

# HIT WICKET

EDITION: 22/3



## THE OFFICIAL OMAN CRICKET NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2022

Welcome to HIT WICKET, Oman Cricket's exclusive monthly newsletter. This report will provide stakeholders both inside and outside the organization with an update on Oman Cricket's activities over the month of April. This is the third edition and we hope you enjoy it. Please send your valuable feedback to [madhavan@omancricket.org](mailto:madhavan@omancricket.org)



Iqbal Ariwala, International Cricket and Admin Manager Oman Cricket, passed away on April 23, 2022. The last rites were completed at the Amerat Cemetery at 10 am the following morning.

Iqbal took the post of Domestic Head and Admin Manager in December 2015 but was an honorary member of Oman Cricket for the two decades prior. His passion and commitment to the cause of improving the standard of cricket in the Sultanate distinguished him as one of the foundational pieces of Oman Cricket's success. He was also an affable and approachable man who brought zeal and energy to the workplace.

Iqbal's demise leaves an enormous void in the cricketing fraternity of the country. He has left an indelible mark on the sport and his contributions will continue to live on in the hearts and minds of everyone associated with the Oman Cricket family.

### THE INSIDER

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### ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS

Vaishali Jesrani, Captain of the Oman Women's Cricket team was [announced](#) as manager of Team Spirit at the SDG FairBreak Invitational T20 Tournament held between May 1 and 15, 2022 in Dubai. The competition was the world's first privately funded tournament in women's cricket history and involved players from emerging cricket nations such as Philippines, Japan and Vanuatu, thus furthering its global growth and outreach.



## INTERNATIONAL CRICKET ROUND-UP

In April, the Oman Men's National team [toured](#) UAE for a 4-match tri-series involving Scotland and PNG, with the matches played as part of the ICC Men's CWC League 2. They collected full points against the latter but fell just short in both games against Scotland. Jatinder Singh starred with bat in hand, scoring 259 runs in 4 outings. His 118-run knock against PNG became Oman's highest-ever individual tally in ODIs. Bilal Khan continued his hot streak with the ball and picked up 13 wickets over the same stretch. In the final game of the tri-series, he claimed his 3<sup>rd</sup> 5-wicket haul in the space of just 9 games.



*Fayyaz Butt – 3/48 v Scotland*



*Ayaan Khan – 68 v Scotland*



*Jatinder Singh – 118\* v PNG*



*Nester Dhamba – 2/31 v PNG*



*Kashyap Prajapati – 81 v Scotland*



*Kaleemullah – 3/45 v Scotland*



*Bilal Khan – 5/54 v PNG*



*Bilal Khan – 3<sup>rd</sup> 5-wicket haul in 9 innings*



*Zeeshan Maqsood – 52 v PNG*

Oman's next and final set of fixtures in the competition will get underway on June 8<sup>th</sup>, in the form of a double round-robin tri-series involving Nepal and hosts USA. They currently lead the standings by 16 points, having played 16 games more than second-placed Scotland. A good showing in the States will cement Oman's status as frontrunners to qualify for the ODI World Cup Qualifiers in India next year.



## DOMESTIC CRICKET ROUND-UP – Division Finals

The finals of all the domestic competitions in the country's cricketing ladder were held in the first week of April. In the Premier Division, [Oman Stallions](#) clinched top spot while Muscat CT finished runners-up. [Vanderlande](#) came out on top in the Senior Knockout final and Israr Ghala were the champions of its junior counterpart. [Zawawi Powertech](#) won the A-Division 50-over season while [Sarco LLC](#) took the crown in its 20-over iteration. Al Jadidi Stars and Zawawi Powertech were the respective finalists.



*Vanderlande – Senior Knockout Champions*



*Design Group – Junior Knockout Champions*



*Israr Ghala – Junior Knockout Champions*



*Earn Trust CT – Junior Knockout Runners-Up*



*Sarco LLC – A Division (T20) Champions*



*Zawawi Powertech – A Division (T20) Runners-Up*



*Zawawi Powertech – A Division (50 overs) Champions*



*Al Jadidi Stars – A Division (50 overs) Runners-Up*



*Vanderlande v Design Group Engineering*



*Sarco LLC v Zawawi Powertech – 1*



*Sarco LLC v Zawawi Powertech - 2*



## All-Omani Tournament

The All-Omani Tournament was successfully staged at the Oman Cricket Academy from April 4 to 13, 2022. [OCT Ruwi](#) were crowned champions after winning all of their games in the competition. OCT Al Hail 'A' clinched second spot. Mohammed Al Balushi and Zubair Ali Akabr Al Balushi, both of Oct Ruwi, collected the Player of Tournament and best bowler awards respectively. Majid Hussein Doshambah Al Balushi was named best batsman. Overall, the event – a part of Oman Cricket's Grassroots initiative, served to boost the local population's interest in the game of cricket and provided a platform for them to showcase their skills in a competitive setting.



OCT Ruwi – All Omani Tournament Champions



OCT Al Hail 'A' – All Omani Tournament Runners-Up



Trophy Presentation – Winners



Trophy Presentation – Runners-Up



Shuaib Ismail Al Balushi – Player of the Final



Mohammed Al Balushi – Player of the Tournament



Majid Hussein Doshambah Al Balushi – Best Batsman



Zubair Ali Akabr Al Balushi – Best Bowler

## OTHER MATCHES OF NOTE

The 'Friendship Cup Cricket Tournament 2022' was held at the Oman Cricket Academy at the end of April. The 4-team event was a part of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' – an initiative celebrating 75 years of Indian independence. Oman Cricket's Chairman's XI joined the sides representing the embassies of India, UK and USA and were eventually crowned champions after besting the Indian embassy, in the final held on April 29<sup>th</sup>. This unique tournament saw riveting cricketing action, with amateur diplomat-cricketers showcasing impressive skills with both bat and ball but more importantly, it was a beautiful show of sportsmanship and camaraderie and also gave the families from respective countries a chance to come together and enjoy the sporting entertainment.



Amit Narang and Pankaj Khimji



Indian Embassy & Chairman's XI – Friendship Cup 2022 Finalists



India, UK & USA embassy teams with Chairman's XI



Oman Cricket's Chairman's XI – Friendship Cup 2022 Winners

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