

Women's T20 squad named

CRICKET South Africa (CSA) yesterday named a squad of 15 that will represent South Africa in the first ever stand-alone ICC Women's World T20 in the West Indies from November 9 to 24.

The sixth edition of the 10-team tournament will take place across three venues – Antigua, Saint Lucia and Guyana.

The selectors have kept the bulk of the squad that recently completed a tour of the Windies with the return of stalwarts Shabnim Ismail and Trisha Chetty to finish off the dangerous-looking squad.

Fast bowler Ayabonga Khaka has not sufficiently recovered from her shoulder surgery and was not considered for selection.

Three of the four newest members of the team that toured the West Indies have also received the nod. Tumi Sekhukhune, Robyn Searle and Saarah Smith will make their World Cup debuts.

It will be a doubly exciting tournament with the Decision Review System (DRS) being used in an ICC World T20 for the very first time.

South Africa will play in Group A in St Lucia against defending champions West Indies, England, Sri Lanka and World Cup Qualifier winners Bangladesh. Group B comprises Australia, India, New Zealand, Pakistan and Ireland.

"Good luck to our Proteas ladies as they head for the West Indies with high expectations for the ICC Women's World T20," said CSA chief executive Thabang Moroe.

"They reached the semi-final of this tournament in Bangladesh in 2014 and

came agonisingly close to a first appearance in a final in last year's ICC Women's World Cup in England.

"The time has now arrived for them to take that next step forward and get into the championship match.

"They can take a lot of justifiable confidence out of their recently completed tour of the West Indies where they drew both the ODI and T20 Series against their hosts who are the defending champions for the ICC World T20.

"They also had to make do without a number of key players.

"From CSA's perspective we have left no stone unturned in our support for Dané [van Niekerk] and her team to put them on the same level of preparation as our Proteas men's team," said Moroe.

However, the International Cricket Council announced yesterday that an independent assessment had found the bowling action of South African off-spinner Raisibe Ntozakhe to be illegal and she has been suspended from bowling in international cricket with immediate effect.

The assessment revealed that all of her deliveries exceeded the 15 degrees level of tolerance permitted under the regulations.

In accordance with Article 6.1.2 of the ICC Regulations For The Review of Bowlers Reported with Suspect Illegal Bowling Actions, Ntozakhe's international suspension will also be recognised and enforced by all National Cricket Federations for domestic cricket events played in their own jurisdiction.

However, according to Article 11.5 of the regulations and with the consent of the Cricket South Africa, Ntozakhe may be able to bowl in domestic cricket events played under the auspices of CSA.

Ntozakhe was reported during ICC Women's Championship ODI between the West Indies and South Africa on September 16 in Barbados and had undergone an independent assessment of her bowling action on September 28 at the University of Pretoria.

Ntozakhe can apply for a re-assessment after modifying her bowling action in accordance with clause 4.5 of the regulations.

— CSA.

PROTEAS ICC WOMEN'S WORLD CUP SQUAD:

Dané van Niekerk (captain, Eastern Province), Chloe Tryon (KwaZulu-Natal Coastal), Lizelle Lee (North West), Suné Luus (Northerns), Shabnim Ismail (Gauteng), Masabata Klaas (North West), Mignon du Preez (Northerns), Mari-zanne Kapp (Eastern Province), Laura Wolvaardt (Western Province), Raisibe Ntozakhe (Gauteng), Zimile Mall (Border), Robyn Searle (Gauteng), Tumi Sekhukhune (Easterns), Saarah Smith (Western Province), Trisha Chetty (Gauteng).



Trisha Chetty is back with the Proteas women for the World T20 in the West Indies in November. **PHOTO: GALLO**