewhere else where it is possible to play cricket – preferably somewhere warm. Given that 2007 was a World Cup year, that Canada were qualified to play and that the WC was being held in the Caribbean, this year's tour was pretty obvious.

In 2004, Inverhaugh toured St Lucia, which, as luck would have it, was the island where Canada were based for the group stages of the 2007 World Cup. Bookings were made and tickets purchased for the matches, and we headed off in March for a week away.

Ian Kahn was instrumental in getting the accommodation organised, and we were the first people to occupy some holiday apartments owned by Clarence Rambally (Ian's Uncle by marriage). The groups touring consisted of Bart and Jan Singh, Vince Correia, Nigel Cockwell and the Metcalf family (John, Karen, Robin and

driver who stayed with us all week, and proved to be a good cricketer as well. We arrived at the apartments, having met up with Ian en route, and this caused the workmen, who were finishing them off, to finally leave them. Everything was new and ready, although there were one or two teething troubles which were

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Hannah), making this one of the smaller tours that Inverhaugh has undertaken.

Arriving in St Lucia on a Monday, we were met by Victor Laurencin our

remedied quickly. We quickly got some beers in, and then organised a tour of this beautiful Island the following day. Having done our sightseeing, we headed for Beausejour Cricket Ground on the

Wednesday, where we took our seats in front of the pressbox to watch Kenya vs Canada in the first Group match. We chatted to the press corps,

members of the tour) Ishwar had recruited some other tourists – mainly from the Canadian Cricket Association, so that it was a Canada vs St Lucia

practice in the interval well before anyone else. His practice paid off as he took a blinding slip catch, and NZ were definitely on the back foot as then lost 3 quick wickets to give England hope of defending an inadequate total. Our day was further blighted when Nigel had his wallet stolen by a pickpocket, and missed over an hour of the match while making a police report. On our way home we ran in to some more old friends – the Guyanese High Commissioner and Reds Perrera who had been commenting on the match.



meeting the reporter who had come to watch us in 2004, who kindly provided us with some tape to attach the Canadian Flag to the wall behind us so that it would be visible to the cameras and the team. Our support was vocal, but unfortunately the team did not play to its potential, and they went down by 7 wickets, having only made 199 runs in their 50 overs. We did not celebrate that night, but did watch the coverage on the television, where Ian was surprised to see his brother-in-law Ishwar Maraj (another ex-Canadian team player) was providing commentary on the Canadian effort.

Ishwar was instrumental in organising our one match of the tour, with at local team at Mon Repos, a small village at the other end of the island. In addition to ourselves (the male

effort. We managed to amass 158 runs in our 20 overs, and we were then treated to local knowledge of the conditions by the locals – using the aerial route due to the slow outfield. We lost with few balls to go as they hit some huge sixes. We ate some excellent curry and had a few drinks before heading home in the dark so that the CCA folks could attend an official function.

The match on Friday was England vs New Zealand, where we supported England. There had been a lot of rain overnight but it brightened up and England batted first. The promise of Pietersen and Flintoff failed to materialise, as Shane Bond did for the both in the same over with slower balls. Flintoff (golden duck) looked dumbfounded when he spooned a catch to point, and came out to

The highlight of our tour (apart from watching Ireland beat Pakistan on television) was the England vs Canada match, which was competitive, despite the expectations in the England camp.

The shocks in the earlier matches (Ireland beating Pakistan and drawing with Zimbabwe) had clearly shaken things up, and no-one was taking chances. England again lost Pietersen cheaply to a soft dismissal, which dampened spirits as his fireworks would have been entertaining, but John Davison did partly make up for that with some good hitting. The music and dancing on the promenade after the match was excellent fun, gave our final evening of the tour a great feeling. Even on our return to Canada, people were still helping us – with the donation of a Canadian Team practice shirt to Bart back at Pearson Airport.

It was an excellent tour on which we received excellent hospitality from the St Lucian's in general, and the Rambally family in particular. We hope to see some of our friends visiting Canada so that we can return their hospitality, and show them something of our live and love – Inverhaugh Cricket Club

How's that continued...

Friendly games are played at Inverhaugh, and believe me, there are a long list of clubs throughout Canada, the U.S. and other countries, vying for an invitation. Inverhaugh can put out an extremely strong team but also caters to lower caliber play, so all levels of player are included. The club also cultivates a young junior team, with a professional level of coaching available to them. Most importantly though, although the all the members are competitive, cricket here is fun.

Bart and Jan have devoted an inordinate amount of time and effort to the game of cricket, not only in the hundreds of thousands of dollars spent, but in the thousands of hours of time invested. I have personally played cricket in seventeen different countries and I have seen plenty, but every time I drive into this cricket haven, my hat goes off to Jan and Bart Singh. They have done a masterful job in building this club, in continually opening their home, gardens and "back yard" to a host of cricketers every summer weekend. They have given us a cricket club one could only imagine if not for their dedication to our game, and I sincerely thank them.

Clive Porter

Grounds

The fall of 2006 and early winter have been very mild and wet. However, once winter arrived, around mid January, it has been very cold and lots of snow.

We will have to wait until April to see what impact this will have on the square and the work we did last September to the western part of the ground.



A Special Thank You for the Corporate Supports of Inverhaugh...

