

TuksSport

Assupol TuksCricket NewsLetter Issue 3





Upcoming season

All at Assupol TuksCricket are excited to see what the 2017/2018 Cricket season holds. All players at Assupol TuksCricket have worked hard to get themselves ready for all the cricket they'll be part of in the next 6 months.

The season will start with the NCU T20 Competition, which Assupol TuksCricket has successfully won for the past 7 seasons. The USSA A Cricket week has also now moved to October and will be a great platform for the Elite Squad to start their 50 over cricket campaign for the season.

The NCU structures have changed slightly this season and before the Premier Leagues kicks off all teams that previously played in the Premier and Promotion league will play pool matches to qualify for these two leagues. This will continue till November when the NCU Premier League starts and continues straight through till the end of March. Assupol TuksCricket will be defending the first and second position in this competition.

The pre-season included many different components of strength & conditioning, fitness and cricket specific training. The preseason also included a teambuilding weekend where the Elite Squad spend some time together as a team to put together their cricket plans for the season head. The team took part in warm up matches against the national teams from the UAE, Germany and Namibia.

The rest of the club teams, the women's team and the Junior Division have also started eagerly with their training as they all look forward to a summer full of good cricket.

Talking about the season ahead, Assupol Tuks Cricket Head of Programme and Head Coach, Kruger van Wyk said, "After a very productive off-season, where players worked extremely hard to progress their skills and conditioning levels, everyone is excited about getting out into the middle for what will be another full season."

We would like to wish all our teams the best in all upcoming competitions and leagues.









Assupol TuksCricket to Host the USSA A Cricket Week

The USSA A Cricket week will be taking place again this year for the first time since 2014 after the 2015 and 2016 weeks were called off due to country wide student protests. This year the tournament has moved to October to ensure that if the end of year exams are moved due to any reason, the tournament can still take place.

The USSA A Week will be hosted by the University of Pretoria for the first time since 2011 and it will be taking place across different fields in Pretoria included the cricket ovals at Assupol TuksCricket and TUT.

The tournament is structured in a A and B section with 8 teams in each week. The teams are grouped into two pools in each week and the four teams play each other, after which they will then go through to the knock out stages where all teams will play out for the top 8 positions. The lowest team will be relegated to the B Week, and the winner of the B Week will be promoted to the A Week. The top 8 teams after the week will qualify for 2018's Varsity Cricket Week.

Assupol TuksCricket Head of Programme and Head Coach, Kruger van Wyk said, "We are very excited for the upcoming USSA week especially since it has taken place in the last two years. The team is at the start of the cricket season and have worked hard to prepare for both the season and the tournament."

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Assupol TuksCricket hosted another Cricket South Africa (CSA) tri-angular A series over the winter period of 2017 between South Africa A, India A and Afghanistan A. The tri-series was an ODI series where each team played each other twice and the teams that finished in the top 2 positions played in the final.

All the pool games were live-streamed on Cricket South Africa's website but the definite highlight was the final of the tri-series that was broadcast live on SuperSport 2. This was an incerdible moment for all staff at Assupol TuksCricket who worked tirelessly to get the field and the facilities ready for this moment.

The greatest pleasure was also being able to host the 4-day match between South Africa A and India A that was scheduled for another venue at very short notice.

Assupol TuksCricket Head of Programme and Head Coach, Kruger van Wyk, said, "It is always a great opportunity for us at Assupol TuksCricket to host international teams for these kind of tournaments. It is very good exposure for our players and staff to work with international groups and it is a priviledge for us to show case our facilities."



Africa T20 Cup

This year the third edition of the Africa T20 Cup was hosted around the country. This competition sees all the Senior Provincial Cricket Teams and 3 African National Cricket teams take part to be the best T20 team on the continent. All the teams get divided into 4 pools and the winner of the pools go through to the semi-finals and finals. This year, Assupol TuksCricket would like to congratulate the following players and coach on being selected to represent the Northerns Team at this year's competition:

- Andrea Agathagelou
- Corbin Bosch
- Jiveshen Pillav
- Migael Pretorius
- Roger Arendse
- Rubin Hermann
- Thomas Kaber (Captain)
- Tony de Zorzi
- Kruger van Wyk (Consultant Coach)









Visiting International Teams

Assupol TuksCricket was host to three international teams this off-season who used our facilities for training camps in preparation for various tournaments.

The Namibian National team, the United Arab Emirates National Team and the German National team all spent some time training and playing matches against Assupol TuksCricket during August and September.

During this time, the Assupol TuksCricket Elite Squad had the priviledge of playing against all three teams and beat the UAE and German sides.

After hosting these teams, Assupol TuksCricket Head of Programme and Head Coach, Kruger van Wyk said, "It is also a great opportunity to host teams from internatinoal countries and to build our relationshsips with the players and staff to possibly host them again in the future. It is also a very good opportunity for our Elite Squad players to measure themselves against internationals and get this type of experience before going into and tournament and season."

Assupol TuksCricket would like to wish all 3 these teams the best with their future endeavours and hope to see the teams again soon.









Ekasi Challenge

For the last five years, the Unlimited Titans and the Bizhub Highveld Lions take part in the Ekasi Challenge which brings cricket to townships each year in Johannesburg and Pretoria, alternatively. This year the match took place on 13 September at the Hammanskraal Oval in Pretoria.

This year, Assupol TuksCricket would like to congratulate 8 players who were part of the victorious Unlimited Titans Team:

- Aiden Markram
- Albie Morkel
- Andrea Agathagelou
- Corbin Bosch
- Jiveshen Pillay
- Heinrich Klaasen
- Migael Pretorius
- Tony de Zorzi



Assupol Outreach with Soweto Pioneers Cricket Club

On Saturday 16 September, Assupol and Assupol TuksCricket collaborate on a project to assist Soweto Pioneers Cricket Club with the development of their cricket. This was part of Assupol's sponsorship iniatives with the Club and taking hands with the community of Soweto through the Hugh Masekela Heritage Festival.

The Johannesburg based Club brought 17 players, 6 coaches and 6 members from their executive committee for a fun-filled clinic at Assupol TuksCricket for girls and boys of all ages. This day was an incredible opportunity for both Clubs and it really was a day enjoyed by all.

Assupol TuksCricket Head of Programme and Head Coach, Kruger van Wyk said, "We are very excited to be able to be involved with Soweto Pioneers Cricket Club and we really hope that this is a project that we can take forward to help with the development of their players and the empowerment of their coaches."

The day was also attended by employees from Assupol and Celest van Niekerk, Head of Marketing and CSI at Assupol, said, "Everyone had so much fun. It was an honour to be tasked with the responsibility of giving the Soweto Pioneers this amazing experience."























