

## Ganguly on BCCI tech committee

PTI, Mumbai

Former India skipper Sourav Ganguly was included as a member of the Board of Control for Cricket in India's Technical Committee headed by Sunil Gavaskar at the BCCI's 80th AGM here on Thursday.

The panel also includes former Test umpire VK Ramaswamy and ex-India opener Krishnamachari Srikant who was retained as the head of the senior selection committee for the 2009-10 season.

While there was no change in the composition of the senior committee, Arun Sharma replaced Sanjeev Sharma, who has completed his term, in the juniors panel to be headed by ex-Test and Mumbai pacer Abey Kuruvilla.

## AUSTRALIA V INDIA ODI shifted from Jaipur

CRICINFO, undated

The first match of the seven-match ODI series between Australia and India has been shifted from the Sawai Man Singh Stadium in Jaipur to the Reliance Stadium in Vadodara.

The move, announced during the Board of Control for Cricket in India AGM on Thursday, was prompted by the current power struggle within the Rajasthan Cricket Association (RCA).

A controversy had arisen over control of the RCA with a group backed by Lalu Modi claiming on Sunday to have removed the incumbent, Sanjay Dixit, through a no-confidence motion. Dixit - who defeated Modi in the election earlier this year - called the move unconstitutional and said he was still in charge.

Interestingly, the last ODI at the Reliance Stadium involved the same teams in October 2007. The series kicks off on October 25 and will run through till November 11.

## Tigers resume

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ailing mother while left-arm pacer Syed Rasel was rushed to Dhaka from Jeddah on Wednesday and admitted to a city hospital with high fever.

"Rasel is now okay. His family was little bit worried with the symptoms of the fever and that's why they rushed to Dhaka but there was nothing wrong in the examination reports," informed assistant coach Khaled Mahmud.

## FA told

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there has been little progress on establishing a women's professional league in England.

The FA receives around 25 million pounds a year through the government-financed Sport England.

"Funding is one lever we've got," Sutcliffe said. "It would be a last resort. But there has to be, and there already is, a recognition that the status quo is not good enough."

## Trio crash

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midfielder Benjamin Siegert scored a hat-trick on his debut for Hamburg's Croata on Wednesday.

Hamburg's Croata striker Mladen Petric pulled one back for Hamburg on 77 minutes and then Trochowski netted a penalty in injury time to force extra time.

Defender Guy Demel scored in the 100th minute, but Osnabrueck scored again before Petric missed his spot kick as the minnows claimed a 4-2 win on penalties.

Hertha Berlin, who are bottom of the Bundesliga table after last weekend's crushing 4-0 defeat at home to Freiburg, suffered further humiliation when they also lost on penalties at second-division Munich 1860.

Having found themselves 2-0 down, two goals in the last 15 minutes from Hertha took the game to extra time before the match was decided by a penalty shoot-out as the home side won 4-1 to book their place in the third round.

Defending German Cup champions Werder Bremen needed a late winner from Brazil defender Naldo in the 82nd minute to be sure of their place in the third round with a 2-1 win against second division St Pauli.

And Stuttgart - who dropped ex-Germany goalkeeper Jens Lehmann for visiting Munich's Oktoberfest after his side lost to Cologne in the German league on Saturday - needed extra time to win 3-1 at minnows Luebeck.



Pakistan's Umar Akmal (L) raises his helmet as he celebrates his side's victory over West Indies in their ICC Champions Trophy match at Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday.

## Alam impressed

CRICINFO, Wanderers



Intikhab Alam, the Pakistan coach, praised the younger members of his side for pulling

Pakistan out of a potentially sticky situation against West Indies and ensuring they got their Champions Trophy campaign off to a winning start. Man of the match Umar Akmal, with a little help from stand-in captain Shahid Afridi, eventually guided Pakistan home in their 134-run chase with an accomplished, unbeaten 41.

The 19-year-old Akmal had seen his team slide to 76 for 5 at one stage, his senior colleagues gone in a tentative top-order chase. Akmal took time to settle in but once he had, out came the strokeplay that has got his international career off to such a productive start: though only five ODIs old, he averages over 77 with a strike rate over 100. Even a Tino Best beamer that smashed into his finger (the injury is not serious according to Alam) couldn't stop him.

"We expect a great deal from this young man," Alam said. "He's done a great deal in a short amount of time. I have a lot of time for him and he has a great future ahead of him."

Pakistan had Mohammad Aamer to thank for ensuring they chased such a small total in the first place. The 17-year-old took three wickets, including one in the first over of the innings, to plant the seeds of West Indies' collapse. Umar Gul provided important support, picking up three wickets as well.

"Our fast bowlers were very good," Alam said. "I have a lot of time for both. Umar Gul is very committed and did wonders in England. And young Aamer is a very talented player. When we took him to England and we played

him straight away in the World Twenty20, you can imagine he bowled the last over against South Africa in the semifinal, you can imagine he must have great ability. He has a great future."

There will be concerns, however, about a rusty-looking top and middle order, especially as stronger bowling attacks lie in wait. The pitch was lively enough, though Pakistan's remaining games, as Alam pointed out, were in Centurion.

"The pitch was difficult also and bowling was good. It was the first match of the season at this ground and that grass will go eventually and there was uneven bounce. It was a good lesson for us."

"I was a little surprised when they elected to bat because we would've bowled. It did a lot. West Indies bowled a really good line, they had a bit of pace and we made it difficult for ourselves now. Now we play at Centurion where the surface will be different."

That will be Pakistan's next game on Saturday, against India and they are hoping to have captain Younus Khan back for that. Younus sustained a hairline fracture on a finger on his right hand in a warm-up game, forcing him to sit out the opening game. There is good news as Younus did hold a bat for the first time since the injury. "He did practice this afternoon for an hour," Alam said. "He felt okay and I am sure he will play in the next match."

If not, Afridi will remain captain and that, Alam noted, is no bad thing. This was Afridi's first ODI as captain, adding to the T201 win under his leadership against Sri Lanka last month, "I was impressed with him today. He showed a responsibility and maturity in his play and that is why he was made captain for T20s. I thought it was a very good decision."

Champions League are a lot better than IPL sides," Jennings said. "The team plays together right through the year so they have a culture in place."

"But with IPL sides, there are players from around the world and that will be a problem. Hopefully, we start well and get the momentum going, which is very important," he said.

Jennings, who will supervise a preparatory camp for the tournament in a couple of days, has tipped Cape Cobras and New South Wales (NSW) as favourites for the tournament.

The Cobras team, led by South Africa captain Graeme Smith, also includes Herschelle Gibbs and JP Duminy. NSW, under captain Simon Katich, are a formidable unit including nine players with international experience.

"They are two very strong sides and are favourites to win," Jennings said. "But you never know in a Twenty20 game."

## Ray foresees tough time for IPL sides



CRICINFO, undated

Royal Challengers Bangalore coach Ray Jennings believes the Indian Premier League (IPL) teams competing in the Champions League Twenty20 will have a tough time as the quality of their opposition will be different to what they faced in the Indian league.

The tournament gets underway on October 8 in Bangalore, and features three IPL teams - Deccan Chargers, Bangalore and Delhi Daredevils - and nine domestic sides from five other countries. Jennings, who had overseen Bangalore's progress to the IPL final in South Africa, said the IPL teams would find it difficult to get into their groove as they comprised of international players who didn't play together often.

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Champions League are a lot better than IPL sides," Jennings said. "The team plays together right through the year so they have a culture in place."

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## Umar sees Pakistan

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others to reach double-figures in a dismal performance after the West Indies elected to bat.

The West Indies were in danger of falling below the 100-mark when they were struggling at 47-7 before adding 86 for the last three wickets, thanks to Miller and Sammey.

The West Indies are without key players Chris Gayle, Ramaresh Sarwan, Shivnarine Chanderpaul and Dwayne Bravo following a contract row between the players and their cricket board.

Aamer struck with his sixth delivery when he held a return catch to dismiss Dale Richards. He kept pressure on the batsmen with a lively pace, taking two more wickets.

There was no respite from pace for the inexperienced West Indies as Aamer was brilliantly backed by Gul. Off-spinner Saeed Ajmal was the other notable wicket-taker with 2-1.

**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard of the Champions Trophy match between

## Younus fit

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Trophy campaign began, with Yuvraj Singh fracturing his finger during a practice session in Johannesburg. He has been ruled out for six weeks and, though Virat Kohli will replace him, his absence is likely to alter the roles of some of the main members of the batting line-up.

**Man-of-the-match:** Umar Akmal.  
**Toss:** West Indies.  
**Umpires:** Steve Davis and Daryl Harper.

## Proteas stay

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Duminy did not last long, scoring just 11 off 13 balls before becoming the victim of a spectacular McCullum catch after trying a cut that took a bottom edge.

## SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the Champions Trophy match between South Africa and New Zealand at SuperSport Park in Centurion yesterday:

## NEW ZEALAND

McCullum c Duminy b Botha 44  
Ryder c Van der Merwe b Parnell 8  
Guptill c Amla b Parnell 21

Taylor lbw b Parnell 72  
Elliott b Van der Merwe 39

Broom lbw b Van der Merwe 1  
Hopkins c Duminy b Parnell 13

Mills c De Villiers b Steyn 0

Vettori not out 1  
Tuffey c Duminy b Parnell 4

Tuffey c De Villiers b Steyn 0

Extras (b-4, lb-5, w-1, nb-1) 28

Total: (All out in 47.5 overs) 214

Fall of wickets: 1-12, 2-58, 3-

92, 4-163, 5-171, 6-203, 7-204,

8-209, 9-213.

**Bowler** O M R W

Steyn 9.5 1 32 2

Parnell 8 0 57 5

Kallis 8 0 24 0

Morkel 3 0 13 0

Botha 9 1 44 1

Van der Merwe 10 1 35 2

**SOUTH AFRICA**

Smith c Vettori b Tuffey 7

Amla lbw b Vettori 38

Kallis c McCullum b Bond 36

De Villiers not out 70

Duminy c McCullum b Mills 11

Boucher c McCullum b Tuffey 28

Morkel not out 19

Botha c McCullum b Bond 8

Total: (For 5 wickets in 41.0 overs) 217

Did not bat: Botha, Van der Merwe, Steyn, Parnell.

Fall of wickets: 1-22, 2-74, 3-

108, 4-138, 5-180.

**Bowler** O M R W

Mills 8.1 0 45 1

Bond 10 0 51 1

Tuffey 9 1 52 2

Vettori 10 1 34 1

Ryder 2 0 15 0

Guptill 1 0 13 0

Elliott 1 0 5 0

Result: South Africa won by five wickets.

**Man-of-the-match:** Wayne Parnell

Fall of wickets: 1-5, 2-21, 3-54,

4-61, 5-76

**Bowler** O M R W

Sammy 7 0 29 0

Tonge 10 3 25 4

Best 6.3 0 50 0

Bernard 7 0 28 1

Result: Pakistan win by five wickets.

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