



PCB®

Pakistan Cricket Board

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019



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*Note: The PCB Annual Report 2018-2019 also includes cricket events from the 2017-2018 season. As such, period covered in this edition is from 1 September 2017 to 23 May 2019.*

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## Foreword



# Chairman's Report

Ehsan Mani

It has been almost a year since I was elected as the 34th Chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board, after being nominated by the Prime Minister and PCB Patron, Imran Khan, to the Board of Governors.

Having represented Pakistan at the ICC from 1989 until becoming their President for a three-year term in 2003, I was well aware of the demands and expectations of this role. Having said that, leading the Board of a cricket-passionate country like Pakistan, was always going to bring different challenges.

At the outset, I identified three areas, which needed to be addressed as a matter of priority:

- *Create a transparent governance structure following international best practice*
- *Ensure the PCB is run professionally*
- *Make our domestic cricket robust and strong to ensure that our cricketers are competitive at the highest level of the game*

We have worked extremely hard on the constitutional reforms to introduce sound governance practices.

No corporate structure can thrive where conflict of interest exists. For many years, the PCB Chairman, whose role should be to oversee the strategies and policies approved by the Board of Governors, was also implementing them as the Chief Executive.

The role of the Board is to provide strategic direction and policies and be the decision-making authority. The Management team, headed by a Chief Executive, is required to implement the strategy and policies approved by the Board. The Chairman is the link between the Board of Governors and the Management team.

We have, therefore, separated the roles of Chairman and Chief Executive, and delegated the appropriate authority to the Chief Executive to lead the Management team. The structure we have now, is in line with all the other Test Playing countries and reflects best corporate governance practice.

After going through a rigorous process, the Board of Governors chose Wasim Khan for the role of the Chief Executive. Wasim is a highly respected cricket administrator with a proven track-record and brings a wealth of experience which will benefit Pakistan cricket.

It is essential that the Pakistan Cricket Board is transparent and accountable to its stakeholders in all its dealings.

The PCB, for the first time after over a decade, is now publishing its annual audited financial statements on its website. We are also providing details of the expenses and allowances of the Chairman and the Board of Governors which are updated every quarter.

I was surprised at the high level of allowances and other benefits to which the Chairman was entitled. I have downgraded my entitlements significantly and in some cases forfeited them all together.

Pakistan has a rich cricketing heritage and history. In recent years, Pakistan's on-field performances have been poor - we have been inconsistent and not performing to our potential.

While there was a lot of first-class cricket being played, quality and consistency has been lacking.

Consequently, we have restructured our domestic cricket by reducing the number of teams playing first-class cricket from 16 to six. This is to ensure that our domestic first-class cricket is competitive. We are also focusing on producing good wickets so that our players are better able to perform well when playing overseas.

The new structure will help in bridging the gap between Pakistan's domestic structure and international cricket.

The start of the year saw the staging of the fourth edition of the HBL Pakistan Super League.

After a spectacular opening ceremony and 26 matches in the United Arab Emirates, the intention was to play the last eight matches in Pakistan. Lahore and Karachi were to hold three and five matches, respectively.

However, following the Pulwama incident and the rising tension in the region, the airspace over Lahore was closed. The rising political tension also, disappointingly, saw the tournament live media production partner pull out with complete disregard to its contractual obligations.

In the face of these challenges, the PCB, with the full support of the franchisees and our principal sponsors, decided to hold all eight matches in Karachi, which, with the outstanding support of the Government of Pakistan and the Sindh Government, turned out to be outstanding success.

The people of Karachi embraced the HBL PSL 2019 with amazing support; the average attendance of the HBL PSL matches was about 90 percent.

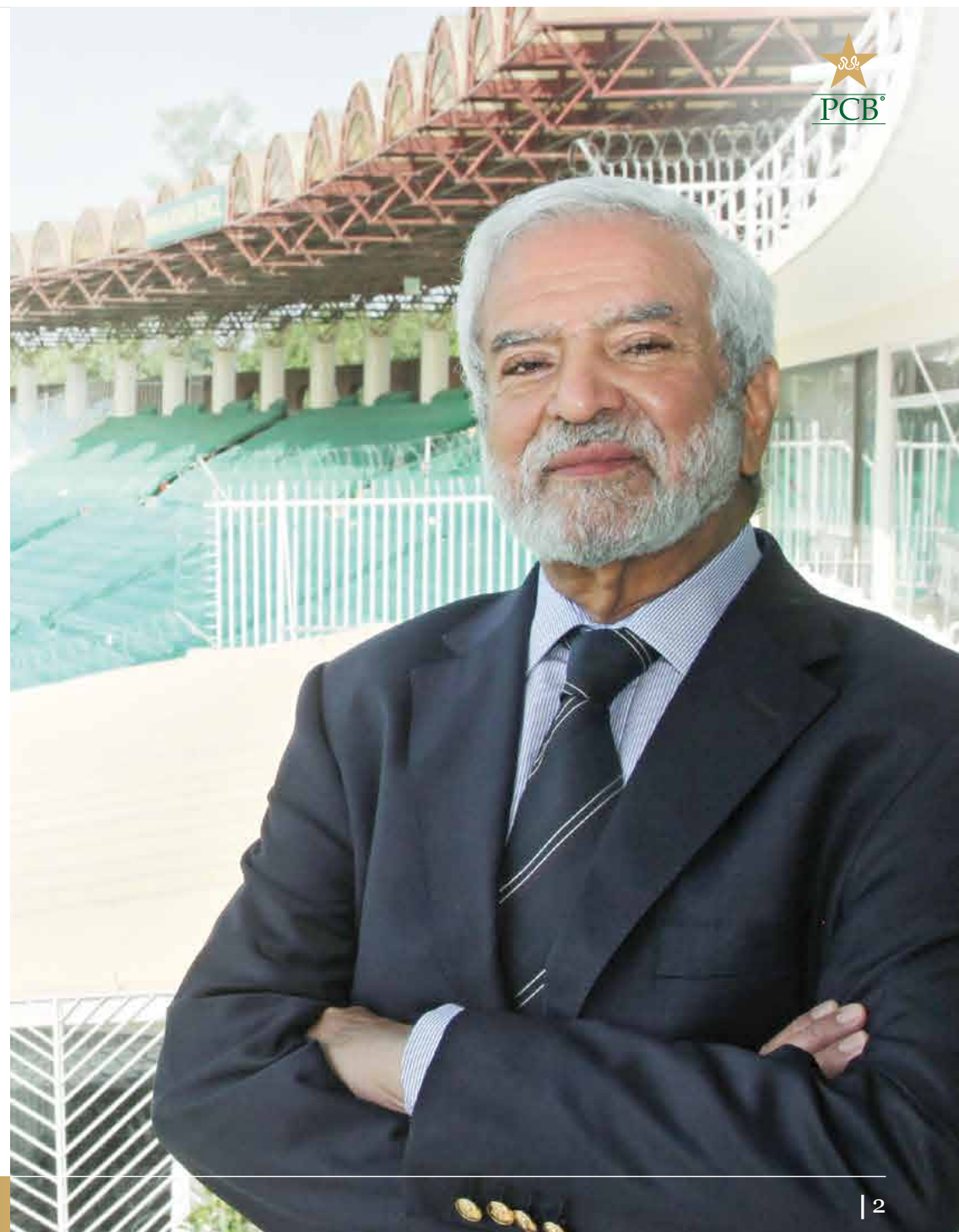
It was also gratifying that all of the 39 foreign players and 13 foreign coaching and support staff personnel came to Karachi for the HBL PSL matches.

The support that we received from the HBL PSL's commercial partners has been exceptional. The value of the broadcast rights saw an increase of 358 per cent. Our principal Event Partner, Habib Bank Limited, renewed its support for the HBL PSL at 192 per cent. The franchise rights for Multan Sultans were awarded for the next seven years, following the conclusion of the bidding process, at a figure that exceeded the reserve price of \$5.21 million per annum.

Going forward, we are committed to holding all Pakistan international home matches in Pakistan for which Wasim and I have been working behind the scenes by engaging with our counterparts in the other Test playing nations. It is essential our players play in front of our home supporters in Pakistan to safeguard the future of Pakistan cricket.

The upcoming season, which begins in the second week of September, will see the introduction of our new format domestic cricket. While we expect that there will be challenges and teething problems in the short term, I have no doubt that it will lay the foundation for the high-quality cricket that is necessary for our National Team to perform to its full potential.

I take this opportunity to thank all PCB's stakeholders, the Board of Governors and my colleagues at the Board's headquarters for their overwhelming support and hard work in the past year towards making Pakistan cricket stronger than ever before.



## Managing Director's Report

Wasim Khan

***Our goal is to bring the whole of the HBL Pakistan Super League (HBL PSL) back to Pakistan in 2020, progressing from the eight matches we staged in Karachi in 2019. I want us to spread the power of the game to a nation that has been starved of cricket. It is an opportunity for us to showcase how we can make it work here.***

Even in the relatively short time since my appointment, I have been able to witness first-hand, the exceptional and deeply ingrained passion for cricket that exists in Pakistan.

I have travelled widely in my first few months in the job in order to better understand how the game works in this country, to see the stadiums and domestic structures operate and to get the views of all stakeholders.

The opportunity to significantly contribute to supporting and shaping the future of Pakistan cricket excites me greatly.

Bringing international cricket back to Pakistan is a key priority for the Board. While I believe that the passion for cricket remains as high as ever, it does nothing for our cricket, or our players to be walking out in front of empty stadiums in the UAE.

Ensuring that the nation is able to watch international cricket in Pakistan ensures that the next generation will have role models that they can be inspired by and can aspire to become.

From a financial perspective, hosting home bilateral series in the UAE has significant cost implications for PCB, which is simply not sustainable.

Our goal is to bring the whole of the HBL Pakistan Super League (HBL PSL) back to Pakistan in 2020, progressing from the eight matches we staged in Karachi in 2019. I want us to spread the power of the game to a nation that has been starved of cricket. It is an opportunity for us to showcase how we can make it work here.

In terms of international tours to Pakistan, many challenges remain but we will continue to work relentlessly and with resilience in our quest to bring international cricket back. Recent terrorism in both Sri Lanka and New Zealand illustrates that cricket as a game must continue to remain

vigilant in what remains a global issue. Active dialogue remains open with cricketing nations such as Sri Lanka (home series scheduled for September and October); we remain confident that we will be hosting bilateral international cricket again in the not too distant future.

The overseas players who have appeared in HBL PSL in Pakistan have witnessed first-hand the safety and security implementation plans that we have delivered. In addition, the three-match T20 international series against West Indies women in Karachi was successfully delivered.

As the Chairman has already detailed, the reform of the domestic structure is a critical priority as is the development of women's cricket. In February, Pakistan Women beat the Windies in an ODI series for the first time, coming from behind to win the series 2-1 in Dubai and drew an ODI series 1-1 in South Africa.

With regards to the Women's game, we have changed the make-up of selection panel, which now comprises three female former international players, led by the former captain Urooj Mumtaz. In line with international practice of other full nations, the Women's team will now travel on business class flights of more than five hours. In addition, all female players who play in domestic tournaments will receive match fees, and for the first time in ten years, players on international duty on tours will see an increase in their daily allowances.

To reiterate what the Chairman has said, our aim is to professionalise PCB. To achieve this, we have begun changing some current systems and processes. In any organisational change, tough decisions have to be made and we have begun doing that. Our aspiration is to become one of the highest performing cricket boards in the world; to do that, we will be focused and uncompromising in expecting the highest of personal standards and levels of professionalism.

## Overview of men's international cricket

The 2018-19 international season was a packed one for Pakistan with the national men's team featuring in eight Tests, 18 ODIs and eight T20Is.

Pakistan hosted an action-packed home season in the UAE with Australia and New Zealand visiting for full tours across all three formats. Before the home season, Sarfaraz Ahmed's side also took part in the Asia Cup ODI tournament that was also held in the UAE.

Pakistan toured South Africa for a full series followed by ODI and T20I tours of England ahead of the ICC Cricket World Cup 2019.

Director of International Cricket, Zakir Khan said that ahead of the season, meticulous plans were made to ensure that the national team prepares for the all-important ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2019 by playing competitive cricket.

"We have provided maximum opportunities to the players," said Zakir, "especially if you assess the matches and the quality of opposition they have played against in the last season. The World Cup is an important event and we worked out a proper plan in close coordination with the team management to ensure that our team was well prepared and had the maximum possible bases covered for the mega event."

Pakistan toured England for a five-match ODI and one T20I match series ahead of the ICC Cricket World Cup 2019. The tour was planned five years ago with an aim of giving maximum exposure to the players and acclimatising them with the conditions in UK," Zakir added.

"An extended tour of England just ahead of the World Cup 2019 was part of our plans nearly five years ago. I remember we sat down and discussed the idea of Pakistan playing white-ball matches for the best possible preparation for the coveted event with the England and Wales Cricket Board. These discussions were held in 2014 and it gives me great satisfaction that we were able to tick all the boxes as far as preparation for the tournament is concerned."

Zakir elaborated, "besides providing the players the best possible preparation for the premier ICC event, PCB worked hard at ensuring flawless arrangements for the home series against Australia and New Zealand."

"Our aim has always been to provide the teams that visit us either in UAE or Pakistan, the best possible facilities and environment of playing cricket. I am pleased to share that our efforts were fully acknowledged by our counterparts in Australia and New Zealand. The goodwill we created will help us in the years ahead especially as we transition into the process of full restoration of international cricket in Pakistan."

Besides the commitment of the senior team, PCB arranged various tours for age-group players and the A team.

Zakir stressed that the PCB Management is very keen on providing maximum exposure to age-group/junior players and also forming a solid 'A' team that can provide back-up to the national players.

"An important part of the Future Tour Programme (FTP) is development of junior and reserve teams' cricket. We have successfully arranged U16 and U19 tours and have also hosted 'A' series against New Zealand and England Lions, keeping in mind the best international practices."

"The successful organisation of the ACC Emerging Cup in Karachi was an important milestone for us as we got the backing of Asian countries. Such an event not only gives exposure to our players but also bolsters the confidence of participating nations in our hosting capabilities."

At present, PCB is working on a number of bilateral cricket arrangements with ICC full members both at junior and senior levels.

After the success of the 2018-19 season, there is an added incentive for the Board to build further on the progress made in recent months.

According to Zakir, the upcoming season will have many more exciting opportunities for junior players especially as the build-up for the ICC U19 Cricket World Cup 2020 begins.

"The upcoming season will have a lot of opportunities for the U19 player. Many of the players who took part in the U16 tours last season will progress to represent the country in the prestigious ICC U19 World Cup. We have full backing of the Chairman PCB, Mr. Ehsan Mani, who is very keen on the growth and development of junior cricket."

"The next season might also see full restoration of international cricket in the country, and we are in talks with various boards, there are some exciting times ahead and

PCB will leave no stone unturned to ensure progressing and strengthening further our status as a leading power in international cricket at all fronts."

### 2018-2019 men's international season at a glance (1 July 2018 to 23 May 2019)

#### Team performance

Format	Played	Won	Lost	No-Result/Draw
Test	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>
ODI	<b>28</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2</b>
T20I	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>-</b>

#### Top performers

	Test	ODI	T20I
	Babar Azam	Imam-ul-Haq	Babar Azam
Most runs	<b>(619)</b>	<b>(1238)</b>	<b>(505)</b>
	Yasir Shah	Shaheen Shah Afridi	Shadab Khan
Most wickets	<b>(38)</b>	<b>(24)</b>	<b>(17)</b>

## Overview of women's international/domestic cricket

PCB has undertaken many initiatives to strengthen women's cricket at all levels in the last two seasons. The objective is to provide a solid back-up to the current squad and increase the pool of players who can represent the national side.

The programmes have put women's cricket on a progressive path and positive results are expected in the next three to four years as nationwide cricket academies and inter-school programmes start bearing fruit.

PCB is presently working on implementing "Vision 2022" which was outlined, keeping in view the international, domestic, game development and human resource development for women cricket besides a sustainable domestic women cricket structure to produce quality players and a resilient national team with improved rankings at international level.

Senior General Manager Women's Wing, Shahid Aslam, gave details about the various training programmes and initiatives for young talent that PCB has taken up.

"We have set up five zonal academies in five regions in 2018 which includes Lahore, Karachi, Islamabad/Rawalpindi, Multan and Peshawar, where we have sports staff available including the coaches and trainers," Shahid said.

"We have set up two sub-programmes under our Vision 2022: CRIC4US and Skills2Shine. CRIC4US is for students from schools, colleges and universities (grassroots level) whereas Skills2Shine is for U17, U23 and academy cricket. The programmes have been a huge success and requests have been made from other regions to expand these. Based on these requests we will work on expansion in the coming months."

Shahid added that PCB has worked on improving domestic cricket structure for women. Departmental and regional teams have played a series of competitive tournaments in the last two seasons and these events have helped improve the player base. The domestic structure, considered a feeder for international cricket, has provided positive results at the highest level.

"In domestic cricket, we have been organising two tournaments annually: a 50-over triangular tournament and T20 four-team tournament (three departments and one PCB XI team). Our Vision 2022 is to be among the top four teams in the world, and after our performances

against South Africa in the recently held tour, we believe that we are on track."

Shahid feels that the coaching panel led by Mark Coles has brought about a positive change in the team and the results achieved against teams like Sri Lanka, West Indies and South Africa are a testament to the work put in by Coles and co.

"For our international cricket, I would say, the induction of highly-skilled professional coaches with Mark Coles at the helm and a fully dedicated staff for women cricketers including batting coach, fitness coach, physiotherapist, female manager and analyst has done wonders for the team. The confidence given to the girls has yielded positive results. We clean swept Sri Lanka, defeated West Indies in the ODI series, and drew the series in South Africa. The performances against West Indies and South Africa are nothing short of history-making for us."

Shahid also praised the newly installed all-female selection committee for its hard work and professionalism in selecting a highly competitive squad for the South Africa tour.

"The newly installed, selection committee - headed by our former captain Urooj Mumtaz and including former players Asmavia Iqbal and Marina Iqbal - has done a wonderful job in a short time. I am confident they will continue to select the best possible squads for Pakistan with the kind of dedication and commitment that they showed for the South Africa tour."

Shahid maintained that the future is bright for women cricketers both at domestic and international level, the incumbent PCB Management has prioritised the growth of women's cricket and has shown resolve and commitment to ensure that no stone is left unturned in achieving the growth objectives.

"The PCB Management led by the Managing Director has made some elaborate plans, we are delighted to receive this extraordinary support with a result-oriented approach."

We are confident that Pakistan women's cricket will only grow in the years ahead, we have seen passion among young girls all across the country and with role models like Sana Mir, Javeria Khan, Nida Dar, captain Bismah Maroof and youngsters like Nashra Sandhu, Diana Baig and Aliya Riaz, we have the potential of becoming a major force at international level soon."

### 2018-2019 women's international cricket at a glance (1 July 2018 to 23 May 2019)

#### Team performance

Format	Played	Won	Lost	No-Result/Draw
ODI	10	3	6	1
T20I	18	7	10	1

#### Top performers

	ODI	T20I
Most runs	Javeria Khan (246)	Bismah Maroof (382)
Most wickets	Sana Mir (20)	Nida Dar (15)

### PCB CENTRALLY CONTRACTED WOMEN PLAYERS 2019-2020

CATEGORY A

CATEGORY B

CATEGORY C

  
NIDA DAR

  
ALIYA RIAZ

  
BISMAH MAROOF

  
DIANA BAIG

  
SANA MIR

  
JAVERIA WADOOD

  
NASHRA SANDHU

  
NAHIDA KHAN

  
SIDRA AMEEN

  
SIDRA NAWAZ

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- 12-month instead of six-month contracts awarded
- 20% increase in Category A remuneration, 18.5% increase in Category B, 18% increase in Category C
- Daily allowances in Pakistan camp increased by 100%
- Daily allowance on foreign tour increased by 50%
- Business class flight for over five hours for all international travel
- Match fee of PKR10,000 introduced for all domestic competition players

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## Overview of men's domestic cricket

The 2018-19 domestic season was another action-packed season with a total of 810 matches played across the three formats both at the junior and senior levels.

The season started in August 2018 with the Regional Inter-District Senior three-day tournament and finished in May 2019 with the Patron's Trophy Grade II tournament, which was the last event of the season.

Director Domestic Cricket, Haroon Rasheed, spoke about the scheduling of the season which was done well ahead of time to facilitate the participating teams, curators and all relevant stakeholders.

"We had a major issue of scheduling the domestic season during 2017-18, and this time around we scheduled the whole season well in advance to avoid clashes with international commitments.

This domestic season, we organised four-day and one-day cricket matches simultaneously on the request of the selection committee as the selectors wanted to analyse the performance of the players on various conditions and pitches.

For the 2018-19 season, we relaid the pitches in May-June 2018 with an aim of ensuring quality cricket across our domestic venues", Haroon stated while explaining the pitch preparation process. "This time around, we issued policy guidelines to the curators for the preparation of pitches in different venues which yielded positive results.

The fresh pitches favored the bowlers initially but by mid-season the batsmen gained momentum."

Haroon also expressed his satisfaction with the cricket balls that were used in the season.

"We are satisfied with the ball (Dukes) that is being used in the domestic cricket since the last two years, not even a single complaint has been filed. Earlier, five to six balls were replaced during a match which was not a good sign and we are happy that we have rectified the problem."

Haroon added that the premier national first-class competition, Quaid-e-Azam Trophy, provided a competitive

environment for the players, helping them improve and develop for the next level.

"Quaid-e-Azam Trophy is the premier tournament where a player is fully tested, while there is a gap between international and domestic cricket, the players still need to go through multiple seasons of first-class cricket to hone their skills especially if they desire to excel at the Test level. A competitive environment provides them that opportunity."

Haroon dispelled the perception that spin bowlers don't excel in Pakistan's domestic cricket due to the nature of the pitches, he feels that the growth of the T20 format has changed the strategy and approach of the slow bowlers.

"First-class cricket compared to T20 cricket is much tougher for spinners, the reason is that in the shorter format of the game, the batsmen go for quick runs and that provides regular wicket taking opportunities for the spinners. Their real test is four-day cricket where they have to work the batsmen over with consistent plans that need to be executed with great patience and skill.

For the next season, PCB domestic wing will be making new plans with inputs from various stakeholders."

"We have asked the relevant stakeholders to write a report to us on the problems they faced during the season and how we can ratify that; we are planning to take feedback from the teams as well," Haroon concluded.

### Incentives for players in the 2018-19 Men's Domestic Season:

- Increase in Match Fee of Quaid-e-Azam Trophy from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 50,000/- per match
- Increase in Match Fee of One-Day Tournament from Rs. 20,000/- to Rs. 25,000/- per match
- Increase in Match Fee of T20 Tournament from Rs. 24,000/- to Rs. 30,000/- per match
- Increase in Match Fee of Pakistan Cup One-Day Tournament from Rs. 30,000/- to Rs. 35,000/- per match
- Increase in Prize Money of Quaid-e-Azam Trophy from Rs. 4,400,000/- to Rs. 5,400,000/-

- Increase in Prize Money of T20 Cup from Rs. 4,900,000/- to Rs. 5,700,000/-
- Increase in Prize Money of Regional Inter-District Senior Tournament from Rs. 150,000/- to Rs. 250,000/-
- Increase in Prize Money of Regional Inter-District U19 Tournament from Rs. 150,000/- to Rs. 250,000/-

## 2018-2019 men's domestic season at a glance (1 July 2018 to 5 May 2019)

Event name	Winner	Most runs	Most wickets
Quaid-e-Azam Trophy	Habib Bank Limited	<b>(886)</b> Khurram Manzoor	<b>(59)</b> Aizaz Cheema
Quaid-e-Azam Trophy Grade-II	Faisalabad Region	<b>(459)</b> Abubakar Khan	<b>(33)</b> Mohammad Asghar
Quaid-e-Azam One-Day Cup	Habib Bank Limited	<b>(559)</b> Salman Butt	<b>(20)</b> Mohammad Irfan Khan
National T20 Cup	Lahore Region Whites	<b>(322)</b> Khurram Manzoor	<b>(16)</b> Umaid Asif/Amad Butt
HBL PSL 2019	Quetta Gladiators	<b>(430)</b> Shane Watson	<b>(25)</b> Hasan Ali
Pakistan Cup	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	<b>(342)</b> Umar Akmal	<b>(10)</b> Wahab Riaz/Amad Butt
Patron's Trophy Grade-II	State Bank of Pakistan	<b>(674)</b> Saad Ali	<b>(28)</b> Nisar Ahmed



■ Younus Khan poses for a picture with women players after speaking to them on 'stress management' at the Hanif Mohammad High Performance Cricket Center, Karachi

## Overview of women's game development

PCB has undertaken many initiatives to strengthen women's cricket at the domestic and grassroots level in recent years. The objective is to provide solid back-up and increase the pool of players who can represent the national side.

The programmes have put women's cricket on a progressive path and positive results are expected in the next three to four years as nationwide cricket academies and inter-school programmes start bearing fruit.

Unveiling the game development strategy for women's cricket under Vision 2022 Flagship, PCB launched its initiatives and programmes.

Vision 2022 was outlined, keeping in view the international, domestic, game development and human resource development for women's cricket besides a sustainable domestic women's cricket structure to produce quality players and a resilient national team with improved rankings at international level.

### Grassroots development strategy:

- Amalgamation of regions into five zones, comprising four cities each, to ensure focused intervention and increased participation

- Infrastructure development in five zonal academies and city-based partner schools/colleges i.e. ground & pitches development
- Implementation of grassroots development strategy unveiling schools' engagement, U17 and U21 programmes
- Provision of year-round practice facilities for women players in zones and city-based cricket centres
- Development of database for women's cricket
- Coaching, administration and training programmes for female workforce development i.e. engaging teachers and ex-players

### Establishment of academies, cricket centres and staff recruitment (July 2018)

Within the restructured layout, PCB has established five academies at zonal headquarters and cricket centres in Abbottabad, Bahawalpur and Quetta.

The purpose of establishment of academies and cricket centres is to provide female cricketers with a platform to practise and train on a regular basis under supervision of qualified, skill- and performance-enhancing coaching staff.

### Coordination and collaboration with Government entities (November-December 2018)

To uplift the game of cricket at university level and to engage all stakeholders, PCB held meetings with the Management of Higher Education Commission (HEC).

The objective was to explore options of collaboration for enhancing cricket infrastructure and performance of colleges and universities teams.

Besides the HEC representatives, some Government institutions were contacted for assistance in regards to nomination of schools and colleges for CRIC4US Programme and for dissemination of information for U17 trials for Skills2Shine Programme.

### CRIC4US Programme (September 2018)

This is a basic skills development programme focusing on introducing and fostering cricket at grassroots level in Pakistan. Through this programme, PCB will be collaborating with educational institutions to ensure regular provision of training facilities to students by PCB-qualified coaching staff.



■ A young batter at the crease during the CRIC4US Girl's Cricket engagement programme

Students will have the chance of regular evening practice organised under the Skills2Shine Programme, with the aim of providing maximum development prospects. In addition, in order to provide real-time game experience, the schools will also play matches on a regular basis.

Moreover, inter-school championships will be organised from year 2020-2021 onwards, to add a competitive element to the overall development of players.

A minimum of four educational institutions per city will be facilitated each year till the year 2022, eventually engaging around 250 institutions and imparting training to around 5,000 students over the course of five years.

### Indoor Schools Cricket Championships (November 2018)

The idea is to engage students into fun-filled learning and promotional indoor cricket championship for schools. Apart from the promotional aspect, the event will instil the concept of modified games' format, using smaller spaces and less equipment to highlight the importance of sports and an active lifestyle among young people.

For the year 2018-2019, the first indoor championship was held in Lahore. Similar events have been planned for Karachi, Multan, Rawalpindi and Peshawar in the near future.

### Skills2Shine Programme (October 2018)

Skills2Shine Programme is a grassroots skill development and enhancement programme that aims to provide a platform for identifying new talent, directing them into learning cricketing skills. The academy programme will not only have the elements of technical, tactical, mental, physical and game skills embedded, but will also feature educational sessions related to player's conduct, anti-corruption, anti-doping, nutrition, fitness and motivation/sports psychology during the U17 (February-March 2019) and U21 Academies Programmes.

## 2018-2019 women's domestic season at a glance (1 July 2018 to 23 May 2019)

Event name	Winner	Most runs	Most wickets
Inter-Department T20 Championship	Zarai Taraqati Bank Limited Women	<b>(240)</b> Javeria Khan	<b>(12)</b> Almas Akram
Triangular One-day Tournament	PCB Dynamites	<b>(256)</b> Aliya Riaz	<b>(9)</b> Nashra Sandhu

## Overview of the Academies' programmes

National Cricket Academy in Lahore, Hanif Mohammad High Performance Center in Karachi and Inzamam-ul-Haq High-Performance Centre (HPC) in Multan had a busy year with a series of age-group camps, national men's and women's team preparatory camps and training sessions for academy and regional coaches at various levels.

Director of Academies, Mudassar Nazar, who has represented Pakistan in 76 Tests and 122 ODIs in a distinguished international career, has been heading the academy programmes for the last three years. Mudassar feels that the academies across the country led by NCA Lahore, have made a big contribution in harnessing the skills of young and upcoming talent. NCA and regional coaches travel across the country to search for raw talent, these players then have their skills honed according to their age group.

In recent years, the academy has produced a lot of players who have represented Pakistan at junior and senior level.

"For the academies, the U13 and U16 programmes have been the highlight of the year," said Mudassar. "We have spent a lot of time on the boys who are the future of Pakistan cricket and have provided them extensive training for extended periods. The programmes at this age level are really exciting since we get to build players' techniques, work on their fitness and attitude towards the game from scratch.

I foresee some of these kids from the U16 level representing Pakistan in Test cricket in future. Similarly, the U13 players too have great potential. We are looking to expand the U13 programme since the players of this age-group progress to play at the U16 level, leading to the highest and most competitive level of junior cricket which is the U19 bilateral events and of course the ICC U19 Cricket World Cup."

"During summers, we arrange different camps here at the academy where players, besides playing cricket, are educated on various aspects related to the game."

Mudassar highlighted the sharp progress made by youngsters Mohammad Hasnain and Shaheen Shah Afridi, who are both a part of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2019 squad, as two examples of the development work done at NCA.

Shaheen made his international debut on the back of impressive performances in the ICC U19 Cricket World Cup last year Hasnain, who had a successful HBL Pakistan Super League with eventual champions Quetta Gladiators, remained a part of the academies set up in recent years.

"We go to remote areas for the awareness of the game. We go there in search of fast bowlers and invite them to NCA for training. Through the academy, cricketers like Mohammad Hasnain and Shaheen Shah Afridi have been produced.



■ Action shot of U16 players in a practice match ahead of their Bangladesh tour

These players have come through our U16 programmes and their progress is so heartening to see. This is what we all involved with the academy yearn for, to produce players of the highest quality who can serve Pakistan cricket for a number of years.

Hasnain and Shaheen mirror the success of our program. Elaborating on the rehabilitation programmer, Mudassar stressed on the importance of the work done by NCA for injured athletes. He enumerated the case of fast bowler Naseem Shah, who had been lodged at NCA for many months after sustaining a back injury. Once recovered, the bowler's performance against South Africa U19 was a treat to watch.

"Over the years, NCA has been instrumental in rehab of players - the likes of Umar Gul, Mohammad Amir, Sana Mir, to name a few. We work closely with the players, our panel of doctors and physiotherapists work with modern methods and techniques to bring players back in shape following an injury and sometimes months are spent on players. For national players, our staff works closely with Pakistan team management to ensure that all stakeholders are on the same page."

Mudassar added that women's cricket is another area that NCA works on in close collaboration with the women's team management.

"Women cricketers are always looked after by the academy and are wholeheartedly accommodated for their training camps in Lahore, Multan and Karachi. We try and provide all facilities to them to ensure that they train with peace of mind in a secure environment. They are given the same facilities as our men's team for their international commitments."

Mudassar also spoke about the programmes aimed for improving coaching standards.

"Training of coaches is another area that NCA spends considerable time and effort in, development of coaching resources is a key area especially with the growing interest in the sport all across the country. To cater to the demands, NCA aims to equip the coaches with modern day tools and training to ensure they train players with total dedication and commitment."

"Regional coaches undergo different workshops before the start of the season; the coaches are professional and our aim has always been to equip them with the best facilities and above all training as per the modern requirements. As coaching evolves and new methods are being adopted across the Board, PCB can not afford to lag behind," Mudassar concluded.



■ U16 players preparing for their tour of Bangladesh



■ Mudassar Nazar assisting a young fast bowler

## 2018-2019 men's pathway cricket at a glance (1 July 2018 to 15 May 2019)

Event name	Winner	Most runs	Most wickets
U16 Regional National One Day Tournament	<b>U16</b> Faisalabad	<b>(355)</b> Rizwan Mehmood	<b>(16)</b> Abdul Rehman
U16 Pentangular One Day Tournament	<b>U16</b> Sindh	<b>(309)</b> Mohammad Shehzad	<b>(10)</b> Faisal Akram
Inter-Region U19 Three-Day Tournament	<b>U19</b> Faisalabad Region	<b>(566)</b> Afaq Ahmed	<b>(46)</b> Suleman Shafqat
Inter-Region U19 One-Day Tournament	<b>U19</b> Peshawar Region	<b>(387)</b> Saad Khan	<b>(27)</b> Mohammad Jahangir
Pentangular U19 T20 Cup	<b>U19</b> Punjab	<b>(166)</b> Awaiz Zafar	<b>(10)</b> Suleman Shafqat
Pakistan A vs New Zealand A (T20)	<b>(2-1)</b> New Zealand A	<b>(104)</b> Hussain Talat	<b>(7)</b> Umaid Asif
Pakistan A vs New Zealand A (One-day)	<b>(3-0)</b> Pakistan A	<b>(255)</b> Mohammad Rizwan	<b>(8)</b> Mohammad Irfan Jr
Pakistan A vs New Zealand A (Four-day)	<b>(3-2)</b> Drawn	<b>(352)</b> Shan Masood	<b>(5)</b> Mohammad Asghar
Pakistan A vs England Lions (T20)	<b>(2-0)</b> England Lions	<b>(51)</b> Adil Amin	<b>(6)</b> Mohammad Irfan Khan
Pakistan A vs England Lions (One-day)	<b>(3-2)</b> Pakistan A	<b>(323)</b> Mohammad Rizwan	<b>(12)</b> Waqas Maqsood
Pakistan A vs England Lions (Four-day)	<b>(1-0)</b> Pakistan A	<b>(124)</b> Abid Ali	<b>(7)</b> Shaheen Shah Afridi
Pakistan U16 vs Australia U16 (One-day)	<b>(3-2)</b> Pakistan U16	<b>(159)</b> Umar Eman	<b>(13)</b> Ahmed Khan
Pakistan U16 vs Australia U16 (T20)	<b>(1-0)</b> Pakistan U16	<b>(73)</b> Mohammad Shehzad	<b>(3)</b> Umar Eman
Pakistan U16 vs Bangladesh U16 (Three-day)	<b>(1-0)</b> Bangladesh U16	<b>(112)</b> Sameer Saqib	<b>(8)</b> Khalid Khan
Pakistan U16 vs Bangladesh U16 (One-day)	<b>(2-1)</b> Bangladesh U16	<b>(154)</b> Haseebullah	<b>(8)</b> Aseer Mughal

## Obituaries

(Some of the former international players and administrators who passed away between 1 September 2017 and 23 May 2019)



**Shaukat Abbas** (died 13/01/2018)

Shaukat was a first-class cricketer, administrator, coach and umpire who remained associated with the game for many decades while serving in different capacities. He played three first-class matches for Sardar from 1968-69 to 1975-76, scoring one century in his tally of 157 runs at 39.25.



**Sharmeen Khan** (died 13/12/2018)

Sharmeen was widely regarded as one of the pioneers of women's cricket in Pakistan. She played two Tests and 26 ODIs between 1997 and 2002, opening the bowling with her right-arm pace and batting in the lower-middle order. In 1996, she and her sister Shaiza helped Pakistan secure ICC membership for Pakistan women. Both Shaiza and Sharmeen, along with Kiran Baluch, were given lifetime MCC membership in 2003, in recognition of their roles in Pakistan.



**Mohammad Naseem Khan**  
(died 05/04/2019)

Debuting from Quetta in 1998, Naseem was an A list left-handed batsman and slow left-arm orthodox bowler who played 89 First class, 59 ODI and 11 T20 matches. He also served in the capacity of fielding coach for Dera Murad Jamali Region from 2015 till his untimely demise in 2019.



**Zulfikar Ali Shah Bokhari**  
(died 04/01/2019)

He was the 19th Chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) from 1995 to 1998 and was responsible for co-hosting the ICC Cricket World Cup 1996 in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Elected twice as a member for the National Assembly of Pakistan, he remained Pakistan's Ambassador to Spain till his untimely demise.



**Navid Cheema** (died 11/04/2018)

He made his first-class debut in the 1962-63 Quaid-i-Azam Trophy, playing three matches in total. He was a useful bowling all-rounder and also known as a powerful striker. In 2004-2005 he served in the PCB as General Manager - Development.



**Agha Akbar** (died 19/05/2019)

Senior sports journalist with Daily Nation newspaper and later editor for Pakistan Today, Agha joined the Pakistan Cricket Board as Senior Manager - PR and Communications in February 2013. He was promoted as General Manager - Media and Communications in May 2014, a role he performed meritoriously until his resignation in September 2017.



**Jamshad Marker** (died 21/06/2018)

The legendary cricket commentator-turned-diplomat was a recipient of Hilal-e-Imtiaz "Crescent of Excellence" in 2003, the second highest civilian award given by the government of Pakistan. With his vast knowledge, understanding and love for the game, Jamshad played a vital role in the propagation and popularity of cricket across the country making him a synonymous figure with cricket players, officials and fans alike.



**Akhtar Sarfraz** (died 10/06/2019)

Akhtar was a left-handed batsman who played four ODIs. He made his debut in Sharjah in December 1997, while his last game was in October 1998. In a first-class career spanning 13 years, Akhtar played 118 matches, scoring 5,720 runs. Akhtar also served as coach and selector for the Pakistan women's cricket team.



**Amir Wasim** (died 26/09/2018)

A left-arm slow bowler, Amir played 67 first-class and 46 List A matches for several domestic sides such as Customs, Gujranwala, Railways and Sialkot between 1983 and 2003. He took a total of 242 wickets.



**Riazuddin** (died 11/06/2019)

One of the leading national umpires, Riazuddin, officiated in 12 Tests and as many ODIs from 1990 to 2000. His first-class umpiring career spanned over three decades during which he officiated in more than 300 matches.



Men's  
international  
cricket  
(2018-2019)

## Asia Cup 2018

Pakistan's hopes of winning a third Asia Cup title since its inception in 1984 were thwarted due to below-par batting performances that resulted in them finishing third in the tournament, which was played in the United Arab Emirates after being originally planned in India.

In a must-win Super Four match against Bangladesh in Abu Dhabi to set up a third clash with India, Pakistan failed to chase a modest 240-run target to finish at 202 for nine.

Junaid Khan took four for 19 and Shaheen Shah Afridi and Hasan Ali bagged two wickets apiece as Bangladesh were bowled out for 239 in 48.5 overs. Wicketkeeper-batsman Mushfiqur Rahim top-scored with 99 while Mohammad Mithun scored 60 as the two batsmen added 144 for the fourth wicket after Bangladesh had slipped to 12 for three.

Pakistan had their share of batting troubles when they were reduced to 18 for three, before Imam-ul-Haq and Shoaib Malik added 67 for the fourth wicket. The swift dismissals of Shoaib Malik (30) and Shadab Khan (4) reduced Pakistan to 94 for five, when Asif Ali and Imam joined hands to carry Pakistan to 165 in the 40th over.

The dismissals of Asif Ali (31) and Imam-ul-Haq (83) in the space of 11 balls forced Pakistan to pull the shutters on the run-chase as they finished at 202 for nine for an early flight home. Fast bowler Mustafizur Rahman was the pick of the Bangladesh bowlers with four for 43.

Pakistan's tournament opener was against Hong Kong, whom they beat by eight wickets, while they had to work hard for a three-wicket victory against Afghanistan in a Super Four Match.

Pakistan went head to head with India in two matches, which proved to be anti-climactic and against the script, particularly after Pakistan's 180 runs victory over their traditional rivals in the ICC Champions Trophy 2017 a year earlier.

On 19 September in Dubai, Pakistan batted first and managed only 162 in 43.1 overs despite a 82-run third wicket stand between Babar Azam (47) and Shoaib Malik (43). Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Kedar Yadav picked up three wickets apiece, while Jasprit Bumrah took two wickets.

India raced to victory in 29 overs for the loss of two wickets with Rohit Sharma scoring 52 and Shikhar Dhawan 46. In the Super Four Match in Dubai on 23 September,



■ Imam-ul-Haq celebrates a milestone

Pakistan once again batted first and scored 237 for seven with Shoaib Malik scoring 78 and Sarfaraz Ahmed contributing 44. Jasprit Bumrah, Yuzvendra Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav took two wickets each.

Rohit Sharma scored 111 not out and Shikhar Dhawan scored 114 as India romped to victory in less than 40 overs for the loss of Dhawan's wicket.

In the final on 28 September in Dubai, India defeated Bangladesh by three wickets after being set a target of 223.

### Scores in brief (Pakistan matches only):

#### 2nd Match, Group A, Dubai: Pakistan won by eight wickets

Hong Kong 116 all out, 37.1 overs (Aizaz Khan 27, Kinchit Shah 26; Usman Shinwari 3-19)  
Pakistan 120-2, 23.4 overs (Imam-ul-Haq 50 not out, Babar Azam 33; Ehsan Khan 2-34)

#### 5th Match, Group A, Dubai: India won by eight wickets

Pakistan 162 all out, 43.1 overs (Babar Azam 47, Shoaib

Malik 43; Bhuvneshwar Kumar 3-15, Kedar Jadhav 3-23)  
India 164-2, 29 overs (Rohit Sharma 52, Shikhar Dhawan 46)

#### 2nd Match, Super Four, Abu Dhabi: Pakistan won by three wickets

Afghanistan 257-6, 50 overs (Hashmatullah Shahidi 97 not out, Asghar Afghan 67; Mohammad Nawaz 3-57)  
Pakistan 258-7, 49.3 overs (Imam-ul-Haq 80, Babar Azam 66, Shoaib Malik 51 not out; Rashid Khan 3-46)

#### 3rd Match, Super Four, Dubai: India won by nine wickets

Pakistan 237-7, 50 overs (Shoaib Malik 78, Sarfaraz Ahmed 44; Jasprit Bumrah 2-29, Kuldeep Yadav 2-41)  
India 238-1, 39.3 overs (Shikhar Dhawan 114, Rohit Sharma 111 not out)

#### 6th Match, Super Four, Abu Dhabi: Bangladesh won by 37 runs

Bangladesh 239 all out, 48.5 overs (Mushfiqur Rahim 99, Mohammad Mithun 60; Junaid Khan 4-19)  
Pakistan 202-9, 50 overs (Imam-ul-Haq 83, Asif Ali 31; Mustafizur Rahman 4-43)



■ Pakistan team photo during the Asia Cup at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium



■ Yasir Shah celebrating wicket

## Pakistan vs Australia in the UAE

The magnificent batting of Usman Khawaja and Tim Paine on the final day of the Dubai Test, and Azhar Ali's comical run-out in the Abu Dhabi Test were the highlights of the two-Test series between Pakistan and Australia, which Pakistan won 1-0.

Pakistan gave themselves 140 overs and Australia a 462-run target at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium. When play ended on the penultimate day, Australia were looking down the barrel at 136 for three with Khawaja and Travis Head at the crease. But Australia did what few teams have been able to achieve in Asia when they batted out the final day to finish at 362 for eight.

This was the second-highest fourth innings total by a visiting team in Asia while Khawaja's 141 beat Younus Khan's 131 in 2010 for the highest-ever fourth innings score by an individual batsman.



■ Mohammad Abbas bowls during the Dubai Test

Khawaja batted for 522 minutes and faced 302 balls, of which 11 were converted into four. Together with Head, Khawaja added 132 runs for the fourth wicket. Paine walked out with the scoreboard reading 252 for five and returned unbeaten on 61 after 220 minutes of vigil at the crease during which he faced 194 balls.

After Australia was reduced to 333 for eight, Paine and Nathan Lyon battled out the remaining 12 overs without being separated to leave Pakistan shell-shocked and wondering whether their decision not to enforce the follow-on was the right one.

Khawaja's and Paine's herculean efforts overshadowed excellent performances by Mohammad Hafeez (126), Haris Sohail (110), Asad Shafiq (80), Bilal Asif (six for 36), Mohammad Abbas (four for 29 and three for 56) and Yasir Shah (four for 114).

Both sides travelled on to Abu Dhabi for the second Test, where Pakistan were ruthless in their 373-run victory with Mohammad Abbas taking five for 33 and five for 62.

Fakhar Zaman, in his debut innings, scored 94, while Sarfaraz Ahmed also scored 94 to help Pakistan to 282. After

Australia were dismissed for 145, Pakistan declared their second innings at 400 for nine, which revolved around Babar Azam's 99, Sarfaraz Ahmed's 81, Fakhar Zaman's 66 and Azhar Ali's 64.

Australia's second innings lasted six deliveries fewer than their first-innings effort when they were bowled out for 164 in 49.4 overs.

However, the event that made headlines across the globe was Azhar Ali's run-out on the third morning.

Azhar Ali played a shot through the slips and was sure that it will go for four so started a mid-wicket chat with Asad Shafiq. The ball, however, did not cross the boundary line and stopped just before the ropes, Mitchell Starc picked up the ball and threw it to wicketkeeper Tim Paine.

Paine, knocked off the bails, leaving Azhar shocked as the umpire declared him run-out.

At a press conference Azhar quipped, "I'd predicted that I'd be asked to comment on my comical run-out once I land home."



■ Pakistan team celebrates a series win against Australia



■ Shadab Khan bowling



■ Jubilant Mohammad Hafeez hugs Babar Azam after Pakistan's win over Australia

"I'm likely to have an animated discussion on the same with my sons in the near future," chuckled Azhar. "In all fairness, neither Asad nor I realized that the ball had not touched the boundary/skirting and that the fielder who'd thrown the ball at Paine was aiming for my wickets."

The two-Test series was followed by three T20Is, which Pakistan comfortably won 3-0. Australia returned to the UAE for five ODIs in late March and won all the matches after Pakistan's selectors decided to rest seven key players. The seven frontline players had been playing non-stop cricket since September 2018, and the selectors decided to give them a break and sufficient time to recoup and recharge their batteries ahead of the England tour, which included a T20I and five ODIs, followed by the ICC Cricket World Cup 2019.

Haris Sohail was Pakistan's most successful batsman with 291 runs at an average of 72.75 and a strike-rate of 85.84, while Mohammad Rizwan hit two centuries in his aggregate of 231 runs. Usman Shinwari topped the Pakistan bowlers' chart with five wickets, while Junaid Khan bagged four wickets.

#### Scores in brief:

##### First Test, Dubai: Match drawn

Pakistan 482 all out (Mohammad Hafeez 126, Haris Sohail 110, Asad Shafiq 80, Imam-ul-Haq 76; Peter Siddle 3-58, Nathan Lyon 2-114) and 181-6 dec (Imam-ul-Haq 48, Asad Shafiq 41; Jon Holland 3-83, Nathan Lyon 2-58)

Australia 202 all out (Usman Khawaja 85, Aaron Finch 62; Bilal Asif 6-36, Mohammad Abbas 4-29) and 362-8 (Usman Khawaja 141, Travis Head 72, Tim Paine 61 not out; Yasir Shah 4-114, Mohammad Abbas 3-56)

Player of the match - Usman Khawaja

##### Second Test, Abu Dhabi: Pakistan won by 373 runs

Pakistan 282 all out (Fakhar Zaman 94, Sarfaraz Ahmed 94; Nathan Lyon 4-78, Marnus Labuschagne 3-45) and 400-9 dec (Babar Azam 99, Sarfaraz Ahmed 81, Fakhar Zaman 66, Azhar Ali 64; Nathan Lyon 4-135, Marnus Labuschagne 2-74)

Australia 145 (Aaron Finch 39, Mitchell Starc 34; Mohammad Abbas 5-33, Bilal Asif 3-23) and 164 all out (Marnus Labuschagne 43, Travis Head 36; Mohammad Abbas 5-62, Yasir Shah 3-45)

Player of the match - Mohammad Abbas

Player of the series - Mohammad Abbas

##### 1st T20I, Abu Dhabi: Pakistan won by 66 runs

Pakistan 155-8, 20 overs (Babar Azam 68 not out, Mohammad Hafeez 39; Billy Stanlake 3-21, Andrew Tye 3-24) Australia 89 all out, 16.5 overs (Nathan Coulter-Nile 34, Ashton Agar 19; Imad Wasim 3-20, Faheem Ashraf 2-10)

##### 2nd T20I, Dubai: Pakistan won by 11 runs

Pakistan 147-6, 20 overs (Babar Azam 45, Mohammad Hafeez 40; Nathan Coulter-Nile 3-18) Australia 136-8, 20 overs (Glenn Maxwell 52, Nathan Coulter-Nile 27; Shadab Khan 2-30, Shaheen Shah Afridi 2-35)

##### 3rd T20I, Dubai: Pakistan won by 33 runs

Pakistan 150-5, 20 overs (Babar Azam 50, Sahibzada Farhan 39; Mitchell Marsh 2-6) Australia 117 all out, 19.1 overs (Shadab Khan 3-19, Hasan Ali 2-14)

#### Scores in brief:

##### 1st ODI, Sharjah: Australia won by eight wickets

Pakistan 280-5, 50 overs (Haris Sohail 101 not out, Umar Akmal 48, Shan Masood 40; Nathan Coulter-Nile 2-61) Australia 281-2, 49 overs (Aaron Finch 116, Shaun Marsh 91 not out)

##### 2nd ODI, Sharjah: Australia won by eight wickets

Pakistan 284-7, 50 overs (Mohammad Rizwan 115, Shoaib Malik 60; Jhye Richardson 2-16, Nathan Coulter-Nile 2-52) Australia 285-2, 47.5 overs (Aaron Finch 153 not out, Usman Khawaja 88)

##### 3rd ODI, Abu Dhabi: Australia won by 80 runs

Australia 266-6, 50 overs (Aaron Finch 90, Glenn Maxwell 71) Pakistan 186 all out, 44.4 overs (Imam-ul-Haq 46, Imad Wasim 43; Adam Zampa 4-43, Pat Cummins 3-23)

##### 4th ODI, Dubai: Australia won by six runs

Australia 277-7, 50 overs (Glenn Maxwell 98, Usman Khawaja 62, Alex Carey 55; Mohammad Hasnain 2-52, Imad Wasim 2-56) Pakistan 271-8, 50 overs (Abid Ali 112, Mohammad Rizwan 104; Nathan Coulter-Nile 3-53, Marcus Stoinis 2-20)

##### 5th ODI, Dubai: Australia won by 20 runs

Australia 327-7, 50 overs (Usman Khawaja 98, Glenn Maxwell 70, Shaun Marsh 61; Usman Shinwari 4-49, Junaid Khan 3-73) Pakistan 307-7, 50 overs (Haris Sohail 130, Imad Wasim 50 not out, Shan Masood 50; Jason Behrendorff 3-63)



■ The victorious Pakistan team at the end of the T20I series against Australia

## Pakistan vs New Zealand in the UAE

The Test series against New Zealand was a case of missed opportunities as Pakistan squandered chance after chance to eventually succumb to a 2-1 series loss. This was New Zealand's first away series win against Pakistan in 49 years, while it was Pakistan's second loss in three series after going unbeaten at home for almost a decade.

In the opening Test in Abu Dhabi, Pakistan, chasing 176 to go one-up, were sitting pretty at 130 for three when the final over before lunch on day four started. Asad Shafiq's dismissal on the third delivery before lunch triggered a remarkable collapse as debutant Ajaz Patel took five for 59 to send Pakistan spinning out for 171, a defeat by four runs.

In the Dubai Test, Pakistan were at their ruthless best to win by an innings and 16 runs on the back of Haris Sohail's 147, Babar Azam's 127 not out and Yasir Shah's match figures of 57.2-10-184-14.

In the third Test in Abu Dhabi, Pakistan took a 74-run first-innings lead and then reduced New Zealand to 60 for four before allowing Kane Williamson (139) and Henry Nicholls (126 not out) to declare their second innings at 353 for seven. That set Pakistan a 280-run target, but except for Babar Azam (51), Sarfaraz Ahmed (28), Imam-ul-Haq (22) and Bilal Asif (12) none of the Pakistan batters reached double figures as they were bowled out for 156 and lost the test by 123 runs.



■ Pakistan Captain Sarfaraz Ahmed receiving the T20I trophy

The only consolation for Pakistan from the Abu Dhabi Test was Yasir Shah becoming the quickest to 200 Test wickets when he dismissed nightwatchman Will Somerville on the fourth day. Yasir achieved the feat in his 33rd Test, beating Australian leg-spinner Clarrie Grimmett's record of 36 Tests achieved set against South Africa in Johannesburg in 1936.

Yasir, who took 29 wickets in the series, walked away with the player-of-the-series award. Hasan Ali claimed 13 wickets, while Bilal Asif claimed seven. Kane Williamson was the most successful batsman of the series with 386 runs. Williamson was followed by Azhar Ali (307), Henry Nicholls (287), Babar Azam (267), Haris Sohail (232) and Asad Shafiq (204).

New Zealand had started their tour to the United Arab Emirates with two white-ball series.

In the T20I series, Pakistan were made to sweat in the opening match, which they won by two runs, before proving to be the dominant side in the remaining two matches to win by six wickets and 47 runs to complete a 3-0 sweep.

Mohammad Hafeez topped the batting charts with 132 runs, while Babar Azam finished second with 126 runs. Imad Wasim, Shadab Khan and Adam Milne bagged four wickets apiece, while there was a three-way tie between Shaheen Shah Afridi, Hasan Ali and Colin de Grandhomme on three wickets each.

The three-match ODI series that followed the T20Is, ended in a 1-1 tie after the third match in Dubai was washed out. In that game, Pakistan had set New Zealand a 280-run target and the visitors were 35 for one in 6.5 overs when rain came down and prevented any further play.

Pakistan's 279 for eight revolved around Babar Azam's 92, Fakhar Zaman's 65 and Haris Sohail's 60, while Lockie Ferguson grabbed five for 45.

In the first match, Ross Taylor scored 80 and Tom Latham scored 68, while Shadab Khan and Shaheen Shah Afridi bagged four wickets each as New Zealand scored 266 for nine. Pakistan, in their turn at the wicket, were bowled out for 219 in 47.2 overs despite half-centuries by Sarfaraz Ahmed (64) and Imam Wasim (50). Wickets were shared by Lockie Ferguson (three for 36) and Trent Boult, who took a hat-trick to finish with three for 54.

In the second ODI, Ross Taylor scored 86 not out and Henry Nicholls 33 to lift New Zealand to 209 for nine. Shaheen Shah Afridi was the pick of the bowlers with four for 38. Pakistan raced to victory in 40.3 overs for the loss of four wickets following Fakhar Zaman's 88 and Babar Azam's 46.



■ Pakistan team group photo during the series against New Zealand

### Scores in brief:

#### 1st T20I, Abu Dhabi: Pakistan won by two runs

Pakistan 148-6, 20 overs (Mohammad Hafeez 45, Sarfaraz Ahmed 34; Adam Milne 2-28)  
New Zealand 146-6, 20 overs (Colin Munro 58, Ross Taylor 42 not out; Hasan Ali 3-35)

#### 2nd T20I, Dubai: Pakistan won by six wickets

New Zealand 153-7, 20 overs (Colin Munro 44, Corey Anderson 44 not out; Shaheen Shah Afridi 3-20)  
Pakistan 154-4, 19.4 overs (Babar Azam 40, Asif Ali 38, Mohammad Hafeez 34 not out; Adam Milne 2-25)

#### 3rd T20I, Dubai: Pakistan won by 47 runs

Pakistan 166-3, 20 overs (Babar Azam 79, Mohammad Hafeez 53 not out; Colin de Grandhomme 2-41)  
New Zealand 119 all out, 16.5 overs (Kane Williamson 60, Glenn Phillips 26; Shadab Khan 3-30, Waqas Maqsood 2-21)

#### 1st ODI, Abu Dhabi: New Zealand won by 47 runs

New Zealand 266-9, 50 overs (Ross Taylor 80, Tom Latham 68, Shadab Khan 4-38, Shaheen Shah Afridi 4-46)  
Pakistan 219 all out, 47.2 overs (Sarfaraz Ahmed 64, Imad Wasim 50; Lockie Ferguson 3-36, Trent Boult 3-54)

#### 2nd ODI, Abu Dhabi: Pakistan won by six wickets

New Zealand 209-9, 50 overs (Ross Taylor 86 not out, Henry Nicholls 33; Shaheen Shah Afridi 4-38, Hasan Ali 2-59)  
Pakistan 212-4, 40.3 overs (Fakhar Zaman 88, Babar Azam 46; Lockie Ferguson 3-60)

#### 3rd ODI, Dubai: No result

Pakistan 279-8, 50 overs (Babar Azam 92, Fakhar Zaman 65, Haris Sohail 60; Lockie Ferguson 5-45)  
New Zealand 35-1, 6.5 overs

#### First Test, Abu Dhabi: New Zealand won by four runs

New Zealand 153 all out (Kane Williamson 63, Henry Nicholls 28; Yasir Shah 3-54, Mohammad Abbas 2-13) and 249 all out (BJ Watling 59, Henry Nicholls 55, Jeet Raval 46; Hasan Ali 5-45, Yasir Shah 5-110)

Pakistan 227 all out (Babar Azam 62, Asad Shafiq 43; Trent Boult 4-54, Colin de Grandhomme 2-30) and 171 all out (Azhar Ali 65, Asad Shafiq 45; Ajaz Patel 5-59, Neil Wagner 2-27)

Player of the match: - Ajaz Patel

#### Second Test, Dubai: Pakistan won by an innings and 16 runs

Pakistan 418-5 dec (Haris Sohail 147, Babar Azam 127 not out, Azhar Ali 81; Colin de Grandhomme 2-44)

New Zealand 90 all out (Jeet Raval 31, Kane Williamson 28 not out; Yasir Shah 8-41) and 312 all out (Ross Taylor 82, Henry Nicholls 77, Tom Latham 50; Yasir Shah 6-143, Hasan Ali 3-46)

Player of the match - Yasir Shah

#### Third Test, Abu Dhabi: New Zealand won by 123 runs

New Zealand 274 all out (Kane Williamson 89, BJ Watling 77; Bilal Asif 5-65, Yasir Shah 3-75) and 349-7 dec (Kane Williamson 139, Sarfaraz Ahmed 126 not out; Yasir Shah 4-129, Shaheen Shah Afridi 2-85)

Pakistan 348 all out (Azhar Ali 134, Asad Shafiq 104; William Somerville 4-75, Trent Boult 2-66) and 156 all out (Babar Azam 51, Sarfaraz Ahmed 28; Tim Southee 3-42, Ajaz Patel 3-42, William Somerville 3-52)

Player of the match - Kane Williamson

Player of the series - Yasir Shah

## Pakistan in South Africa

It was once again a case of ifs and buts in South Africa as Pakistan lost all three Tests, a closely-fought ODI series 3-2 and suffered a 2-1 T20I defeat, unbeaten run in the shortest format.

Electing to bat first in the first Test at Centurion, Pakistan managed 181 after Babar Azam's blistering 71 that included 15 fours. Mohammad Amir and Shaheen Shah Afridi then equally shared eight wickets between them to restrict South Africa to 223. Pakistan conceded a 42-run first innings lead.

In the second innings, Pakistan went for tea on day two comfortably placed at 100 for one before they lost nine wickets in the last session in a sensational collapse and were bundled out for 190.

Shan Masood (65) and Imam-ul-Haq (57) were the only batsmen to tackle Duanne Olivier, who followed up his first-innings six for 37 with five for 59. Kagiso Rabada also joined in the fun, when he claimed three for 47 to add to his three for 59 in the first innings.

Chasing 149 for victory, Hasan Ali sent Aiden Markram back without a run on the board in the first over of the third day, but Hashim Amla (63 not out) and Dean Elgar (50) added 119 runs for the second wicket to take South Africa home.

Both the batsmen had their share of luck. Amla was dropped by Fakhar Zaman in the third slip, while Elgar was given a reprieve by TV umpire Joel Wilson who overturned on-field umpires Bruce Oxenford and S. Ravi's soft signal of out after Azhar Ali seemed to have taken a clean catch in the first slip.

Apart from the result, it was a Test to forget for rival captains Sarfaraz Ahmed and Faf du Plessis, who both got pairs.

Du Plessis won the toss at Cape Town and put the visitors into bat. South Africa took only 51.1 overs to dismiss Pakistan for 177. Sarfaraz Ahmed (56), Shan Masood (44), Mohammad Amir (22 not out) and Asad Shafiq (20) were the only batsmen to reach double figures as Duanne Olivier once again made the ball talk, finishing with four for 48.

South Africa replied with 431 that revolved around du Plessis's 103, Aiden Markram's 78, Temba Bavuma's 75 and Quinton de Kock's 59. For Pakistan, Mohammad Amir and Shaheen Shah Afridi were once again among the wickets, taking four apiece conceding 88 and 123 runs, respectively.

Facing a 254-run deficit, Pakistan capitulated to 294 all out. Shan Masood (61) added 132 runs for the third wicket with Asad Shafiq (88). Babar Azam was the other notable run-getter with 72.

South Africa needed 41 to take an unassailable 2-0 lead, which they achieved in less than ten overs. The action moved to Johannesburg, where Pakistan once again had their moments.

Electing to bat first, South Africa lost seven wickets for 33 to be bowled out for 262 after being 229 for four at one stage. Faheem Ashraf took three, while Mohammad Amir, Mohammad Abbas and Hasan Ali bagged two wickets each.

However, Pakistan were unable to take advantage of their bowlers' efforts when they were dismissed for 185. Pakistan were in dire straits at 91 for five, before Babar Azam (49) and Sarfaraz Ahmed (50) put on 78 runs for the sixth wicket. Sarfaraz's departure at the score of 169 was the beginning of the end for Pakistan as the last four wickets managed only 16 runs.

South Africa, in their second outing, slipped to 45 for four and then 93 for five before Quinton de Kock hit a scintillating 129 and added 102 for the sixth wicket with Hashim Amla (71) to help his side to 303. Faheem Ashraf and Shadab Khan took three wickets each, while Mohammad Amir bagged two.

Needing 381 for a consolation win, all the top five batsmen failed to convert good starts into big scores as Pakistan were sent packing for 273. Asad Shafiq top-scored with 65, followed up Shadab Khan 47 not out, Shan Masood 37, Imam-ul-Haq 35, Babar Azam 21 and Azhar Ali 15.

Olivier once again proved to be Pakistan's nemesis, claiming three wickets to finish the series with 24. Kagiso Rabada took three wickets and ended the series with 17 wickets.

In the ODI series, Imam-ul-Haq finished as the leading run-getter with 271 runs that included a century and two half-centuries. Babar Azam totalled 195 runs while Fakhar Zaman aggregated 167 runs. Shaheen Shah Afridi took six wickets, and was well supported by Usman Shinwari and Shadab Khan, who took five wickets apiece.



■ Fast-bowler Usman Khan Shinwari in follow-through during a bowling spell - Courtesy: ICC



■ Shaheen Shah Afridi appeals during a bowling spell in the fourth ODI in Johannesburg - Courtesy: ICC

■ Babar Azam playing an attacking shot during an enterprising batting display - Courtesy: ICC

Pakistan captain Sarfaraz Ahmed, during the second ODI, was charged and suspended for four matches after accepting he was in breach of the ICC's Anti-Racism Code. This meant he missed the last two ODIs and two T20Is.

In the T20Is, Pakistan fought gallantly, losing the first match by six runs and the second by seven runs. They eventually won the third by 27 runs. Babar Azam topped batting charts with 151 runs, while Mohammad Amir, Imad Wasim, Faheem Ashraf and Usman Shinwari claimed three wickets each.

#### Scores in brief:

##### First Test, Centurion: South Africa won by six wickets

Pakistan 181 all out (Babar Azam 71, Azhar Ali 36; Duanne Olivier 6-37, Kagiso Rabada 3-59) and 190 all out (Shan Masood 65, Imam-ul-Haq 57; Duanne Olivier 5-59, Kagiso Rabada 3-47)

South Africa 223 all out (Temba Bavuma 53, Quinton de Kock 45; Mohammad Amir 4-62, Shaheen Shah Afridi 4-64) and 151-4 (Hashim Amla 63 not out, Dean Elgar 50)

Player of the match - Duanne Olivier

##### Second Test, Cape Town: South Africa won by nine wickets

Pakistan 177 all out (Sarfaraz Ahmed 56, Shan Masood 44; Duanne Olivier 4-48, Dale Steyn 3-48) and 294 all out (Asad Shafiq 88, Babar Azam 72, Shan Masood 61; Kagiso Rabada 4-61, Dale Steyn 4-85)

South Africa 431 all out (Faf du Plessis 103, Aiden Markram 78, Temba Bavuma 75; Mohammad Amir 4-88, Shaheen Shah Afridi 4-123) and 43-1 (Dean Elgar 24 not out)

Player of the match - Faf du Plessis

##### Third Test, Johannesburg: South Africa won by 107 runs

South Africa 262 all out (Aiden Markram 90, Theunis de Bruyn 49; Faheem Ashraf 3-57, Mohammad Amir 2-36) and 303 all out (Quinton de Kock 129, Hashim Amla 71; Shadab Khan 3-41, Faheem Ashraf 3-42)

Pakistan 185 all out (Sarfaraz Ahmed 50, Babar Azam 49, Duanne Olivier 5-51, Vernon Philander 3-43) and 273 all out (Asad Shafiq 65, Shadab Khan 47 not out; Duanne Olivier 3-74, Kagiso Rabada 3-75)

Player of the match - Quinton de Kock

Player of the series - Duanne Olivier



■ Imam-ul-Haq plays a pull shot - Courtesy: ICC

##### 1st ODI, Port Elizabeth: Pakistan won by five wickets

South Africa 266-2, 50 overs (Hashim Amla 108 not out, Rassie van der Dussen 93; Shadab Khan 1-41)  
Pakistan 267-5, 49.1 overs (Imam-ul-Haq 86, Mohammad Hafeez 71 not out; Duanne Olivier 2-73)

##### 2nd ODI, Durban: South Africa won by five wickets

Pakistan 203 all out, 45.5 overs (Hasan Ali 59, Sarfaraz Ahmed 41; Andile Phehlukwayo 4-22, Tabraiz Shamsi 3-56)  
South Africa 207-5, 42 overs (Rassie van der Dussen 80 not out, Andile Phehlukwayo 69 not out; Shaheen Shah Afridi 3-44, Shadab Khan 2-46)

##### 3rd ODI, Centurion: South Africa won by 13 runs (DLS method)

Pakistan 317-6, 50 overs (Imam-ul-Haq 101, Babar Azam 69, Mohammad Hafeez 52; Dale Steyn 2-43, Kagiso Rabada 2-57)  
South Africa 187-2, 33 overs (Reeza Hendricks 83 not out, Faf du Plessis 40 not out; Hasan Ali 1-33)

##### 4th ODI, Johannesburg: Pakistan won by eight wickets

South Africa 164 all out, 41 overs (Hashim Amla 59, Faf du Plessis 57; Usman Shinwari 4-35, Shaheen Shah Afridi 2-24)  
Pakistan 168-2, 31.3 overs (Imam-ul-Haq 71, Fakhar Zaman 44, Babar Azam 41 not out; Andile Phehlukwayo 1-17)



■ Leg-spinner Shadab Khan appeals for a dismissal - Courtesy: ICC

##### 5th ODI, Cape Town: South Africa won by seven wickets

Pakistan 240-8, 50 overs (Fakhar Zaman 70, Imad Wasim 47 not out; Andile Phehlukwayo 2-42, Dwaine Pretorius 2-46)  
South Africa 241-3, 40 overs (Quinton de Kock 83, Faf du Plessis 50 not out, Rassie Van der Dussen 50 not out; Shaheen Shah 1-34)

##### 1st T20I, Cape Town: South Africa won by six runs

South Africa 192-6, 20 overs (Faf du Plessis 78, Reeza Hendricks 74; Usman Shinwari 3-31)  
Pakistan 186-9, 20 overs (Shoaib Malik 49, Hussain Talat 40; Tabraiz Shamsi 2-33, Chris Morris 2-39)

##### 2nd T20I, Johannesburg: South Africa won by seven runs

South Africa 188-3, 20 overs (David Miller 65 not out, Rassie van der Dussen 45; Imad Wasim 1-9)  
Pakistan 181-7, 20 overs (Babar Azam 90, Hussain Talat 55; Andile Phehlukwayo 3-36, Beuran Hendricks 2-30)

##### 3rd T20I, Centurion: Pakistan won by 27 runs

Pakistan 168-9, 20 overs (Mohammad Rizwan 26, Asif Ali 25; Beuran Hendricks 4-14, Chris Morris 2-27)  
South Africa 141-9, 20 overs (Chris Morris 55 not out, Rassie van der Dussen 41; Mohammad Amir 3-27, Shadab Khan 2-34)

## Pakistan in England

Pakistan's 4-0 series loss doesn't truly reflect the tough, keenly-contested and hard-fought series against England in the build up to the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2019.

In four completed ODIs, England aggregated 1,424 runs and Pakistan replied with 1,356 runs (difference 68 runs). England batsmen scored three centuries, while Pakistan batters responded with as many centuries. Jos Buttler and Babar Azam jointly finished at the top of batting charts with 277 runs apiece.

So, what was the difference between the two sides? In the four completed matches, bowling was one as England picked up 33 wickets, while Pakistan, without Mohammad Amir, Shadab Khan and Wahab Riaz, managed only 23 wickets.

Despite Pakistan's inability to take wickets, it was their fielding that proved to be the difference between the two sides. Easy runs were leaked, catches were dropped and runout chances were missed, and though the Lady Luck didn't smile on them at crucial phases of the match, fielding potentially caused Pakistan a couple of wins if not the series.

However, the series had no bearing when the two sides clashed at Trent Bridge on 3 June in the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2019. Pakistan came on top stunning both, the host and the cricketing world. However, we will park discussion on the World Cup for the next edition of the PCB Annual Report as this edition covers activities from 1 June 2017 to 23 May 2019.

After England won the one-off Twenty20 International in Cardiff by seven wickets and rain had the last laugh in the first ODI at The Oval, both sides went head to head at The Rose Bowl in a match that produced 734 runs for the loss of 10 wickets in 100 overs.

After the England top-order provided a solid start to their side, it was Jos Buttler who changed the tide in the home team's favour by belting nine sixes and six fours in a 55-ball 110 not out. Together with Eoin Morgan, Buttler added 162 runs for the unfinished fourth wicket in just under 15 overs, including 74 runs in the last five overs.

Fakhar Zaman led a spirited Pakistan fightback, clubbing 12 fours and four sixes in a 106-ball 136. This set the stage for a close finish and when the 45th over ended, Pakistan needed a manageable 53 off 30 overs with six wickets standing. However, the departure of Asif Ali after a well-made 51 from 36 balls, made Pakistan's task difficult and though Sarfaraz tried his best with a gutsy 32-ball 41 not out, it was not enough for Pakistan as the visitors fell short by 12 runs.



■ Babar Azam hitting a four - Courtesy: ICC

Actioned moved to Bristol where England won a 717-run thriller by six wickets. After a career-best 151 from Imam-ul-Haq (131b, 16x4, 1x6), Pakistan scored 358 nine. During innings break, they must have felt they were 15-20 runs short, which, at the end of the day, would not have mattered with the way Jonny Bairstow batted. Bairstow slapped 15 fours and five sixes in a 93-ball 125 and put on 159 runs for the first wicket with Jason Roy (76) and 75 runs for the second wicket with Joe Root (43) as England achieved the target with 31 balls to spare.

Ben Stokes snatched victory for England when he hit an exquisite 71 not out, contributing 61 runs for the seventh wicket with the aid of Tom Curran 31, rescuing the team from 258 for six in 40 overs. Pakistan had pulled things back after Jason Roy had scored an 89-ball 114 as England reached 201 for one in 26 overs before slipping to 216 for five in 30.2 overs.

Earlier, Pakistan's 340 for seven revolved around an eye-catching 115 from Babar Azam who faced 112 balls and struck 13 fours and a six. He added 107 runs for the first wicket with Fakhar Zaman (57) after Imam-ul-Haq had retired at the score of nine. Mohammad Hafeez and Shoaib Malik also played useful hands, scoring 59 and 41 runs, respectively to lift Pakistan to a competitive score.

In the last match of the series at Headingley, Pakistan were on course for chasing down a 352-run target when Babar Azam (80) and Sarfaraz Ahmed (97) were at the crease. Calamity soon struck with the unfortunate run-out of the two and a stunning caught-and-bowled by Adil Rashid to dismiss Shoaib Malik meant Pakistan slipped from 152 for three to 193 for six before a late rally by the lower-order allowed Pakistan to finish at 297.

Chris Woakes, who reduced Pakistan to six for three and then returned to add the wickets of Asif Ali and Hasan Ali was adjudged player of the match for his figures of 10-2-54-5.

Earlier, Joe Root top-scored with 84 and Eoin Morgan contributed 76, while Shaheen Shah Afridi finished with figures of four for 82.

### Scores in brief:

#### One-off T20I, Cardiff: England won by seven wickets

Pakistan 173-6, 20 overs (Babar Zaman 65, Haris Sohail 50) England 175-3, 19.2 overs (Eoin Morgan 57 not out, Joe Root 47, James Vince 36)

#### 1st ODI, The Oval: match abandoned due to rain

Pakistan 89-2, 19 overs (41)

2nd ODI, Southampton: England won by 12 runs

England 373-3, 50 overs (Jos Buttler 110 not out, Jason Roy 87, Eoin Morgan 71, Jonny Bairstow 51)

Pakistan 361-7, 50 overs (Fakhar Zaman 138, Babar Azam 51, Asif Ali 51, Sarfaraz Ahmed 41, Imam-ul-Haq 35; David Willey 2-57, Liam Plunkett 2-64)

#### 3rd ODI, Bristol: England won by six wickets

Pakistan 358-9, 50 overs (Imam-ul-Haq 151, Asif Ali 52, Haris Sohail 41, Sarfaraz Ahmed 27; Chris Woakes 4-67, Tom Curran 2-74)

England 359-4, 44.5 overs (Jonny Bairstow 128, Jason Roy 76, Moeen Ali 46 not out, Joe Root 43)

#### 4th ODI, Nottingham: England won by three wickets

Pakistan 340-7, 50 overs (Babar Azam 115, Mohammad Nawaz 59, Fakhar Zaman 57, Shoaib Malik 41, Sarfaraz Ahmed 21 not out; Tom Curran 4-75, Mark Wood 2-71)

England 341-7, 49.3 overs (Jason Roy 114, Ben Stokes 71 not out, James Vince 43, Joe Root 36, Tom Curran 31; Imad Wasim 2-62, Mohammad Hasnain 2-80)

#### 5th ODI, Leeds: England won by 54 runs

England 351-9, 50 overs (Joe Root 84, Eoin Morgan 76, Jos Buttler 34, James Vince 33, Jason Roy 32; Shaheen Shah Afridi 4-82, Imad Wasim 3-53)

Pakistan 297 all out, 46.5 overs (Sarfaraz Ahmed 97, Babar Azam 80, Mohammad Hasnain 28, Imad Wasim 25, Asif Ali 22; Chris Woakes 5-54, Adil Rashid 2-54) uncompromising in expecting the highest of personal standards and levels of professionalism.



■ English cricket team posing with the ODI series trophy - Courtesy: Getty Images

Men's  
international  
cricket  
(2017-2018)





■ The Pakistan and ICC World XI teams at the Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore ahead of the first of the three T20Is

## Independence Cup 2017 Pakistan vs World XI

The Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore was filled with crowds and colour when Faf du Plessis captained a World XI for three T20Is against Pakistan in September 2017. This was the first high-profile series since Zimbabwe's tour in 2015, and opened the gates for Sri Lanka playing a T20I, followed by the West Indies' tour to Karachi for three T20Is. The West Indies women, in early 2019, also played three T20Is in Karachi.

The World XI included five players from South Africa (du Plessis, Hashim Amla, David Miller, Morne Morkel and Imran Tahir), three from Australia (George Bailey, Ben Cutting and Tim Paine, who would later become Australia's Test captain), two from the West Indies (Samuel Badree and Darren Sammy), and one each from Bangladesh (Tamim Iqbal), England (Paul Collingwood), New Zealand (Grant Elliott) and Sri Lanka (Thisara Perera).

In the opening match, Sarfaraz Ahmed's Pakistan side won comfortably by 20 runs after scoring 197 for five. Babar Azam continued his fine run of form by hitting an attractive 86 with ten fours and two sixes from 52 balls and adding 122 for the second wicket with Ahmed Shehzad (39). Shoaib Malik was the other notable scorer with 38.

In turn, the top-order of the World XI failed to convert decent starts into big scores as they finished at 177 for seven with Sohail Khan, Shadab Khan and Rumman Raees equally sharing six wickets between them.

Perera was in blistering form when he clubbed five sixes in a 19-ball 47 not out to steer the World XI to an unlikely seven wicket-victory. Chasing 175, the World XI needed 41 off the last three overs and 13 off the final six deliveries. But Perera turned the tables on Pakistan to steer his side home with one ball to spare.

Amla scored 72 not out off 55 balls with five fours and two sixes and the two batsmen added 69 runs in 35 deliveries.

Earlier, Pakistan had made 174 for six. Babar Azam (45) and Ahmed Shehzad (43) added 59 runs for the second wicket after Fakhar Zaman (21) had added 41 runs in less than five overs with Ahmed. Shoaib Malik later hit a four and three sixes in his 23-ball 39.

The series finale was an anti-climax as the World XI were no match for Pakistan.

Ahmed Shehzad scored a 55-ball 89 with eight fours and three sixes, Babar Azam chipped in with 48 from 31 balls

with five fours and Fakhar Zaman scored a 25-ball 27 as Pakistan collected 183-4.

In turn, the World XI never got going and finally ended on 150 for eight. Miller and Thisara scored 32 runs apiece, while Sammy remained not out on 24.

Babar Azam, for his consistent performances with the bat, was adjudged the player of the series.

### Scores in brief:

#### 1st T20I: Pakistan beat World XI by 20 runs

Pakistan 197-5, 20 overs (Babar Azam 86, Ahmed Shehzad 39, Shoaib Malik 38; Thisara Perera 2-51)  
World XI 177-7, 20 overs (Daren Sammy 29 not out, Faf du Plessis 29, Hashim Amla 26; Sohail Khan 2-28, Shadab Khan 2-33)

#### 2nd T20I: World XI beat Pakistan by seven wickets

Pakistan 174-6, 20 overs (Babar Azam 45, Ahmed Shehzad 43, Shoaib Malik 39; Thisara Perera 2-23, Samuel Badree 2-31)  
World XI 175-3, 19.5 overs (Hashim Amla 72 not out, Thisara Perera 47 not out; Mohammad Nawaz 1-25)

#### 3rd T20I: Pakistan beat World XI by 33 runs

Pakistan 183-4, 20 overs (Ahmed Shehzad 89, Babar Azam 48; Thisara Perera 2-37)  
World XI 150-8, 20 overs (David Miller 32, Thisara Perera 32; Hasan Ali 2-28)



■ Faf du Plessis, the captain of the ICC World XI side and Sarfraz Ahmed with the trophy on the eve of the first T20I



■ Fans savour the historic moment at the Lahore's Gaddafi Stadium

## Pakistan vs Sri Lanka in the UAE and Lahore

Pakistan started their post-Misbah-ul-Haq and Younus Khan era by suffering a 2-0 defeat against Sri Lanka in the United Arab Emirates. It was their first Test series defeat since the UAE became their home away from home.

The fifth and final day of the two-Test series began with Pakistan resuming their second innings at 198 for five while chasing 317 for victory. Asad Shafiq, who had started the day on 86, was the ninth batsman out for 112 - his 11th Test century - while Sarfaraz Ahmed, who started on 57, scored 68.

Sarfaraz's dismissal not only ended a 173-run sixth partnership after the two had joined hands with Pakistan tottering at 52 for five, but also opened floodgates as the last four wickets could manage only 23 runs as Pakistan were bowled out for 248.

Off-spinner Dilruwan Perera was the destroyer-in-chief of Pakistan, finishing with five for 98, while Rangana Herath claimed two for 57.

Earlier, electing to bat first at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium, Sri Lanka piled up 482 with opener Dimuth Karunaratne scoring a punishing 196. His innings was studded with 19 fours and a six, and came off 405 balls after 556 minutes of occupancy of the wicket.

Other prominent scorers were Dinesh Chandimal (62), Dilruwan Perera (58), Niroshan Dickwella (52), while Yasir Shah was the most successful bowler with figures of 55.5-9-184-6.

Pakistan, in their first innings, capitulated to 262 all out to concede a big 220-run first-innings lead. Azhar Ali (59), Haris Sohail (56) and Sami Aslam (39) were the main run-getters, while wickets were evenly shared between Dilruwan Perera (three for 72), Rangana Herath (three for 84), Lahiru Gamage (two for 38) and Suranga Lakmal (two for 41).

Pakistan, as they have done numerous times, struck back with venom when they dismissed Sri Lanka for 96 runs in the second innings with Wahab Riaz picking up four for 41 and Haris Sohail three for one.

However, Pakistan's top order let them down for the second successive time with only Asad Shafiq and Sarfaraz Ahmed offering any resistance of note as they fell short by 68 runs.



■ Sarfaraz Ahmed receives the T20 series trophy

The first Test at Abu Dhabi International Cricket Stadium was actually Pakistan's first Test since the retirements of Misbah and Younus, and reflected how much the Pakistan batting had relied on them when, in a 136-run pursuit, they plummeted to 114 all out to lose by 21 runs.

Rangana Herath was the match-winner for Sri Lanka when he claimed six for 43, while Dilruwan Perera bagged three for 46.

Sri Lanka had earlier batted first and rode on Dinesh Chandimal's 155 not out to post 419. Dimuth Karunaratne missed his century by seven runs but added 100 runs for the fourth wicket with his captain. Niroshan Dickwella scored 83 and put on 134 for the fifth wicket with Chandimal to leave Pakistan chasing the match.

However, Pakistan responded gallantly with 422 through half-centuries from Azhar Ali (85), Haris Sohail (76), Shan Masood (59) and Sami Aslam (51).

Pakistan maintained pressure on Sri Lanka when they bowled them out for 138 with Yasir Shah claiming five for 51. But, the batting crumbled under pressure and was dismissed for 114 to fall short by 21 runs.

The Test series was followed by five ODIs and three T20Is, with Pakistan winning all the matches. The feature of the white-ball series was the third and final T20I played in Lahore and the Sri Lankan side was captained by Thisara Perera, who had earlier travelled to Lahore with the World XI.

In the 50-over matches, Babar Azam was the star attraction with 303 runs in four innings including two centuries and a half-century. He was followed by Shoaib Malik (161), Fakhar Zaman (148) and Imam-ul-Haq (146), while bowling honours went to Hasan Ali, who captured 14 wickets and Shadab Khan who claimed ten wickets.

In the shortest format of the game, Shoaib Malik was the leading batter with 102 runs, while Faheem Ahsraf and Hasan Ali took six wickets a piece.

### Scores in brief:

#### 1st Test, Abu Dhabi: Sri Lanka beat Pakistan by 21 runs

Sri Lanka 419 (Dinesh Chandimal 155 not out, Dimuth Karunaratne 93, Niroshan Dickwella 83, Mohammad Abbas 3-75, Yasir Shah 3-120, Hasan Ali 2-88) and 138 all out (Niroshan Dickwella 40 not out; Yasir Shah 5-51, Mohammad Abbas 2-22)

Pakistan 422 (Azhar Ali 85, Haris Sohail 76, Shan Masood 59, Sami Aslam 51; Rangana Herath 5-93) and 114 all out (Rangana Herath 6-43, Dilruwan Perera 3-46)

Player of the match - Rangana Herath

#### 2nd Test, Dubai: Sri Lanka beat Pakistan by 68 runs

Sri Lanka 482 all out (Dimuth Karunaratne 196, Dinesh Chandimal 62, Dilruwan Perera 58, Niroshan Dickwella 52, Yasir Shah 6-184) and 96 (Wahab Riaz 4-41, Haris Sohail 3-1)

Pakistan 262 all out (Azhar Ali 59, Haris Sohail 56, Sami Aslam 39, Dilruwan Perera 3-72, Rangana Herath 3-84, Lahiru Gamage 2-38, Suranga Lakmal 2-41) and 248 (Asad Shafiq 112, Sarfaraz Ahmed 68; Dilruwan Perera 5-98, Rangana Herath 2-57)

Player of the match - Dimuth Karunaratne

Player of the series - Dimuth Karunaratne

#### 1st ODI, Dubai: Pakistan won by 83 runs

Pakistan 292-6, 50 overs (Babar Azam 103, Shoaib Malik 81, Fakhar Zaman 43; Suranga Lakmal 2-47)

Sri Lanka 209-8, 50 overs (Lahiru Thirimanne 53, Akila Dananjaya 50 not out; Hasan Ali 3-36, Rumman Raees 3-49)

#### 2nd ODI, Abu Dhabi: Pakistan won by 32 runs

Pakistan 219-9, 50 overs (Babar Azam 101, Shadab Khan 52 not out; Lahiru Gamage 4-57, Thisara Perera 2-34)

Sri Lanka 187 all out, 48 overs (Upul Tharanga 112; Shadab Khan 3-47)

#### 3rd ODI, Abu Dhabi: Pakistan won by seven wickets

Sri Lanka 208, 48.2 overs (Upul Tharanga 61, Thisara Perera 38; Hasan Ali 5-34, Shadab Khan 2-37)

Pakistan 209-3, 42.3 overs (Imam-ul-Haq 100, Mohammad Hafeez 34 not out; Thisara Perera 1-22)

#### 4th ODI, Sharjah: Pakistan won by seven wickets

Sri Lanka 173 all out, 43.4 overs (Lahiru Thirimanne 62; Hasan Ali 3-37, Imad Wasim 2-13)

Pakistan 177-3, 39 overs (Babar Azam 69 not out, Shoaib Malik 69 not out; Lahiru Gamage)

#### 5th ODI, Sharjah: Pakistan won by nine wickets

Sri Lanka 103 all out, 26.2 overs (Thisara Perera 25; Usman Shinwari 5-34, Hasan Ali 2-34)

Pakistan 105-1, 20.2 overs (Fakhar Zaman 48, Imam-ul-Haq 45 not out; Jeffrey Vandersay 1-30)

#### 1st T20I, Abu Dhabi: Pakistan won by seven wickets

Sri Lanka 102 all out, 18.3 overs (Seekkuge Prasanna 23 not out; Hasan Ali 3-23, Mohammad Hafeez 2-10)

Pakistan 103-3, 17.2 overs (Shoaib Malik 42 not out, Mohammad Hafeez 25 not out; Vikum Sanjaya 2-20)

#### 2nd T20I, Abu Dhabi: Pakistan won by two wickets

Sri Lanka 124-9, 20 overs (Danushka Gunathilaka 51; Faheem Ashraf 3-16, Hasan Ali 2-31)

Pakistan 125-8, 19.5 overs (Sarfaraz Ahmed 28, Ahmed Shehzad 27; Thisara Perera 3-24)

#### 3rd T20I, Lahore: Pakistan won by 36 runs

Pakistan 180-3, 20 overs (Shoaib Malik 51, Umar Amin 45, Babar Azam 34 not out; Dilshan Munaweera 1-26)

Sri Lanka 144-9, 20 overs (Dasun Shanaka 54; Mohammad Amir 4-13, Faheem Ashraf 2-19)



■ The Sri Lankan national team returns to Pakistan after a gap of eight years

## Pakistan in New Zealand

Martin Guptill was the difference between the two sides when they met in a five-match ODI series in New Zealand in January 2018. The 32-year-old batsman from Auckland finished the series with 310 runs, which was the cornerstone of New Zealand's 5-0 series win.

The ODI series was followed by three T20Is and the start was no different from the ODI series. However, Pakistan bounced back in Auckland, after scoring 201, to level the series and then won in Mount Maunganui to earn a consolation 2-1 series win.

Guptill had scores of 48, 86 not out, 45, 31 and 100 as New Zealand swept the series without sweating. He was rightly declared the player of the series.

In the series opener in Wellington, Kane Williamson scored 115 and Henry Nicholls contributed 50 as the two added 90 for the fifth wicket to help New Zealand to an imposing 315 for seven. This came after Colin Munro (58) and Guptill (48) had provided their side an 83-run opening start.

In turn, Pakistan finished on 166 for six in 30.1 overs after their target had been revised to 228 in 30.1 overs. Fakhar Zaman with 82 not out was the only batsman to offer some resistance, while wickets were shared between Tim Southee and Trent Boult.

In Nelson, Mohammad Hafeez (60), Shadab Khan (52) and Hasan Ali (51) helped Pakistan to finish at 246 for nine after they were reduced to 108 for five. Guptill (86 not out) and Ross Taylor (45 not out) put on 104 runs for the unfinished third wicket as New Zealand achieved the revised target of 151 for two in 23.5 overs with seven balls to spare.

In Dunedin, Trent Boult captured five for 17 as Pakistan was bowled out for 74 in 27.2 overs after being set a 258-run target, that revolved around Kane Williamson (73), Ross Taylor (52) and Martin Guptill (45).

Facing a 3-0 deficit, Pakistan's chance of pulling one back were thwarted by an unbroken 109-run sixth wicket partnership between Henry Nicholls (52 not out) and Colin de Grandhomme (74 not out) as New Zealand romped to victory by five wickets in Hamilton. Earlier Pakistan's 262 for eight revolved around half-centuries from Mohammad Hafeez (81), Fakhar Zaman (54), Sarfaraz Ahmed (51) and Haris Sohail (50).

In the final match in Wellington, Pakistan, chasing 272 for victory, recovered from 57 for five to be bowled out for 256 in 49 overs. Guptill scored his first century of the series when he was out after scoring 100 as New Zealand finished at 271 for seven. Rumman Raees was the pick of the Pakistan



■ Fakhar Zaman in action - Courtesy: ICC



■ Pakistan team celebrating victory - Courtesy: ICC

In the T20I series, Babar Azam finally struck form to finish as the leading run-scorer with 109 runs at a strike-rate of over 125. Fakhar Zaman scored 99 runs in the series, while Sarfaraz Ahmed contributed 79 runs. Shadab Khan topped the bowling table with five wickets, while Faheem Ashraf and Rumman Raees claimed three wickets apiece.

### Scores in brief:

#### 1st ODI, Wellington: New Zealand won by 61 runs (DLS Method, revised target 228 in 30.1 overs)

New Zealand 315-7, 50 overs (Kane Williamson 115, Colin Munro 58, Henry Nicholls 50, Martin Guptill 48; Hasan Ali 3-61)

Pakistan 166-6, 30.1 overs (Fakhar Zaman 82 not out, Tim Southee 3-22, Trent Boult 2-35)

#### 2nd ODI, Nelson: New Zealand won by eight wickets (target revised to 151 in 25 overs)

Pakistan 246-9, 50 overs (Mohammad Hafeez 60, Shadab Khan 52, Hasan Ali 51; Lockie Ferguson 3-39, Todd Astle 2-50, Tim Southee 2-57)

New Zealand 151-2, 23.5 overs (Martin Guptill 86 not out, Ross Taylor 45 not out)

#### 3rd ODI, Dunedin: New Zealand won by 183 runs

New Zealand 257 all out, 50 overs (Kane Williamson 73, Ross Taylor 52, Martin Guptill 45, Tom Latham 35; Rumman Raees 3-51, Hasan Ali 3-59, Shadab Khan 2-51)

Pakistan 74 all out, 27.2 overs (Trent Boult 5-17)

#### 4th ODI, Hamilton: New Zealand won by five wickets

Pakistan 262-8, 50 overs (Mohammad Hafeez 81, Fakhar Zaman 54, Sarfaraz Ahmed 51, Haris Sohail 50; Tim Southee 3-44, Kane Williamson 2-32)

New Zealand 263-5, 45.5 overs (Colin de Grandhomme 74 not out, Colin Munro 56, Henry Nicholls 52 not out, Shadab Khan 3-42)

#### 5th ODI, Wellington: New Zealand won by 15 runs

New Zealand 271-7, 50 overs (Martin Guptill 100, Ross Taylor 59, Rumman Raees 3-67)

Pakistan 256 all out, 49 overs (Haris Sohail 63, Shadab Khan 54, Aamer Yamin 32 not out, Matt Henry 4-53, Mitchell Santner 3-40)

#### 1st T20I, Wellington: New Zealand won by seven wickets

Pakistan 105 all out, 19.4 overs (Babar Azam 41; Tim Southee 3-13, Seth Rance 3-26)

New Zealand 106-3, 15.5 overs (Colin Munro 49 not out, Rumman Raees 2-24)

#### 2nd T20I, Auckland: Pakistan won by 48 runs

Pakistan 201-4, 20 overs (Fakhar Zaman 50, Babar Azam 50 not out, Ahmed Shehzad 44, Sarfaraz Ahmed 41)

New Zealand 153 all out, 18.3 overs (Mitchell Santner 37, Faheem Ashraf 3-22, Mohammad Amir 2-28, Shadab Khan 2-37)

#### 3rd T20I, Mount Maunganui: Pakistan won by 18 runs

Pakistan 181-6, 20 overs (Fakhar Zaman 46, Sarfaraz Ahmed 29; Mitchell Santner 2-24)

New Zealand 163-6, 20 overs (Martin Guptill 59, Shadab Khan 2-19)



■ Pakistan team celebrating the New Zealand batsman dismissal - Courtesy: ICC



■ Hussain Talat made an impressive debut in the series

## West Indies in Karachi

The West Indies, under the captaincy of Jason Mohammed, became the first international side in nearly a decade to play a series in Karachi. The West Indies, following in the footsteps of Zimbabwe, the World XI and Sri Lanka, played three Twenty20 Internationals on 1, 2 and 3 April.

In the opening match at the National Stadium, Pakistan scored 203 for five in 20 overs and then skittled the West Indies out for 60 to win by 143 runs. Pakistan's batting revolved around Hussain Talat (41), Fakhar Zaman (39), Sarfaraz Ahmed (38) and Shoaib Malik (37 not out), while the West Indies batting was destroyed by Mohammad Amir (two for three), Shoaib Malik (two for 13) and Mohammad Nawaz (two for 19).

A day later and for the second successive time, Pakistan posted 200 plus, this time amassing 205 for three after electing to bat first. Babar Azam missed his maiden T20I century when he returned unbeaten on 97 that came off 58 balls and included 13 fours and a six. With Hussain Talat (63), Babar added 119 runs for the second wicket.

The West Indies, in their run-chase, were dismissed for 123 in 19.2 to fall short by 82 runs. Mohammad Amir took three for 22, while Hussain Talat and Shadab Khan got two wickets apiece. For the visitors, opener Chadwick Walton was the top scorer with a 29-ball 40.

In the final match of the series, the West Indies set Pakistan a 154-run target, which the home side achieved for the loss of two wickets with 19 balls to spare.

For the West Indies, Andre Fletcher was the top scorer with 52, but it was Denesh Ramdin whose 18-ball 42 not out with four fours and three sixes lifted the visitors to 153 for six. However, the target proved to be a small one for Pakistan as Babar Azam scored 51, Fakhar Zaman 40, Hussain Talat 31 not out and Asif Ali 25 not out as the green shirts romped home for the loss of two wickets in 16.5 overs.

### *Scores in brief:*

#### **1st T20I, Karachi: Pakistan won by 143 runs**

Pakistan 203-5, 20 overs (Hussain Talat 41, Fakhar Zaman 39)

West Indies 60 all out, 13.4 overs (Mohammad Amir 2-3, Shoaib Malik 2-13)

#### **2nd T20I, Karachi: Pakistan won by 82 runs**

Pakistan 205-3, 20 overs (Babar Azam 97 not out, Hussain Talat 63)

West Indies 123 all out, 19.2 overs (Chadwick Walton 40,

Denesh Ramdin 21; Mohammad Amir 3-22, Hussain Talat 2-12)

#### **3rd T20I, Karachi: Pakistan won by eight wickets**

West Indies 153-6, 20 overs (Andre Fletcher 52, Denesh Ramdin 42 not out; Shadab Khan 2-27)

Pakistan 154-2, 16.5 overs (Babar Azam 51, Fakhar Zaman 40)



■ Mohammad Amir bowls during a T20I against the West Indies in Karachi

# Pakistan tour of Ireland, England and Scotland

Ireland became the 11th Test playing nation when they played a one-off Test against Pakistan in Dublin from 11-15 May.

After the opening day's play was washed out, Pakistan showed urgency when they declared their first innings at 310 for nine. Faheem Ashraf top scored with 83 batting at number eight, while Asad Shafiq scored 62 and Shadab Khan chipped in with 55. For Ireland, Tim Murtagh took four for 45, while Stuart Thompson bagged three for 62.

Ireland, in their turn, were dismissed for 130 with Mohammad Abbas claiming four for 44, Shadab Khan picked up three for 31 and Mohammad Amir snapping up two for nine.

After being forced to follow-on, Ireland produced a better batting performance when they scored 339 all out. Kevin O'Brien became the first century-maker for Ireland when he scored 118 after occupying the crease for just under six hours during which he faced 217 deliveries of which 12 were converted into fours. For Pakistan, Mohammad Abbas took five for 66 and Mohammad Amir grabbed three for 63.

Pakistan, set a victory target of 160, slipped to 14 for three before Imam-ul-Haq rose to the occasion, scoring a match-winning unbeaten 74. Together with Babar Azam (59), Imam added 126 runs for the fourth wicket.

With a hard-fought victory in Dublin, Pakistan took on England in the first of two Tests at Lord's from 24-27 May.



■ Sarfaraz Ahmed and Joe Root shaking hands at the end of the drawn Test series - Courtesy: Getty Images

Mohammad Abbas captured eight wickets in the match to hand England a nine-wicket drubbing.

England, batting first, were bowled out for 184 with opener Alastair Cook top-scoring with 70. Apart from Abbas' four for 23, Hasan Ali picked up four for 51.

Pakistan put up an impressive batting performance when they scored 363 to take a critical 179-run first innings lead. Babar Azam showed his talent and potential when he scored 68 before an elbow injury forced him to retire and also put him out of the Leeds Test. Asad Shafiq (59), Shadab Khan (52), Azhar Ali (50), Haris Sohail (39) and Faheem Ashraf (37) were the other notable contributors.



■ Pakistan and Ireland teams pose together at the end of the Malahide Test - Courtesy: ICC

England, batting for the second time, collapsed to 110 for six before Jos Buttler (67) and Dominic Bess (57) lifted them to 242. Abbas' partner in destroying the England batting this time was Mohammad Amir, who returned with figures of eight for 36.

Chasing a modest 64-run target, Pakistan raced to victory in under 13 overs. Mohammad Abbas, for his match figures of eight for 64, was declared player of the match.

Both the sides then headed to Leeds, where Pakistan, batting first, were dismissed for 174 with Stuart Broad, James Anderson and Chris Woakes sharing nine wickets between them.

England replied with 363 with Jos Buttler scoring 80 not out. Faheem Ashraf took three for 60, while Mohammad Amir, Mohammad Abbas and Hasan Ali took two wickets apiece.

Trailing by 189 runs on the first innings, Pakistan collapsed to 134 to lose by an innings and 55 runs. Only three Pakistan batsmen reached double figures, including Imam-ul-Haq (34), Usman Salahuddin (33) and Azhar Ali (11). The wrecker-in-chief of Pakistan batting were Stuart Broad (three for 28) and Dominic Bess (three for 33).

Pakistan then traveled to Scotland, where they played two T20Is in Edinburgh on 12 and 13 June.

In the opening match, Pakistan scored 204 for four with Sarfaraz Ahmed top-scoring with 60 not out and Shoaib Malik hitting five sixes in a 27-ball 53. The two batsmen added 96 runs for the fourth wicket.

Scotland, in turn, finished at 156 for six with Shadab Khan and Hasan Ali picking up two wickets each.

In the second T20I, Pakistan scored 166 for six with Shoaib Malik top-scoring with 49 not out. Fakhar Zaman contributed 33. In turn, Scotland were rocked by Faheem Ashraf (three for five) and Usman Shinwari (two for four) as Scotland were bowled out for 82 in 14.4 overs.

## Scores in brief:

### Only Test, Dublin: Pakistan won by five wickets

Pakistan 310-9 dec (Faheem Ashraf 83, Asad Shafiq 62, Shadab Khan 55; Tim Murtagh 4-45, Stuart Thompson 3-62) and 160-5 (Imam-ul-Haq 74 not out, Babar Azam 59; Tim Murtagh 2-55)

Ireland 130 all out (Kevin O'Brien 40, Gary Wilson 33 not out; Mohammad Abbas 4-44, Shadab Khan 3-31) and f/o 339 all out (Kevin O'Brien 118, Stuart Thompson 53; Mohammad Abbas 5-66, Mohammad Amir 3-63)

Player of the match - Kevin O'Brien



■ Mohammad Abbas celebrates after dismissing Dominic Bess of England during the Lord's Test - Courtesy: ICC

### First Test, Lord's: Pakistan won by nine wickets

England 184 all out (Alastair Cook 70, Ben Stokes 38; Mohammad Abbas 4-23, Hasan Ali 4-51) and 242 all out (Joe Root 68, Jos Buttler 67, Dominic Bess 57; Mohammad Amir 4-36, Mohammad Abbas 4-41)

Pakistan 363 all out (Babar Azam 68 retd hurt, Asad Shafiq 59, Shadab Khan 52; Ben Stokes 3-73, James Anderson 3-82) and 66-1 (Haris Sohail 39 not out, Imam-ul-Haq 18 not out; James Anderson 1-12)

Player of the match - Mohammad Abbas

### Second Test, Leeds: England won by an innings and 55 runs

Pakistan 174 all out (Shadab Khan 56, Haris Sohail 28; Stuart Broad 3-38, James Anderson 3-43, Chris Woakes 3-55) and 134 all out (Imam-ul-Haq 34, Usman Salahuddin 33; Stuart Broad 3-28, Dominic Bess 3-33)

England 363 all out (Jos Buttler 80 not out, Dominic Bess 49; Faheem Ashraf 3-60, Mohammad Amir 2-72)

Player of the match - Jos Buttler

Player of the series - Mohammad Abbas

### 1st T20I, Edinburgh: Pakistan won by 48 runs

Pakistan 204-4, 20 overs (Sarfaraz Ahmed 60 not out, Shoaib Malik 53; Alasdair Evans 3-23) Scotland 156-6, 20 overs (Michael Leask 38 not out, Kyle Coetzer 31; Shadab Khan 2-25, Hasan Ali 2-33)

### 2nd T20I, Edinburgh: Pakistan won by 84 runs

Pakistan 166-6, 20 overs (Shoaib Malik 49 not out, Fakhar Zaman 33; Michael Leask 3-31) Scotland 82 all out, 14.4 overs (Calum MacLeod 25, Richie Berrington 20; Faheem Ashraf 3-5, Usman Shinwari 2-4)

## Pakistan in Zimbabwe

Pakistan justified their status as the best Twenty20 International side in the world when they won the triangular series in Harare, while Fakhar Zaman became the first Pakistan batsman to score a double-century in One-Day Internationals.

After losing to Australia by nine wickets, Pakistan bounced back to win the return match by 45 runs before winning the final by six wickets. In between, Pakistan also defeated Zimbabwe by 74 runs and seven wickets.

In the final on 8 July, Australia batted first and scored 183 for eight with D'Arcy Short (76) and Aaron Finch (47) putting on 95 runs for the first wicket. For Pakistan, Mohammad Amir took three for 33, while Shadab Khan bagged two for 38.

In their turn at the wicket, Pakistan slipped to two for two and then 47 for three, before Fakhar took control of things. He was dismissed after adding 106 runs for the fourth wicket with Shoaib Malik (43 not out), but by that time the job had already been accomplished. Pakistan achieved victory with four balls and six wickets to spare.

Fakhar scored 91 from 46 balls with the help of 12 fours and three sixes. He was later adjudged player of the final and player of the tournament.

Fakhar was Pakistan's most successful batsman in the T20I series, scoring 278 runs at a strike-rate of over 157. Shoaib Malik (132), Asif Ali (117) and Sarfaraz Ahmed (100) were the other Pakistan batsmen to reach three figures.



■ Fakhar Zaman had a remarkable outing during the ODI series in Zimbabwe, becoming the first Pakistan batsman to score an ODI double-century - Courtesy: ICC

Amir and Shadab Khan bagged five wickets apiece, while Shaheen Shah and Hasan Ali took four wickets each.

The ODI series, which was played at the back of the triangular series, saw Fakhar score 210 not out in Pakistan's mammoth 399 for one in the fourth ODI. Fakhar slapped 24 fours and five sixes in a 156-ball 210 not out, which also broke Saeed Anwar's record 194 against India in Chennai in 1997.

Fakhar ended the series with 515 runs at an average of over 257 with a strike-rate of over 111.

In the final ODI, Fakhar scored 85 in Pakistan's 364 for four, but more importantly, he became the quickest batsman to reach 1,000 ODI runs. He achieved the feat in 18 innings, whereas five other batsmen, including Sir Vivian Richards and team-mate Babar Azam, had taken 21 innings to the four-figure mark.

Also shining in the ODI series was Fakhar's opening partner Imam-ul-Haq, who established his credentials as a batsman to watch out for when he scored three centuries - 128, 113 and 110. Imam ended the tour with 395 runs at an average of 79 with a strike-rate of just under 97.

Babar Azam scored 106 not out in the last match to end the series with 184 runs.

Pakistan's batting was well supported by their bowlers as the top five positions went to them. Faheem Ashraf, Usman Shinwari and Shadab Khan bagged nine wickets apiece,

while Hasan Ali took six and Junaid Khan three wickets, respectively.

### 1st ODI, Bulawayo: Pakistan won by 201 runs

Pakistan 308-7, 50 overs (Imam-ul-Haq 128, Fakhar Zaman 60; Tendai Chatara 2-49)  
Zimbabwe 107 all out, 35 overs (Ryan Murray 32 not out; Shadab Khan 4-32)

### 2nd ODI, Bulawayo: Pakistan won by nine wickets

Zimbabwe 194 all out, 49.2 overs (Hamilton Masakadza 59, Peter Moor 50; Usman Shinwari 4-36, Hasan Ali 3-32)  
Pakistan 195-1, 36 overs (Fakhar Zaman 117 not out, Imam-ul-Haq 44)

### 3rd ODI, Bulawayo: Pakistan won by nine wickets

Zimbabwe 67 all out, 25.1 overs (Chamu Chibhabha 16; Faheem Ashraf 5-22)  
Pakistan 69-1, 9.5 overs (Fakhar Zaman 43 not out; Blessing Muzarabani 1-43)

### 4th ODI, Bulawayo: Pakistan won by 244 runs

Pakistan 399-1, 50 overs (Fakhar Zaman 210 not out, Imam-ul-Haq 113; Wellington Masakadza 1-78)  
Zimbabwe 155 all out, 42.4 overs (Donald Tiripano 44, Elton Chigumbura 37; Shadab Khan 4-28)

### 5th ODI, Bulawayo: Pakistan won by 131 runs

Pakistan 364-4, 50 overs (Imam-ul-Haq 110, Babar Azam 106 not out; Liam Roche 1-65)  
Zimbabwe 233-4, 50 overs (Ryan Murray 47, Peter Moor 44 not out; Mohammad Nawaz 2-47)

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Women's  
international  
cricket



## ICC Women's Championship 2017-2020

As of 26 July 2019, Pakistan are presently ranked fifth in the ICC Women's Championship 2017-2020 with a total of seven wins, as many defeats and a tied game. This has given them 15 points from five series with each series comprising three ODIs.

2019 has brought great success and change of fortunes for the women's team.

The fourth-round action provided a historic victory for the Pakistan girls when the Bismah Maroof-led side recorded a first-ever series win over the West Indies team in Dubai in February, while Pakistan drew the three-match series against South Africa in their own backyard in May.

Against the West Indies, after losing the first game at the Dubai International Stadium, Pakistan fought back brilliantly to record back-to-back wins at the ICC Academy to seal a 2-1 series win.

Sidra Amin produced scores of 52 and 96 in the last two ODIs, while Nida Dar, Diana Baig, Nashra Sandhu and Sana Mir chipped in with valuable match winning contributions to earn four crucial points for the team.

Against South Africa, Sana Mir bowled her team to their first-ever ODI win on South Africa's soil. Sana's spell of four wickets for 11 runs helped Pakistan bowl out the hosts for a paltry 63 in 22.5 overs, the second-worst total for South Africa in their ODI history.

Pakistan chased down the target comfortably losing a mere two wickets in the process. The second game went in the hosts favour who also won by an eight wicket margin.

The series finale was played in Benoni, the match turned into a classic as Pakistan tail-enders Sidra Nawaz and Nashra Sandhu tied the game on the last ball of the match.

Nashra hit a six off the penultimate ball of the match and took a single off the next as Pakistan scored seven runs when eight were needed for a win off the last two balls.

Aliya Riaz (71 runs and two wickets) gave an all-round performance of the highest quality while Javeria Khan chipped in with 74 runs.



■ Sana Mir bowls on her way to becoming most successful spinner in the world - Courtesy: CSA

During the third match, Sana Mir went past Anisa Mohammed and Lisa Sthalekar as the highest wicket-taking spinner in women's ODIs. Sana accounted for South Africa captain Sune Luus as her 147th ODI wicket.

The ICC Women's Championship 2017-2020 had begun in October 2017. Pakistan's first series was against New Zealand, the home series was staged in Sharjah on 31 October, 2 November and 5 November at the historic Sharjah Cricket Stadium.

Coached for the first time by New Zealand-born head coach Mark Coles, Pakistan made a major breakthrough when they beat the White Ferns for the first time in an ODI match. Pakistan lost the series 2-1 but won the final game by a five-wicket margin. Star all-rounder Sana Mir took four wickets to lead her team's victory charge.

Pakistan's next opponents were Sri Lanka whom they blanked three-nil to gain all six points on offer from the three-match series, which was staged in Dambulla during March 2019. Pakistan recorded comfortable wins in all three games. Sana Mir took 10 wickets, Javeria Khan scored a century and solid contributions from Bismah Maroof, Nida Dar and Nashra Sandhu also proved to be decisive factors in Pakistan's performance.



■ Pakistan celebrate their historic series win against the West Indies in Dubai

## ICC Women's World T20 2018

Pakistan Women failed to make it to the semi-finals of the ICC Women's World T20 2018, held in the Caribbean, but the team fought well against far more experienced opponents.

Australia won the tournament, which took place from 9-24 November 2018, registering an impressive eight wicket win over arch-rivals England in the final played at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium, Antigua.

The ten teams were divided into two pools of five teams each. Pool A comprised West Indies, England, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

Pakistan were placed in the tougher Pool B alongside Australia, India, New Zealand and Ireland.



■ Javeria Khan poses with the player-of-the-match award against Ireland - Courtesy: ICC



■ Pakistan players celebrate the fall of opposition's wicket - Courtesy: ICC



■ Nida Dar in action against Ireland - Courtesy: ICC

Javeria Khan's side took on Australia in their opening match of the tournament. Australia batted first and posted 165 for five in their allotted 20 overs. Pakistan bowlers Nashra Sandhu (two for 43) and Aliya Riaz (two for 25) gave a good account of themselves against their formidable opponents.

In reply, Pakistan managed 113 for the loss of eight wickets, Bismah Maroof top-scoring with 26 runs while Umaima Sohail and Sana Mir contributed 20 runs each.

Pakistan's next opponent were India, the highly anticipated match taking place at the Providence Stadium in Guyana. The batters performed admirably as Pakistan batted first. Bismah and Nida Dar scored fifties and added 93 runs for the fourth wicket to help the team reach a competitive 133-run total in 20 overs.

India had to work hard for their victory and completed the chase with only six balls left in the match. Diana Baig, Nida Dar and Bismah Maroof took a wicket apiece.

Pakistan recorded an impressive 38-run win over Ireland at the same venue in their third group match. Batting first, Pakistan posted a 139-run total for the loss of six

wickets. Javeria led from the front with a dazzling 74 off 52 balls, the right-hand top-order batter hitting 11 fours in her match-winning innings. She was later named player of the match.

Javeria found good support from Ayesha Zafar (21) and Umaima (18). Pakistan's bowlers maintained a stranglehold on the Irish batters from the start of the innings. The bowling quartet of Sana, Aimen Anwar, Nashra and Aliya took two wickets each as Ireland lost track of their 140-run chase, finishing their innings on 109 for the loss of nine wickets.

Pakistan's last group match was against New Zealand, the match was also staged at the Providence Stadium. Batting first, New Zealand posted 144 runs, Sana and Aliya took two wickets each. Pakistan were bowled out for 90 in reply, Javeria carried over her good form with a 36-run contribution.

Javeria ended the tournament in the fifth spot on the batting charts, she scored 136 runs at 45.33 with her unbeaten 74 against Ireland her highest score. Aliya was Pakistan's most successful bowler of the event, taking six wickets at 15.16 per wicket.

## ACC Women's Asia Cup 2018

Pakistan had a good outing in the ACC Women's Asia Cup 2018, winning three of their five group games and losing to India and Bangladesh.

However, the women in green, led by Bismah Maroof, could not make it to the final, finishing in third spot on the points table behind the finalists Bangladesh and India.

The tournament was staged in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (June 3-10). Six teams including the hosts Malaysia, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Thailand took part in the tournament.

Bangladesh won the tournament defeating India by three wickets in the final.

Pakistan faced Thailand in their opening match of the tournament and won comfortably. Batting first the Thai team could only muster 67 for the loss of eight wickets in their 20 overs, with only two of their batters reaching double figures. Pakistan's bowlers, led by Sana Mir, bowled with great control. Sana took two wickets and conceded a mere seven runs in her quota of four overs. Diana Baig, Nashra Sandhu, Nida Dar and Kainat Imtiaz took a wicket each.

Pakistan reached the target in 13.1 overs. Nahida Khan remained unbeaten on 38 while Javeria Khan contributed an unbeaten 18.

Pakistan lost their second game of the tournament against Bangladesh by seven wickets. Pakistan scored 95 for five batting first, Sana scoring an unbeaten 21 off 23 balls while Javeria contributed 18 and Nida made 17 unbeaten runs. Bangladesh overhauled the target in the 18th over, medium-pace bowler Anam Amin bowling a miserly spell of one for nine runs from four overs.

Pakistan registered an impressive 23-run win over Sri Lanka in their next game. Batting first, Pakistan scored 136 for four. Bismah led from the front with an enterprising unbeaten 60 off 41 balls, including seven fours. Opener Nahida Khan scored 38 off 38 balls.

Sri Lanka were restricted to 113 for nine, Nida Dar bowling superbly to spearhead Pakistan's win. The off-spinner took five wickets for 21 runs in her four overs. Pakistan fielders backed the bowlers well in the field with two run outs.



■ Group photo of the Pakistan women's team which participated in the ACC Women's T20 Asia Cup 2018 - Courtesy: ACC



■ Pakistan women's team celebrating the dismissal of a Bangladesh batter - Courtesy: ACC

Pakistan followed the win against Sri Lanka by recording a thumping 147-run win over the hosts in their next game. Bismah's 37-ball 62 and Nida's 27-ball 41 (three fours and one six) propelled the score to 177 for five.

Malaysia could manage only 30 runs in reply despite batting for 18.4 overs. Nida once again led the bowling effort with a four-wicket haul conceding a mere five runs in 3.4 overs. Sana, Nashra and Javeria took a wicket apiece.

Pakistan lost their last group game to India by seven wickets to also lose out on a place in the final. Batting first, Pakistan scored 72 for the loss of seven wickets. Sana scored 20 not out while Nahida chipped in with an 18-run contribution.

India surpassed the target for the loss of three wickets in 16.1 overs, Anam took two wickets while Nashra claimed one.



■ Naheeda Khan poses with her player of the match award - Courtesy: ACC

## Pakistan women in bilateral T20Is

Pakistan hosted an international women's team for the first time in four and a half years as the Merissa Aguilera-led West Indies toured Karachi to play a three-match T20I series at the Southend Club Cricket Stadium, 30 January-3 February 2019.

The West Indies team enjoyed the traditional Pakistani hospitality during the tour. The series was launched by a visit to the Sea View beach where Aguilera and her opposite number Bismah Maroof posed with the series trophy.

The West Indies and Pakistan teams also were invited to a dinner by Karachi Police where they were given a glimpse of Pakistan culture through dance performances depicting the rich traditions and heritage of each of the four provinces.

The three matches were played in front of passionate fans, including a large number of school girls. The action-packed series was won by the visitors (2-1) but Pakistan gave West Indies a tough fight. After losing the series opener by 71 runs, Pakistan tied the second game with a courageous performance, only losing in the Super Over tie-breaker.

The third match was also a historic occasion for the team stalwart, former captain Sana Mir, who became the first Pakistani player to play 100 T20 Internationals.

Batting first, Pakistan posted a formidable 150-run total for the loss of six wickets. Nida Dar excelled with the bat scoring a quick-fire 53 (40 balls, five fours, two sixes). Pakistan bowlers bowled with great discipline to complement the batting performance as West Indies were restricted to 138 for eight. Anam Amin took three wickets, while Sana celebrated the historic occasion with a two-wicket haul.

West Indies star performer, all-rounder Deandra Dottin, won the player of the series award. The right-handed top-order batter and right-arm medium pacer made match winning contributions in the first two games.

Dottin spearheaded West Indies batting in the opening match, scoring 90 and taking a wicket to lead her side to a comfortable win. Dottin also made a match-winning contribution with the bat in the second match, Super Over.

Dottin's series tally was 158 runs at an average of 79 while she took a total of three wickets in the series at 23.33.



■ Nida Dar was declared the player-of-the-series in Benoni  
- Courtesy: CSA

Pakistan spinner Anam Amin led the bowling charts with five wickets in the three games at 11.60 per wicket. Shakera Selman, right-arm medium-pace bowler, took four wickets to top the bowling charts for West Indies.

Sana and Nashra Sandhu took three wickets apiece. Bismah was the highest run-getter for the hosts, the left-handed top-order batter scored 88 runs with a personal best of 38. Nida who excelled in the third match, contributed 80 runs in the series including a top score of 53.

### Other T20Is

Overall, Pakistan played a total of 22 bilateral T20I matches in the last two years (May 2017-May 2019), these included home or away series against New Zealand, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Australia, Windies and South Africa.

Pakistan beat Sri Lanka and Bangladesh in their own backyards but lost to New Zealand, Australia, and the West Indies at their home and away. There was a big improvement on results compared to previous years with Pakistan winning nine out of these 22 games. A total of 12 matches ended in defeat while one game was tied.

### Pakistan vs New Zealand

Pakistan took on New Zealand for a four-match T20I series in Sharjah (November 2017). New Zealand won the series 4-0, Pakistan lost the opening match by 15 runs finishing on 132 for seven chasing 148 for a win. Sadia Yousuf with three wickets for 30 runs in four overs was the best performer of the day for the Pakistan team.

New Zealand won the second match by 39 runs, batting first, the visitors made 150 for eight in their 20 overs, Pakistan were restricted to 111 for seven in reply, Aliya Riaz scored 23 runs.

New Zealand won the third game by 42 runs, batting first, the White Ferns scored 136 runs for the loss of four wickets, Natalia Pervaiz took two wickets for 12 runs, Pakistan were bowled out for 84 in reply, Nahida Khan top-scored with 23 runs.

In the fourth and final game of the series, Pakistan batted first and posted 89 runs for the loss of eight wickets in their 20 overs, Javeria top-scored with 36 runs. New Zealand chased down the target for the loss of seven wickets, opening bowler Aimen Anwar took two wickets.

### Sri Lanka vs Pakistan

Pakistan played a three-match T20I series against Sri Lanka in March 2018, all three games were staged at the Sinhalese

Sports Club in Colombo, Pakistan registered a 2-1 series win as the Bismah Maroof-led side performed exceptionally in all three departments of the game.

The first match was a nail-biter which Pakistan won by one wicket, the visitors chased down the 130-run target with one ball left in the game, Javeria scored a 36-ball 52 that was studded with eight fours, Bismah made 42 off 31 balls with the help of six fours.

Pakistan lost the second match by seven wickets, batting first, Pakistan were bowled out for 72 runs in 18.4 overs, Sri Lanka chased down the target for the loss of three wickets.

A fine bowling effort helped Pakistan win the series, chasing 114 for a win, Sri Lanka were restricted to a paltry 75-run total that they gathered for the loss of eight wickets. Bismah took two wickets while as many as four Sri Lanka batters were run out.

Javeria with 93 runs in the series was Pakistan's top run-getter, Bismah made 63 runs in her three innings of the series. Diana Baig and Sana Mir took three wickets each in the series.

### Bangladesh vs Pakistan

Pakistan played four T20Is on their tour of Bangladesh in



■ Nida Dar celebrating with teammates in Karachi



■ Local school girls turned up in big numbers to support Pakistan and West Indies women's teams

October 2018, Pakistan were led by Javeria Khan in the absence of regular captain Bismah Maroof who missed the tour due to illness.

Pakistan outplayed the hosts in the T20Is, winning the series by a comprehensive 3-0 margin, the first match was abandoned due to rain. The three matches were staged at the Sheikh Kamal International Cricket Stadium in Cox's Bazar.

The visitors won the second match by a 58-run margin as the bowlers reigned supreme. Defending an 89-run target in a match reduced to 14 overs due to bad weather, Pakistan floored the hosts for a paltry 30-run total. Anam, Aimen, Nashra and Nida ran through the Bangladesh order to ensure a comfortable win.

Javeria's 18-ball 25 and Nahida's run-a-ball 18 helped Pakistan reach 88 for five in the allotted 14 overs. Anam Amin was declared the player of the match.

Another impressive bowling performance helped Pakistan win the third match by seven wickets. Nashra and Nida took two wickets each as Bangladesh were reduced to 81 for eight in 20 overs. Nahida's 33 and Javeria's unbeaten 31 guided Pakistan past the target with 11 balls to spare. Nahida was later declared the player of the match.

Bangladesh failed to cope with Pakistan's bowling for the third time in succession as the hosts were rolled over for 77 all out in the fourth T20I. Player of the match Natalia took three wickets while Diana Baig and Sana took two each to restrict the hosts to a low total.

Javeria's 36 then helped Pakistan overhaul the target with 31 balls to spare. Javeria led the batting department from the front, the right-handed top-order batter scored 92 runs in three innings in the series with a highest of 36. Opener Nahida Khan scored 68 runs in three innings with a best of 33.

Anam Amin and Nida Dar bowled superbly throughout the series, the duo took five wickets each conceding a mere 4.60 and 7.60 runs per wicket. Nashra Sandhu took four wickets.

#### Pakistan vs Australia

Pakistan hosted Australia for a three match T20I series in Kuala Lumpur in October 2018. The series was won by Australia 3-0, all three games were staged at the Kinrara Academy Oval.

Australia won the first match by a 64-run margin, batting first, Australia posted 195 runs for the loss of three wickets in their 20 overs. Nahida scored 43 runs while Umaima Sohail contributed 25 as Pakistan were restricted to 131 for seven in reply.

Pakistan batted first in the second match and scored 101 runs in 19.5 overs, Umaima top-scored with 43 off 38 balls. Australia chased down the score for the loss of four wickets in 17 overs.

Australia won the third and final game by nine wickets, batting first, Pakistan scored 97 runs for the loss of eight wickets in their 20 overs, Bismah top-scored with 34 runs. Australia completed the chase in 10.2 overs.

#### South Africa vs Pakistan

Pakistan played a hugely competitive five-match T20I series in South Africa, May 2019. The visitors won two out of the five games giving another commendable performance in the instant format of the game.

The first match at the LC de Villiers Oval in Pretoria went Pakistan's way on the back of an excellent bowling performance by Sana (three wickets for 14 runs) and an all-round effort by Nida Dar.

Nida took two wickets as Pakistan restricted the hosts to 119 for seven, half-centuries by captain Bismah Maroof (53 not out) and Nida 53 off 37 balls took the team to victory with two overs to spare.

Nida's all-round performance won her the player of the match award.

South Africa won the second game by eight wickets, the match was played in Pietermaritzburg. Batting first, Bismah second consecutive unbeaten half-century (63 off 55 balls)

took Pakistan to 128 for five in 20 overs. Pakistan bowlers made the hosts work hard for the target, the victory was only achieved with a ball to spare.

Pakistan bounced back to take a 2-1 lead in the series with a four wicket win in the third game also played in Pietermaritzburg. A disciplined bowling performance restricted South Africa to 138 for three in 20 overs, Pakistan slumped to three for three in reply but a 77-run partnership between Nida (32) and player of the match Iram Javed (55 off 45 balls, seven fours and one six) revived the chase.

Iram found an able partner in Aliya Riaz (30 off 24 balls, four fours and one six) as Pakistan finished the chase with two balls to spare.

Nida smashed a Pakistan record 20 ball 50 on her way to 75 off 37 balls as the visitors posted a 172-run total, their second highest score in women's T20I cricket when the two sides met for the fourth match of the series. South Africa chased down the target in 19.1 overs losing six wickets in the process, Fatima Sana took three wickets for Pakistan.

South Africa won the series decider played at Willowmoore Park, Benoni by nine wickets to take the series 3-2. Batting first, Pakistan scored 125 for five in their 20 overs Nida scored 28 runs while Aliya contributed an unbeaten 26. South Africa went past the target in the 16th over.

Nida was adjudged player of the series for her all-round performance, she made 192 runs in the series at 38.40, while taking five wickets with her off-spin bowling.



■ Rival captains Merissa Aguiliera and Bismah Maroof pose with the series trophy in Karachi

## ICC Women's World Cup 2017

Sana Mir led Pakistan at the ICC Women's World Cup 2017 in England and despite some impressive individual performances and closely fought games, the team could not record a win in any of their seven matches.

Pakistan gave South Africa, Sri Lanka and India a real run for their money but could not sustain the momentum in these games.

A total of eight teams took part in the tournament: the hosts England, Australia, India, New Zealand, West Indies, Sri Lanka, South Africa and Pakistan. England won the tournament, defeating India in a thriller played at Lord's, London.



■ Javeria Khan salutes after reaching half-century against the West Indies in Leicester. - Courtesy: ICC



■ Iram Javed batting against Australia in Leicester - Courtesy: ICC



■ Diana Baig celebrates a wicket against India in Derby - Courtesy: ICC

Sana, Nahida Khan and Javeria Khan were the batters who made an impression. Sana averaged 30.60 with the bat with the help of one half-century, also taking six wickets with her off-spin bowling including a three wicket haul against Australia.

Nahida scored 173 runs in seven games at 24.71 per innings, her tally including a 79-run innings against South Africa. Javeria scored 127 runs in six innings at 25.40, including an innings of 58 not out.

Medium-pace bowler Asmavia Iqbal led the bowling charts for Pakistan, the right-arm-er collecting eight wickets in six games with a best of three for 62.

Left-arm spinners, Sadia Yousaf and Nashra Sandhu, claimed seven wickets apiece in six matches each. Pakistan's opening match against South Africa went down to the wire. Batting first, Nahida's impressive 79 helped the team reach 206 for eight in their 50 overs, Nahida's 101-ball innings included nine fours and one six.

The bowlers reduced South African to 177 for seven in 45 overs. The eight wicket stand between Sune Luus and Shabnim Ismail took the team past the target, Sadia took two wickets for 30 runs in her probing 10-over spell. Sana and Bismah took a wicket each.

Pakistan bowlers bowled with accuracy and penetration to restrict the star-studded India batting line-up to 169 for nine in the much anticipated tie played at the County Ground, Derby. Nashra took four wickets while Sadia chipped in with a couple. The batters though couldn't take the team past the target as India won the game.

Pakistan lost another closely fought game later. The team's last game was against Sri Lanka at the Grace Road Ground, Leicester. Pakistan bowlers bowled impressively to restrict Sri Lanka to 221 for seven in 50 overs. Diana Baig was the pick of the bowlers taking three wickets for 41 runs in her 10-over spell.

A 53-run fourth wicket stand between Javeria and Nain Abidi (57, 71 balls, nine fours) took the score to 107 for three in 27 overs.

However, the middle and late order lost their way as Pakistan were bowled out for 206 with 20 balls to spare. The narrow 15-run loss brought an end to the team's campaign in the tournament.

## Pakistan women in Bangladesh

***After the abandonment of the opening game, Pakistan won the second match by a 58-run margin as the bowlers reigned supreme. Defending an 89-run target in a match reduced to 14 overs due to bad weather, Pakistan floored the hosts for a paltry 30-run total. Anam, Aimen, Nashra and Nida ran through the Bangladesh order to ensure a comfortable win.***

Pakistan Women toured Bangladesh for four T20Is and one ODI in October 2018, the tour providing exposure and valuable match practice ahead of the ICC Women's World T20 2018.

Pakistan were led by Javeria Khan in the absence of regular captain Bismah Maroof through illness.

Pakistan outplayed the hosts in the T20Is, winning the series by a comprehensive 3-0 margin after the first match was abandoned due to rain. The three remaining matches were staged at the Sheikh Kamal International Cricket Stadium in Cox's Bazar. The only ODI was also staged at the same venue with Pakistan losing by six wickets.

During the T20I series, Javeria led from the front with the bat, the right-handed top-order batter scoring 92 runs in three innings with a highest of 36. Opener Nahida Khan scored 68 runs in three innings with a best of 33.

Anam Amin and Nida Dar bowled superbly throughout the series, the duo taking five wickets each and conceding a mere 4.60 and 7.60 runs per wicket. Nashra Sandhu took four while Natalia Pervez, Sana Mir and Aimen Anwar took three wickets each in the series.

After the abandonment of the opening game, Pakistan won the second match by a 58-run margin as the bowlers reigned supreme. Defending an 89-run target in a match reduced to 14 overs due to bad weather, Pakistan floored the hosts for a paltry 30-run total. Anam, Aimen, Nashra and Nida ran through the Bangladesh order to ensure a comfortable win.

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Another impressive bowling performance helped Pakistan win the third match by seven wickets. Nashra and Nida took two wickets each as Bangladesh were reduced to 81 for eight

in 20 overs. Nahida's 33 and Javeria's unbeaten 31 guided Pakistan past the target with 11 balls to spare. Nahida was later declared the player of the match.

Bangladesh failed to cope with Pakistan's bowling for the third time in succession as the hosts were rolled over for 77 all out in the fourth T20I. Player of the match Natalia took three wickets while Diana Baig and Sana took two each to restrict the hosts to a low total.

Javeria's 36 then helped Pakistan overhaul the target with 31 balls to spare. The captain found good support from Nahida (17) and Muneeba Ali who scored an unbeaten 18.

Pakistan lost the solitary ODI by six wickets, after electing to bat first, the visitors found the conditions tough to cope with. Javeria's 29 was the best effort with the bat as other than her only Ayesha Zafar and Muneeba Ali reached double figures (both scoring 18 each).

Pakistan were dismissed for 94 in 34.5 overs. The bowlers made Bangladesh batters work hard as the hosts took 29 overs to surpass the target losing four wickets in the process. Sana took two wickets conceding a mere 20 runs in her eight overs. Diana took one wicket.

### ***Scores in brief:***

First T20I, Cox's Bazar, Match abandoned without a ball bowled

**Second T20I, Cox's Bazar: Pakistan won by 58 runs**  
Pakistan 88 for 5, 14 overs (Javeria Khan 25, Nahida Khan 18; Nahida Akter 2-19)  
Bangladesh 30 all out, 12.5 overs (Rumana Ahmed 9; Anam Amin 3-3, Nida Dar 2-4, Nashra Sandhu 2-7)

Player of the match - Anam Amin

**Third T20I, Cox's Bazar: Pakistan won by seven wickets**  
Bangladesh 81 for 8, 20 overs (Nigar Sultana 19, Rumana Ahmed 12; Nashra Sandhu 2-16, Nida Dar 2-16)

Pakistan 85 for 3, 18.1 overs (Nahida Khan 33, Javeria Khan 31 not out; Rumana Ahmed 1-10)

Player of the match - Nahida Khan

**Fourth T20I, Cox's Bazar: Pakistan won by seven wickets**

Bangladesh 77 all out, 20 overs (Rumana Ahmed 24, Fahima Khatun 14; Natalia Pervez 3-20, Sana Mir 2-10)

Pakistan 78 for 3, 14.5 overs (Javeria Khan 36, Muneeba Ali

18 not out; Salma Khatun 1-13)

Player of the match - Natalia Pervez

**Only ODI, Cox's Bazar: Bangladesh won by six wickets**

Pakistan 94 all out, 34.5 overs (Javeria Khan 29, Ayesha Zafar 18, Muneeba Ali 18; Khadija Tul Kubra 6-20)

Bangladesh 95 for 4, 29 overs (Fargana Hoque 48, Rumana Ahmed 34; Sana Mir 2-20)

Player of the match - Khadija Tul Kubra



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## Men's domestic cricket

## Regional Inter-District 2018-2019

The district level cricket activities are the first step for young and upcoming players as they look to graduate to first-class cricket and beyond.

Pakistan is divided into four provinces and 132 districts. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is divided into seven divisions and 34 districts; Balochistan into seven divisions and 33 districts; Punjab into nine divisions and 36 districts; and Sindh into seven divisions and 29 districts.

For the season of 2018-2019, all U19 inter-district teams played one-day matches and all inter-district senior teams played three-day matches. Most of these regions played on single league basis with the top team finishing as winners.

Where there were ten teams, two pools were made with FATA and Quetta. Where there were seven and six teams they played on single league bases. Seven teams were in Karachi, Hyderabad, Bahawalpur, Multan, Sialkot and Abbottabad whilst six teams were in Lahore, Larkana and Faisalabad.

Dera Murad Jamali also has five teams while Islamabad and Peshawar play on single league basis. Rawalpindi also plays on single league basis. Quetta and Federally Administered Tribal Areas have ten teams so there are five-team groups with the top two teams that play the final.

Here is the list of all the winners and runner-up teams in both regional inter-district U19 and senior tournaments:

### Regional Inter-District U19 Tournament 2018-2019

Sr. No.	Teams	Position	Sr. No.	Teams	Position
1	Quetta	Winner	17	Kasur	Winner
2	Turbat	Runner-up	18	Sargodha	Runner-up
3	Jaffarabad	Winner	19	Sialkot	Winner
4	Sibi	Runner-up	20	Gujranwala	Runner-up
5	Zone - VI	Winner	21	Central Zone	Winner
6	Zone - I	Runner-up	22	North Zone	Runner-up
7	Hyderabad	Winner	23	Rawalpindi	Winner
8	Jamshoro	Runner-up	24	Jhelum	Runner-up
9	Dadu	Winner	25	Mirpur	Winner
10	Larkana	Runner-up	26	Muzaffarabad	Runner-up
11	Rahim Yar Khan	Winner	27	Peshawar	Winner
12	Bahawalnagar	Runner-up	28	Nowshehra	Runner-up
13	D.G. Khan	Winner	29	Swabi	Winner
14	Vehari	Runner-up	30	Mardan	Runner-up
15	North Zone (B)	Winner	31	Kohat	Winner
16	East Zone (W)	Runner-up	32	Bannu	Runner-up

### Regional Inter District Sr. Tournament 2018-2019

Sr. No.	Teams	Position	Sr. No.	Teams	Position
1	Quetta	Winner	17	Faisalabad	Winner
2	Kalat	Runner-up	18	Sargodha	Runner-up
3	Loralai	Winner	19	Sheikhupura	Winner
4	Jaffarabad	Runner-up	20	Mandi Bahauddin	Runner-up
5	Zone - VI	Winner	21	North Zone	Winner
6	Zone - V	Runner-up	22	Central Zone	Runner-up
7	Hyderabad	Winner	23	Rawalpindi	Winner
8	Thatta	Runner-up	24	Attock	Runner-up
9	Dadu	Winner	25	Mirpur	Winner
10	Jacobabad	Runner-up	26	Bagh	Runner-up
11	Bahawalpur	Winner	27	Peshawar	Winner
12	Rahim Yar Khan	Runner-up	28	Nowshehra	Runner-up
13	Okara	Winner	29	Mansehra	Winner
14	Sahiwal	Runner-up	30	Mardan	Runner-up
15	North Zone (B)	Winner	31	Khyber Agency	Winner
16	East Zone (B)	Runner-up	32	D.I. Khan	Runner-up

# Quaid-e-Azam Trophy

Habib Bank (HBL) took the 61st edition of the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy after defeating the defending champions Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL) on the first-innings lead at Karachi's UBL Sports Complex from 4-8 December 2018.

The 2018-19 tournament had eight regional and as many departmental teams, divided into two groups in the season that took place from 1 September to 8 December.

Pool A comprised SNGPL, Peshawar, Khan Research Laboratories (KRL), Habib Bank, National Bank, Federal Areas, Lahore Whites and Islamabad while Pool B had Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC), Water and Development Authority (WAPDA), Karachi Whites, Lahore Blues, Rawalpindi Rams, Pakistan Television (PTV), Multan and The Zarai Taraqiati Bank Limited (ZTBL).

After playing seven matches in a league format, the top four teams from each of the two Pools qualified for the Super Eights. SNGPL topped Pool A by virtue of five wins, one defeat and one draw as they accumulated 45 points while Peshawar surprised everyone by winning five and losing two matches, scoring 39 points. KRL (four wins, two losses and one draw) and Habib Bank (two wins and three defeats) were the others to reach the next stages.

SSGC with four wins and one loss, WAPDA (with four wins and two losses) while Karachi Whites and Lahore Blues with three wins each made the grades from Pool B.

SNGPL and Habib Bank made the final. SNGPL had wins against WAPDA and Lahore Blues to qualify for the final on account of their head-to-head win over WAPDA. Both teams had finished on 19 points each. HBL pipped SSGC by two points after their head-to-head match ended in a draw.

The final was a tense affair with HBL needing 83 runs for an outright victory with only four wickets remaining and opposing captain Misbah-ul-Haq pressing for a win. But bad light forced the umpires to call the match off, with HBL taking the trophy on the basis of first-innings lead.

After he opted to bat first, Misbah scored 91 in SNGPL's total of 304. Veteran left-arm spinner Abdur Rehman took four wickets while fast-rising paceman Khurram Shehzad grabbed three. HBL rode on a brilliant 134 from Abid Ali and 113 from Umar Akmal to post 472.

SNGPL declared their second innings on 430 for seven but it seemed Misbah delayed the declaration as he played safe despite knowing he had conceded a first-innings lead. Imran Butt (95), Imran Khalid (73) and Ali Waqas (65) led the way.



Team HBL were crowned the champions of the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy season 2018-2019



SNGPL celebrate their third Quaid-e-Azam Trophy win in four years

Set 263 to win, HBL lost wickets at regular intervals, with Abid falling for only eight. But Umar Akmal, with a fighting 52 and skipper Imran Farhat with a resolute 22 not out, stopped SNGPL from getting all the ten wickets.

Probably the most interesting and exciting match was between SNGPL and Lahore Blues, which SNGPL won by an innings despite scoring only 258 runs in their first innings.

A 15-year-old rookie fast bowler Nasim Shah made his mark for ZTBL, taking five wickets against PTV in an impressive debut. Peshawar's Mohammad Ilyas also took ten wickets on his first-class debut, while U-19 captain Rohail Nazir struck a hundred on debut for Islamabad against Habib Bank.

Karachi's Khurram Manzoor (886 in eight matches with three hundreds), Imran Farhat (744 in 11 matches) and Umar Akmal (736 in ten matches) were the leading run-scorers of the 2018-19 Quaid trophy. The unrelenting Aizaz Cheema finished as the top wicket-taker with 59 in ten matches while three left-arm spinners Kashif Bhatti (49 in eight), Abdur Rehman (46 in nine) and Nauman Ali (43 in eight) were the other top wicket-takers.

Meanwhile, the 60th Quaid-e-Azam Trophy in 2017-18 was won by Sui Northern Gas Pipeline Limited (SNGPL) which was their fourth title.

Along with Misbah-ul-Haq, SNGPL had the services of Azhar Ali, Mohammad Hafeez, Asad Shafiq (363 runs), Ifikhar Ahmed (735 runs) and Mohammad Rizwan (596 runs). They also had a strong bowling unit with pacemen Mohammad Abbas (37 wickets) Azizullah (34), Samiullah Khan (24) and Bilawal Bhatti (23 wickets) while Ifikhar Ahmed (20) and Yasir Shah (15 wickets in just four matches) spearheaded the spin department.

This was the first time that the Dukes ball was used in four-day domestic matches. Consequently, the average first-innings total dropped down to 235 in the season, which

was 46 runs below the last season as bowlers enjoyed more success than batsmen.

The use of the Dukes ball, however, did help the Pakistan team on their tours of Ireland and England where they beat Ireland and squared a two-match Test series 1-1.

From the Super Eights, SNGPL (two wins and one draw) and WAPDA (two wins and one draw) qualified for the final, which was played at the National Stadium, Karachi, from 21-25 December 2017. Unlike the previous season, when the final was played with a pink ball, this time red ball was used.

Defending champions WAPDA had their dreams of defending the title shattered by a career best eight for 62 by left-arm paceman Samiullah Khan, who played two internationals for Pakistan some 10 years ago and was rewarded for his persistent hard work. His efforts gave SNGPL a win by 103 runs and their third Quaid-e-Azam Trophy title in four years.

## Star performers of Quaid-e-Azam Trophy 2018-2019

### Leading batsmen

Khurram Manzoor 886

Imran Farhat 744

Umar Akmal 736

### Leading bowlers

Aizaz Cheema 59

Kashif Bhatti 49

Abdur Rehman 46

## Quaid-e-Azam Trophy Grade-II

*The Quaid-e-Azam Trophy Grade-II is for teams from various regions who do not qualify for the main Quaid Trophy Grade-I. The objective of this non-first class event is to give chances to fringe players of the regions so that they can improve their game to a level where they might be selected for a higher level of cricket.*

The 2018-19 season's QET Grade-II took place in January and February 2019 and included ten teams divided into two Pools. Pool A comprised Faisalabad, Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Hyderabad, Bahawalpur and Sialkot while Pool B had teams from Karachi Blues, Abbottabad, Quetta, Larkana and Dera Murad Jamali.

Faisalabad and Azad Jammu and Kashmir were the top two teams from Pool A while Karachi Blues and Abbottabad topped Pool B. Faisalabad's Iqbal Stadium hosted the first semi-final which the home team won on the basis of a first-innings lead as the match petered out into a draw. Ehsan Adil's four wickets restricted Abbottabad to 220 all out. For Abbottabad, Atizaz Habib Khan top-scored with 80.

Faisalabad scored 255 for two in the available time with Khurram Shehzad scoring 88 not out, Shahid Siddiq 87 and Ahmed Shehzad 57.

Karachi Blues also took the honours on the basis of first-innings lead after dismissing AJK for a paltry 113 with Pakistan Test paceman Mir Hamza finishing with seven for 36. A brilliant hundred (135) by Ramiz Aziz and 71 by skipper Asad Shafiq helped Karachi to 351 for nine. AJK pacer Shadab Kabir grabbed eight for 116 in a sustained spell of fast bowling.

Faisalabad and Karachi Blues played the final at Iqbal Stadium in Faisalabad from February 6-9. Misbah put Karachi Blues into bat on a good seaming wicket and got them out for a low score of 227. Only left-hander Saud Shakil offered some resistance with a crafty 83 as Faisalabad pace duo of Waqas Maqsood (five for 71) and Adil (four for 60) wrecked Karachi's batting.



■ Faisalabad Region's Ehsan Adil bowls against Karachi Region Blues in the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy Grade-II final of 2018-2019 in Faisalabad

Abubakar Khan hit a decisive hundred while Atiq-ur-Rehman (67), Waqas Maqsood (55) and Ali Shan (51) held the innings together to give Faisalabad a total of 328 and a first-innings lead. Karachi struggled to 28 for four and lost on the basis of first-innings lead.

Abubakar, with 459 in six games, Ramiz Aziz (417) and Shahbaz Khan (387) were the top run scorers in the tournament. Mohammad Asghar with 33 and Shadab Majeed 26 wickets were the top bowlers.

In the Grade-II 2017-18 tournament, Multan and Abbottabad topped Pool A while Karachi and Hyderabad were the top two teams from Pool B. Multan gave a strong performance in the first semi-final as they trounced Hyderabad by seven wickets. Karachi had the

better of Abbottabad by ten wickets.

The eventual champions were Multan as they upset a strong Karachi side by ten wickets in the final played at Multan Stadium. Veteran spinner Zulfiqar Babar, with five wickets, and medium-pacer Aamer Yamin with three jolted a strong Karachi batting line-up to 154 all out. Abdul Rehman Muzammil made a crisp century and Waqar Hussain 89 to lift Multan to 306, gaining an invaluable lead of 152 runs.

Spinners Ashiq Ali and Asghar took four wickets apiece. Yamin and Babar again destroyed Karachi with five and four wickets respectively as they were bowled out for just 154. Multan needed three to win which they made without losing a wicket and lifted the trophy.



■ Faisalabad Region team celebrates Quaid-e-Azam Grade II Trophy 2018-19 win



■ Winners UBL cricket team poses with trophy of the National One-Day Cup for Departments 2017-18

## One-Day Cup for Regions and Departments

The National One-Day Cup 2017-18 was classified into separate Regional and Departmental Cups. However, in 2018-2019, the event was merged into one and named as the Quaid-e-Azam Cup.

The Regional One-Day Cup was held in January-February 2018 with eight regional teams. It was another opportunity for the players to showcase their talent and stake claims in Pakistan's ODI squad, a month after they competed in the departmental One-Day Cup.

Karachi Whites, Rawalpindi, Peshawar and Islamabad were the stand-out teams as they qualified for the semi-finals. Karachi Whites won five of their seven matches to top the table with a better net run-rate from Rawalpindi who also had five wins. Peshawar, also with five wins in seven, were third on net run-rate while Islamabad were fourth as they won three matches and lost four, but had a better net run-rate from Lahore Blues and Faisalabad, who also had same points.

Karachi Whites got the better of Peshawar by five wickets in the first semi-final. They chased down a stiff 282-run target

set by Peshawar on the back of 100 from Khurram Manzoor and 82 by Akbar-ur-Rehman.

Islamabad downed Rawalpindi in a tight 13-run finish. Shan Masood hit a brilliant 182 and Babar Azam 136 help Islamabad post a big 380-2 in their 50 overs. Rawalpindi fought till the last with Iftikhar Ahmed hitting 123 and young Umair Masood a solid 50 but in the end they fell agonisingly short.

Karachi Whites were the eventual champions as they beat Islamabad by five wickets in the final played at Rawalpindi stadium. It was again a hard-fought match as Karachi Whites - set 348 to win - won with just three balls to spare. Islamabad's total was based on a magnificent 105 by Babar Azam, 96 by Shahid Yousuf and Shan Masood's 51. Fawad Alam (149) and Danish Aziz (86 not out) set up the chase with a match-winning 192-run fifth wicket stand.

Once again Shan Masood was the stand-out batsman with 656 runs for Islamabad while Iftikhar Ahmed of Rawalpindi and Khurram Manzoor of Karachi Whites accumulated 622 runs each. Mohammad Imran of Faisalabad, Zia ul Haq of

Karachi Whites and Taj Wali of Peshawar were the stand-out bowlers with 14 wickets each.

The 2017-18 departmental Cup was competed for by eight departmental teams with the first stage a round-robin league. The event took place in December 2017 and January 2018 as players enjoyed good weather which helped them lift their performances.

United Bank Limited (UBL) was the stand-out team as they won all their seven matches in a dominating manner. Under the astute captaincy of Pakistan great Younus Khan, UBL exhibited all-round talent in all three departments of the game. They had the better of PTV by 64 runs, beat HBL by nine wickets, National Bank by 94 runs and SSGC by 52 runs. In their last three matches they had the better of SNGPL by five wickets, WAPDA by eight wickets and KRL by 112 runs.

Along with UBL, teams of SSGC, PTV and WAPDA qualified for the semi-finals.

UBL had the better of SSGC by seven wickets while WAPDA trounced PTV by nine wickets in the semi-finals. Lanky

WAPDA pacer Mohammad Irfan took three wickets to keep PTV down to 231-9, which WAPDA overhauled courtesy Kamran Akmal (87), Salman Butt (75 not out) and Bismillah Khan (67 not out).

UBL's strong batting line-up overhauled a modest 236-run target set up by SSGC. UBL's attack gave no chance to SSGC to post a 300-plus total as pace duo of Mir Hamza and Sameen Gul took two wickets apiece while spinners Mohammad Asghar and Ashiq Ali bagged two each. UBL rode on a brilliant 100 not by Shan Masood while Sohaib Maqsood scored 89.

The final was a one-sided affair as Wahab Riaz saved WAPDA's blushes with a fighting half-century at number nine to lift his team to 218 all out but that wasn't enough for a strong UBL team which achieved the target for four wickets with seven overs to spare. For the winners Sohaib Maqsood (63) and Shan Masood (59) were the main scorers.

Shan Masood (632) and Kamran Akmal (532) were the top run scorers in the One-Day Cup for departments. KRL's Sadaf Hussain (18), SSGC's Ahmed Jamal (17) and UBL's Asghar (17) were leading bowlers.



■ Karachi Whites celebrate National One-Day Cup for Regions, 2017-18 success

# Quaid-e-Azam One-Day Cup

*The 2018-19 Quaid-e-Azam One-Day Cup was held alongside the four-day first-class Quaid-e-Azam Trophy from September to November 2018 with the 16 teams occupying the same groups as the Trophy.*

National Bank and Khan Research Laboratories were the top two in Pool A, NBP winning six of their seven matches while KRL won five and lost two. Sui Southern Gas Corporation, with six wins and one loss and Pakistan Television, with the same record, were the stand-out teams from Pool B.

Habib Bank and Islamabad from Pool A, and WAPDA and Multan were the other teams to reach the quarter-finals. National Bank compiled the highest total of the tournament.

Their 394 for four came against FATA, with Ramiz Raja Junior contributing 144. FATA fought hard but lost by 71 runs with Khushdil Shah hitting an aggressive hundred.

Veteran WAPDA batsmen Salman Butt and Kamran Akmal smashed half-centuries to guide their team to an eight-wicket quarter-final win over NBP.

Jamal Anwar's hundred saw HBL thrash SSGC by 166 runs, while Jahid Ali and Shoaib Ahmed guided KRL to a comfortable six-wicket win over Multan who set a target of 262.



■ HBL Captain Umar Gul receiving Quaid-e-Azam Cup One-Day Tournament trophy from PCB Chairman Ehsan Mani

PTV had centuries from Hasan Mohsin and Mohammad Waqas as they outlasted a tough resistance from Islamabad to carry the day by a mere nine runs. Young Rohail Nazir hit a hundred on his List A debut for Islamabad in a lost cause.

Ehsan Adil (three for 29) and Mohammad Irfan (two for 16) dismissed KRL for 164 in the first semi-final as WAPDA saw off the modest target for the loss of five wickets with Ayaz Tasawar hitting a fifty.

In a high-scoring second semi-final, HBL had the better of PTV by seven runs. Jamal Anwar (88) and Imam-ul-Haq (85) set the tone with a 148-run opening stand. HBL 321 for eight and PTV 314 all out in 49.4 overs in 50 overs. Fast-rising Ali Imran made a hundred but failed to finish off the match as Habib Bank kept their nerves in a tight finish.

Habib Bank and WAPDA met in the final. Zohaib Hasan's 68 helped HBL to a total of 291 for seven. Salman Butt (56) and Rafatullah Mohmand (51) were taking WAPDA to the target, but a cluster of wickets led to their downfall as they lost by 62 runs.

That gave HBL a double crown with Quaid-e-Azam Trophy as well.

## Star performers of Quaid-e-Azam One-Day Cup 2018-19

Leading batsmen	
Salman Butt	559
Khushdil Shah	463
Rameez Raja Jr	449
Leading bowlers	
Mohammad Irfan Khan	20
Nauman Ali	17
Qaiser Ashraf	16



■ Quaid-e-Azam Cup One-Day tournament champions Habib Bank with the trophy

## National T20 Cup

***The successful and effective staging of Twenty20 Cup has helped Pakistan rule the Twenty20 ranking charts as Sarfaraz's men have been world number one in this format and Pakistan have been producing quality players in the format.***

The National Twenty20 Cup has been an integral part of Pakistan's domestic season since 2005, which was only two years after the shortest format of the game was initiated at elite level in England.

The National Twenty20 Cup 2018, as part of the 2018-19 season, was held in December in Multan. Multan replaced Faisalabad on account of their superior performances in last year's domestic season.

Rawalpindi topped the eight-team league table with five wins and two losses. Lahore Whites and Karachi Whites (seven matches, four wins and three losses) shared the next two spots, while Islamabad were the last semi-finalists with three wins and four defeats.

Rawalpindi got the better of Karachi Whites in the first semi-final by six runs while Lahore Whites defeated Islamabad in the second by a big 88-run margin. It was Kamran Akmal who blasted a 52-ball 93 to set up Lahore's win.

Young Saif Badar, who was groomed in the first two editions of the HBL PSL, changed the complexion of the final with some lusty hitting during his match-winning 23-ball 35 not out to help Lahore outlast Rawalpindi by two wickets. Set 163 to win, Lahore were down and out, with 25 needed in the last two overs.

Badar hit two sixes and his partner Amad Butt one off Hammad Azam in the penultimate over before sealing the match with just four deliveries remaining.

Karachi Whites' batsman Khurram Manzoor topped the batting charts with 322 runs in eight matches, but the find of the tournament was Lahore Blues' Rizwan Hussain who accumulated 311 runs with four half-centuries and impressed with his clean hitting. Amad Butt and Umaid Asif led the bowling charts with 16 wickets apiece.

Multan saw some good crowds during the tournament and PCB's aim to spread the game to all corners of the country paid dividends.

The successful and effective staging of Twenty20 Cup has helped Pakistan rule the Twenty20 ranking charts as Sarfaraz's men have been world number one in this format and Pakistan have been producing quality players in the format.

Meanwhile, the 2017-2018 National Twenty20 Cup was held in the month of November in Rawalpindi, with eight teams competing: Lahore Whites, Lahore Blues, Karachi Whites, Faisalabad, Federal Areas, Islamabad, Peshawar and Rawalpindi.

Former Pakistan batsman Kamran Akmal created history when he smashed the highest Twenty20 score in the country's history when he posted a 71-ball 150 not out with 14 fours and a dozen sixes. He improved Mukhtar Ahmed's 123 against Karachi Whites in 2015. Akmal also became the third batsman in T20 history after Virender Sehwag and Hamilton Masakadza to score five 50-plus scores in consecutive innings.

The two Lahore teams stood out in the league phase, winning five of their seven matches. Faisalabad and FATA were the other two teams who qualified for the semis.

### Star performers of National Twenty20 Cup 2018

#### Leading batsmen

Khurram Manzoor	322
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Rizwan Hussain	311
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Salman Butt	263
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#### Leading bowlers

Amad Butt	16
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Umaid Asif	16
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Mohammad Irfan Jr	15
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Lahore Whites beat Faisalabad by ten runs in the first semi-final, while Lahore Blues upstaged FATA by identical margin of 10 runs. FATA had a wonderful event as they reached the last four despite not having any star players.

Lahore Whites failed to live up to their billing as they went down by seven wickets in the final to city's Blues outfit. Salman Butt's 62 off 59 deliveries took them to 127 for five, which was never enough for their opponents.

Lahore Blues were set on the victory path by Imam-ul-Haq who scored an unbeaten 59 with seven fours and a six.

Kamran Akmal led the batting charts with 432 runs in nine games, hitting a hundred and four half centuries. Ahmed Shehzad (341), Salman Butt (328) and Mukhtar Ahmed (305) were other successful batsmen. In the bowling department Umaid Asif (14), Wahab Riaz and Sohail Khan (12 wickets apiece) were the leaders.



■ Lahore Blues photographed with National T20 Cup 2017-18



■ An ariel view of the opening ceremony held at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium

## HBL PSL 2019

***"I think Pakistan has done a tremendous job and the level of comfort is growing all the time among the foreign players. I know some security officials from Australia and other countries who have come to see the matches here (in Karachi). I know that the PCB will increase its efforts to encourage more fans and teams from across the globe to come visit and ICC will maintain its support," said Chief Executive ICC Mr. Richardson.***

The HBL Pakistan Super League (PSL) Season 4 will be remembered for four reasons: for maturing as a brand, for returning in a bigger way home, for getting more foreign players to play in Pakistan and a new champion in Quetta Gladiators.

The hard work of the team at the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) combined with the increased support of the title sponsors HBL coupled with the efforts of the new government under former captain and Prime Minister Imran Khan, Pakistan's security agencies and provincial officials paid dividends.

The refurbished National Stadium in Karachi hosted eight matches, as it reverberated with the vociferous support of around 300,000 people who thronged the venue for a week-long cricket fiesta in the final phase of HBL PSL. This was a testament to the fact that Pakistani people are crazy about the game and conveyed a message to

everyone that top-flight cricket is ready to come back home. In all eight matches of the HBL PSL 4 were staged in Pakistan which gave a fillip to PCB's efforts to bring international cricket back.

The most significant admission came from none other than David Richardson, the chief executive of the International Cricket Council (ICC), who attended the final of HBL PSL in Karachi.

"I think Pakistan has done a tremendous job and the level of comfort is growing all the time among the foreign players. I know some security officials from Australia and other countries have come to see the matches here (in Karachi). I know that the PCB will increase its efforts to encourage more fans and teams from across the globe to come visit and ICC will maintain its support" stated Chief Executive ICC Mr. Richardson.

"The fact is that the perception outside of Pakistan was that it was quite a dangerous place to visit and that slowly but surely, has been changed through the good work that has been done yet. The fact that so many foreign players agreed to come and play in Pakistan is indicative of that," said Mr Richardson.

Some 43 players had come to feature in the last leg of the PSL and that indicated the confidence these players reposed in the security arrangements in Pakistan.

One such player was former Australian all-rounder Shane Watson who had refused to tour Pakistan in 2017 and then again in 2018, citing security concerns but this year he took the significant step of coming over.

"First of all it's special to be able to play in an incredible atmosphere and in front of such passionate fans. I enjoyed my trip no end. The people of Pakistan are as warm and welcoming as I have experienced them whether they are in Australia or anywhere in the world," said Watson.

### New Management meeting new challenges

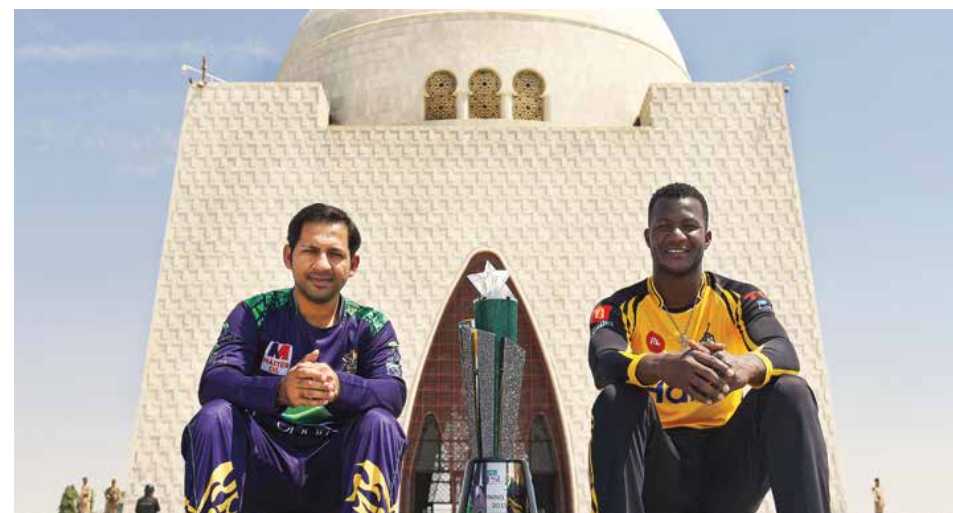
The fourth edition was held under a new management with Ehsan Mani as Chairman of PCB and Wasim Khan as the first-ever Managing Director. Ever since they took over, the prime target was to stage a bigger portion of the HBL PSL in Pakistan than ever before.



■ Stars perform at the HBL PSL 2019 closing ceremony

The challenges grew amidst the political tensions between Pakistan and India which rose to a level where there were even threats of a war. Pakistan shut down its airspace, raising doubts over the fate of matches to be played in the country. Initially, Lahore's Gaddafi Stadium was also slated to host the matches of HBL PSL, alongside Karachi.

But PCB Chairman Mr. Mani took a firm decision that the promise to bring HBL PSL for the fans in Pakistan would be fulfilled. However, due to logistical problems created by the shutdown of the airspace the three matches in Lahore were shifted to Karachi.



■ Rival captains Sarfraz Ahmed (L) and Daren Sammy (R) at the Mazar-e-Quaid ahead of HBL PSL 2019 final



■ Shane Watson, Sarfaraz Ahmed and Mohammad Hasnain display their awards

The tournament started with a colourful opening ceremony in Dubai on February 12. It was a landmark ceremony as it was the longest-ever Augmented Reality Show for Live TV. The illustrious pop band Boney M sang their famous chartbuster "Daddy Cool".

His Excellency Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, UAE Minister of Culture, Youth, and Social Development, opened the league and promised every possible support.

The first 26 matches of the tournament were held in Dubai, Sharjah and Abu Dhabi. They had all the flavours of Twenty20 cricket with two last-ball finishes, an impressive hat-trick by Mohammad Sami, a belligerent match-turning hundred by Colin Ingram and incredible catches in the outfield.

#### Quetta rules the roost

It was befitting that a franchise from the province of Balochistan, Quetta Gladiators, emerged eventual champion



■ The fans made HBL PSL 2019 an overwhelming success

of HBL PSL 4. Quetta Gladiators were the most balanced squad under a vibrant captain in Sarfaraz Ahmed and an astute coach, Moin Khan.

Fittingly, Sarfaraz dedicated the win to the deprived people of Balochistan who have limited playing facilities. The HBL PSL title would definitely bring smiles to their faces as well as encourage the youth to take up the game.

Pakistan cricket needs the talent from Balochistan to contribute even more and Quetta's win will go a long way in that regard.

Quetta Gladiators, living up to its reputation of fighters, won their first four matches and it needed an extraordinary innings from Colin Ingram to stop their juggernaut. Ingram hit the highest-ever individual score of HBL PSL 4 with a knock of 127 off just 59 balls, with eight sixes and 12 boundaries to light up the historic Sharjah Stadium.

Quetta mostly chased and won matches on the back of their star-studded batting led by Watson, Rilee Rossouw, Ahmed Shehzad and Umar Akmal. Skipper Sarfaraz chipped in when mattered, hitting a six off the last ball against Lahore Qalandars.

The first phase was also livened up by two exciting last-ball finishes. In a quirk of fate, first it was Lahore Qalandars' David Wiese, the former South African international, who struck a six off the last ball against Multan Sultans and the very next day he was at the receiving end, conceding a last ball six to Quetta's Pakistan captain Sarfaraz Ahmed.

Multan Sultans had posted a big total of 200 against Lahore on the back of a punishing 84 from England's James Vince. When Lahore Qalandars were chasing, a jam-packed holiday crowd on a Friday lit up the atmosphere with chants of "AB, AB" to inspire AB de Villiers to smash a high-class



■ Team of HBL PSL 2019

half-century. Even an accidental fall, which hurt AB's back, could not stop him from seeing off the target. In the end the honour of finishing the match went to Wiese.

The very next day Sarfaraz showed his class and calmness just when Quetta almost made heavy weather of a modest 144-run target against Lahore Qalandars. With two runs needed off the last delivery, Sarfaraz sent a full toss sailing off Wiese over the mid-wicket boundary to send the Sharjah crowd into a frenzy.

#### Final

Rookie paceman Mohammad Hasnain grabbed three crucial wickets while opener Ahmed Shehzad scored a brilliant half century to steer Quetta Gladiators to their maiden HBL PSL title by beating Peshawar Zalmi in the final by eight wickets.

Hasnain's three for 30 in four overs kept Peshawar down to 138 for eight in 20 overs before Shehzad's unbeaten 57 off 50 balls with six boundaries and a six helped Quetta to overhaul the modest target in 17.5 overs much to the joy of a 32,000 strong crowd at Karachi's National Stadium. Shehzad shared an unbroken stand of 73 with Rilee Rossouw (38 not out off 31 balls with five fours) to seal the deal.

Rossouw hit the winning single as the Quetta players raced to the pitch to congratulate the unbeaten batsmen and hugged each other. Once the celebrations slowed down the stadium was lit up with an eye-catching fireworks display.

Sarfaraz lifted the trophy and received prize money of US\$ 500,000 while Peshawar received US\$ 200,000.



■ Quetta Gladiators captain Sarfaraz Ahmed with the HBL PSL 2019 trophy at Mohatta Palace, Karachi



■ Ahmed Shehzad (R) acknowledges the crowd as he and Rilee Rossouw (L) batted Quetta Gladiators to an eight-wicket victory

#### Talents unearthed

The first phase of HBL PSL again threw some exciting talent and that is the essence of the PSL. Islamabad's Mohammad Musa and Ali Shafiq of Multan impressed with their wicket-taking abilities.

The rise of Karachi Kings' left-arm spinner Umer Khan is a story in itself as he graduated from Under-19s to HBL PSL from a humble background. Umer emerged as the one-to-watch at the HBL PSL 4, as he finished the series by grabbing 15 wickets one of which included the prized scalp of Lahore Qalandars AB de Villiers.

Quetta's speedster Mohammad Hasnain finished with 12 wickets and was rewarded with a selection in the Pakistan squad for the five-match ODI series against Australia and then with a place in the World Cup squad. Hasnain, who hails from Hyderabad, was clocked regularly at 150 kmph and his pace impressed Pakistan's head coach Mickey Arthur and legendary former paceman Waqar Younis.

#### Closing ceremony

The curtain fell on the HBL PSL during a simple closing ceremony and the final with a promise and hope that all matches in the next year's edition will be held in Pakistan.

The ceremony was kept at a low note as spectators, players and officials observed a one-minute silence for all those who lost their lives in the heinous attacks at a mosque on March 15 in Christchurch, New Zealand.



■ HBL PSL 2019 winners Quetta Gladiators pose for the photographers

PCB Chairman Mani welcomed the packed 32,000 crowd. "Around 300,000 people have watched the matches in the stadium in the last week and millions on television. One should remember that it's cricket which brings happiness. We thank the government of Pakistan, our armed forces and government of Sindh for helping us stage these matches."

Mr. Mani thanked all the 43 foreign players who visited Karachi for the final leg of the tournament and vowed to stage the full league in Pakistan in 2020.

With Quetta's win a successful HBL PSL 4 came to an end. It also ended with a promise that HBL PSL 5 will be held entirely in Pakistan.

#### PSL trending worldwide on Twitter

Like last year, this year as well PSL hashtag #PSLFinal trended worldwide on number one and number two spots for some time and remained in the top ten worldwide trends for the entire day. This is the biggest testament and a

consolidated achievement that all the efforts and projection that PCB intended and successfully delivered to the fans, the people of Pakistan reciprocated in acknowledging it as well.

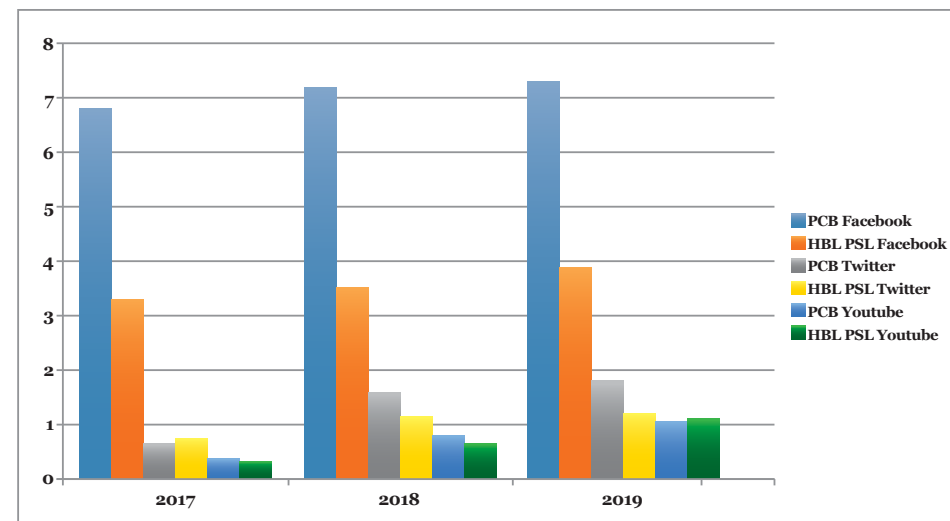
#### Star performers of HBL PSL 2019

##### Leading batsmen

Shane Watson	420
Kamran Akmal	357

##### Leading bowlers

Cameron Delport	355
Hasan Ali	25
Fahim Ashraf	21
Wahab Riaz	17



## Pakistan Cup

The five best teams, the 75 best players. That is the theme of Pakistan Cup one-day tournament set up by the PCB in order to test the skills of the best of the best in the main season-ending tournament.

The Pakistan Cup 2019 was held at the refurbished Rawalpindi Stadium soon after Pakistan's five-match one-day series against Australia in April.

Rawalpindi Stadium looked wonderful after a complete overhaul as crowds thronged the stadium in good numbers. Director of Domestic Cricket, Haroon Rasheed was full of praise for the crowds. "On behalf of the Pakistan Cricket Board, I wish to thank the cricket lovers and fans and followers for witnessing the fixtures and making the event memorable," Rasheed said.

"The atmosphere during the entire event has been electrifying, which reflects how much people love the game of cricket. Pakistan Cup took place at the back of Pakistan

Super League 2019. The event saw the full involvement and passion for cricket of the country's fans. This tournament has once again sent out a strong message about our nation."

The batting pitches were praised by all captains albeit they were tough on some of the top bowlers as high targets were chased down in the tournament. That will set a good precedent for the national players as they will learn to finish off matches at international stage as well.

Defending champions Federal Areas were the top of the flops in 2019 as they lost all four matches. Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa ruled the table with first and second spot. Both won three matches each but Balochistan topped the table with a better net run-rate.

KPK were admirably led by Salman Butt and well served by batsman Khushdil Shah (316 runs with two hundreds), Abid Ali (263 with one hundred) and bowlers Wahab Riaz (10 wickets), Sohail Khan (eight) and Umaid Asif (six wickets).



■ Balochistan's Umar Akmal bats in the final. He finished as the top scorer with 342 runs



■ Khyber Pakhtunkhwa celebrate after defeating Balochistan by nine runs

KPK opened their campaign by chasing down a stiff 270-run target set by Federal Areas. Adil Amin (70), Mohammad Saad (64) and Khushdil (40 not out) kept their cool to cross the finish line. KPK went a step further by overhauling a big 342-run target against Punjab. Khushdil overshadowed Iftikhar's hundred for Punjab with a 'daddy' 154 not out, studded with nine sixes and 11 fours. Salman Butt (133) and Abid Ali (95) laid the foundation for KPK's big 358 for six before rain halted Balochistan's reply.

Khushdil's 100 again led KPK to 300 against Sindh who were restricted to 291 for nine.

KPK and Balochistan met in the final which was a close affair. Abid's 132 laid the cornerstone for KPK's 307-7 but they met stiff resistance from Balochistan who were set on course for victory by Awaiz Zia's 83 and Fawad Alam's 48 but Sohail's three wickets in the penultimate over of Fawad, Amad Butt and Haris Rauf halted Balochistan to 298-9.

Umar Akmal was declared the best batsman with 342 runs followed by Khushdil and Iftikhar Ahmed (Punjab) with 301 runs.

The 2018 Pakistan Cup was dominated by Federal Areas led by the evergreen Kamran Akmal. Federal Areas won all their four matches to top the table and then had the better of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in the final to lift the Cup. Federal Areas restricted their opponents to 252 all out with Pakistan

pacer Usman Shinwari taking three wickets. Federal Areas chased down the target in 41 overs with Agha Salman scoring 60, Saad Nasim 51 and Rahat Ali Dar 49.

Khurram Manzoor of KPK topped the chart with 393 followed by Asif Ali who made 328. Waqas Maqsood of Federal Areas, with 14 wickets, and Zia ul Haq of KPK headed the bowling charts. Waqas Masood was rewarded with a place in Pakistan's Twenty20 side against New Zealand later in the year.

### Star performers of Pakistan Cup 2018-2019

#### Leading batsmen

Umar Akmal	342
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Khushdil Shah	316
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Iftikhar Ahmed	301
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#### Leading bowlers

Wahab Riaz	10
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Amad Butt	10
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Hammad Azam	9
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## Patron's Trophy Grade-II

***Sixteen teams from private departments featured in the event held in April and May 2019 and were divided into four pools. Omar Associates, Civil Aviation Authority, Pakistan Navy and Haideri Traders were placed in Group A while Ghani Glass, Higher Education Commission, Port Qasim Authority and Candyland were placed in Group B.***

State Bank were worthy winners of the Patron's Trophy Grade-II season-ending tournament for 2018-19. The objective of Grade-II is to broaden the scope of domestic cricket as a number of players get a chance to show their talent in this non-first class event and graduate to the higher level from here.

Sixteen teams from private departments featured in the event held in April and May 2019 and were divided into four pools. Omar Associates, Civil Aviation Authority, Pakistan Navy and Haideri Traders were placed in Group A while Ghani Glass, Higher Education Commission, Port Qasim Authority and Candyland were placed in Group B.

Teams from Pakistan Air Force, State Bank of Pakistan, Pakistan Army and Pakistan Railways were placed in Group C while Sabir's Poultry, Karachi Electric Supply Corporation, Pakistan Railways and Karachi Port Trust formed Group D.

Higher Education Commission beat Sabir's Poultry on the basis of first-innings lead in a semi-final match notable for the return to domestic cricket of former Pakistan opener Imran Nazir. Nazir hit 100 with 14 boundaries for Sabir's Poultry. In reply Hamid Butt scored 172 to help his team gain a crucial lead.

State Bank had the better of Pakistan Navy by an innings

and 172 runs. For the winners, pace duo of Mohammad Ilyas (five for 29) and Taj Wali (four for 12) wrecked the Navy team for a paltry 52. Sahibzada Farhan's big 157 and half centuries from Mohammad Nawaz, Rohail Nazir and Saad Ali helped State Bank to a big lead and a total of 437 for five declared. Navy sailed better by scoring 213 in the second knock but it was not enough to stop State Bank winning by an innings.

The final was also a one-sided affair as State Bank's captain Saad Ali made 220 and the Bank took a huge lead by scoring 493 in their second innings. They had made 392 for eight in their first innings with Naved Yasin and Saad Ali scoring hundreds. Higher Education Commission made 283 for eight and 103 in their two outings. Mohammad Ilyas took six wickets (two and four) in the final.

Pakistan's future Test prospect Saad Ali topped the batting charts with 674 runs in five matches, including three hundreds and two half-centuries which laid the foundation of State Bank's trophy triumph. Mohammad Imran of Sabir's Poultry made 450 runs and Shehzar Mohammad (grand son of Hanif Mohammad) scored 365 runs. Sabir Poultry's Nisar Ahmad with 28 wickets led the bowling charts followed by Ilyas who took 26 wickets.

Meanwhile, the Patron's Trophy Grade-II 2017-18 was competed for by 22 teams divided in two groups of six and two of five teams each.

State Bank and Zarai Taraqiati Bank - two teams of first-class status in the past - clashed in the first semi-final. Nazar Hussain (four for 21), Umaid Asif (three for 60) and Taj Wali (two for 56) rocked ZTBL for a low score of 218, for whom skipper Saad Nasim scored 70 and Hamza Nadeem

made 53. State Bank were bowled out for 182 as Mohammad Ali took four and Hamza Nadeem grabbed three wickets. Sahibzada Farhan and Rizwan Hussain hit half centuries for State Bank. Taj Wali with five and Nazar Hussain with three once again derailed ZTBL for 192. State Bank finished at 112 for six as the match ended in a draw, giving ZTBL a place in the final on first-innings lead.

Ghani Glass also upset a much fancied KPT team on the basis of a first-innings lead in the second semi-final. Ghani Glass scored 241 on the back of 81 by Mohammad Waheed and 50 by Tayyab Tahir. Mohammad Umar took six wickets as KPT managed 224 despite a hundred from Nadeem Javed. Ghani Glass made 219 for four in their second knock in the remaining time and won on first-innings lead.

In the final, ZTBL proved too strong for Ghani Glass as they forced them to follow-on and then won the match by five wickets. ZTBL's 293 was built around skipper Saad Nasim's 71 while Aqib Shah scored 72. Hamza Nadeem and Bilawal Iqbal took three wickets apiece to shoot out Ghani Glass for a mere 55. Following on, Glass lifted their performance tremendously by notching an impressive 369 with Zeeshan Ashraf smashing 119, Yousuf Badar making 84 and Mohammad Waheed scoring 63.

ZTBL knocked off the target for the loss of five wickets to clinch the title.

Two Ghani Glass batsmen Zeeshan Ashraf (512) and Tayyab Tahir (504) led the batting charts. ZTBL's pacer Mohammad Ali led the bowling chart with 41 wickets while Hamza Nadeem (ZTBL) and Jalat Khan (Haideri Traders) finished with 34 wickets each.



■ SBP captain Saad Ali receiving Patron's Trophy Grade-II 2018-2019 trophy from PCB GM - Domestic Cricket Operations, Shafiq Ahmed

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Women's  
domestic  
cricket



## Inter-Departmental T20 Women's Cricket Championship

The Inter-Departmental T20 Women's Cricket Championship 2018-2019 was played at the Diamond Ground in Islamabad from 25 March to 5 April. Zarai Taraqiati Bank (ZTBL), Higher Education Commission (HEC), State Bank of Pakistan, and PCB Women XI took part in the event, which also provided good opportunity for up-and-coming players to stake a claim for place in the women's side for the South Africa tour.

ZTBL maintained their supremacy under Sana Mir's astute leadership, the side successfully defending their title beating the Aliya Riaz-led State Bank of Pakistan by 17 runs in the final. The highlights of the final were fifties by Javeria Khan (64 retired hurt) and Javeria Rauf (55 not out), both opened the innings for ZTBL and State Bank respectively. ZTBL successfully defended their 171-run total despite a late fight back by State Bank.

Javeria Khan was declared the player of the match. Javeria Khan and Muneeba Ali were the two batters to go past the 200-run mark and top the tournament run scorers list in the process. Javeria scored 248 runs with her final innings, her top score of the event. She scored two fifties in her 240-run total. Muneeba's tally (200 runs) included one half-century.

Sidra Amin's 86 was the top-score of the tournament, the match winning effort was against HEC, Sidra's unbeaten innings included 14 fours, she added 153 runs in an unbroken second wicket partnership with Hafsa Khalid who contributed 66 not out.

Almas Akram was the star bowler of the tournament, the slow left-arm bowler took 12 wickets for the victorious ZTBL outfit, 17-year-old Hyderabad-born Fatima Sana took seven wickets in as many games.

The right-arm medium pacer impressed the national selectors and received a call for the national team for the



■ Nain Abidi acknowledges the crowd

tour of South Africa as a replacement for the injured pacer Diana Baig, just a few days after the end of the tournament.

The 2017-2018 event was held at the National Stadium, Karachi from 1-13 May. Four teams including Zarai Taraqiati Bank (ZTBL), Higher Education Commission (HEC), State Bank of Pakistan, and PCB Women XI took part in the tournament.

Sana Mir-led ZTBL won the tournament recording a comprehensive 46-run win over PCB Women XI in the final, ZTBL successfully defended their 179-run total through a combined bowling effort with Sana's two for 24 in four overs leading the way.

ZTBL's total was based on player of the match Nain Abidi's unbeaten 85, Nain added 124 runs in a match winning second wicket alliance with Bismah Maroof who contributed 65.

Nain and Bismah occupied the first and third spots on the top-scorers' list for the tournament. Nain's 223 runs included two fifties. Javeria Rauf, who represented PCB Women XI, scored 220 runs, averaging 44 runs per innings like Nain.

Bismah tallied 194 runs against a single dismissal in four innings which gave her an average of 194 for the tournament.

In the bowling department, Saba Nazir, Diana Baig, Sania Khan and Nida Dar with nine wickets each, held sway. Nida had the best average of the lot, her wickets cost a mere 12.67 runs per wicket.

Sidra Nawaz had the best return for a wicketkeeper in the tournament, the Lahore-born keeper accounting for 16 batters, catching five and stumping as many as 11 of her victims.



■ Tournament winners ZTBL pose with their winner's trophy

## PCB Triangular One-Day Women's Cricket Tournament 2018-19

The PCB Triangular One-Day Women's Cricket Tournament 2018-19 was staged at the State Bank of Pakistan Sports Complex, Karachi (10-19 December 2018).

The tournament was organised to give the senior players sufficient practice for the ICC Women's Championship series against West Indies as well as to groom the young talent in a competitive environment.

The tournament provided invaluable practice to Pakistan senior team and helped them record a historic first-ever ODI series win over their formidable opponents in Dubai, February 2019.

The three participating teams included the defending champions, PCB Dynamites led by Javeria Khan, PCB Challengers led by Nida Dar and PCB Blasters led by Ramin Shamim.



■ Nahida Khan with the 2017-2018 trophy

The tournament was played on a double league basis with all three teams playing four matches each (two against each opponent), the top two teams after the end of the round matches (PCB Dynamites and PCB Blasters) played the final.

PCB Dynamites retained their title, winning the tournament courtesy a closely fought 12-run win in the final over PCB Blasters.

Skipper Javeria Khan and opener Sidra Amin scored half-centuries to lead their team to their 254-run total. Saba Nazir and Nashra Sandhu complemented the batters by sharing five wickets between them to ensure successful defence of the total. The PCB Blasters fought gallantly and gave the reigning champions a real run for their money.

For the PCB Blasters Aliya Riaz scored a fighting 78-ball 80 to lead her team's fightback after they had been reduced to 81 for three. Aliya added 75 runs for the fourth wicket with opener Javeria Rauf who made 66 off 105 balls with the help of five fours and one six.

Aliya's knock included seven fours and one six but her dismissal at the closing stages of the chase ended PCB Blasters hopes of winning the title.

Aliya had a memorable tournament both with bat and ball, she topped the run scorers list with a tally of 256 runs at 85.33 per innings, the tally included two half-centuries while she remained unbeaten twice.

The 26-year-old Rawalpindi-born claimed nine wickets at 23.44 to back her batting exploits, her bowling returns included one four-wicket haul.

Javeria Khan and Javeria Rauf scored 244 and 229 runs respectively while Sidra Amin contributed 224 runs, all three batters scored three half-centuries each in the tournament.

Five bowlers took nine wickets each in the tournament, Diana Baig, Saba, Nashra, Ramin and Aliya shared the bowling spoils. Nashra had the best bowling average of the lot, the left-arm spinner took her wickets at 18.22, her tally included a four-wicket haul. Saba's bowling average was the second best at 18.44 per wicket.

Wicketkeeper Fareeha Mehmood, who represented PCB Dynamites, made ten dismissals comprising six catches and four stumpings. Diana excelled in the field too, taking four catches to add to her bowling performance.



■ 2018-2019 winners PCB Dynamites celebrate

The tournament witnessed some top-class cricket between the three sides. Compared with the first event, the PCB Dynamites had to work hard for their victory and the side also endured a first-ever defeat in the tournament history when they went down to PCB Blasters in a round-robin match by a 17-run margin before avenging that defeat in the final.

The 2017-18 event was staged at the Multan Cricket Stadium, Multan 11-20 February 2018.

The tournament was organized to give the senior players sufficient practice for the ICC Women's Championship matches as well as to groom the young talent especially in the more demanding 50-over format.

Pakistan's senior team played Sri Lanka after the event and the practice gained in the tournament helped them beat their opponents 3-0 in the three-match ICC Women's Championship series held in Dambulla.

The three participating teams included PCB Dynamites led by Javeria Khan, PCB Challengers led by Sidra Amin and PCB Blasters led by Nahida Khan.

The tournament was played on a double league basis with all three teams playing four matches each (two against each opponent), the top two teams after the end of the round matches (PCB Dynamites and PCB Challengers) played the final.

PCB Blasters, who remained unbeaten in the round-robin matches, won the tournament courtesy of a one-sided 190-run win in the final over PCB Challengers. The highlight of the final was the batting display by PCB Dynamites who amassed 283 for the loss of four wickets.

Javeria (106) and Nida Dar (109) slammed centuries, the duo sharing a 175-run partnership for the third wicket which led their side to a comfortable win. PCB Challengers were bowled out for 93 in reply.

Javeria was the top-scorer in the tournament, with 184 at an average of 46, in four innings.

All-rounder Kainat Imtiaz, who represented PCB Blasters, scored 168 runs from four innings, including two fifties and a best of 75. Nida Dar followed Kainat on the batting charts with a 139-run tally including her century in the tournament decider.

Sidra Amin, who remained undefeated in two innings, had the best average among the top scorers, the right-handed opener tallied 126 runs at 63 runs per innings.

Medium-pace bowler Natalia Pervaiz topped the bowling charts with an impressive return of ten wickets from five matches. She bagged a four wicket haul against PCB Blasters, and a three-for in the second match against the same opponents. The right-arter bowled with great accuracy and penetration to end the tournament with a bowling average of 8.30 per wicket and an economy rate of 2.68.

Diana Baig also had a memorable tournament. The right-arter who has made rapid strides as Pakistan's new ball bowler in the last couple of seasons, took nine wickets at an average of 19.56. Diana's tally included a five-wicket haul against PCB Dynamites in the opening match of the tournament that was declared a no-result due to poor weather.

Leg-spinner Ghulam Fatima and off-spinner Ramin Shamim also had impressive runs in the tournament collecting nine and eight wickets respectively. The event provided excellent exposure and experience to the upcoming players. Natalia, Diana, Ghulam Fatima and Ramin made great progress in a short span of time with Natalia making her ODI debut against Sri Lanka on the back of her performances in Multan. Ghulam Fatima earned her first T20I cap also on the same Sri Lankan tour.

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Pathways  
cricket



## U13 Regional National T20 Tournament

*The aim of the tournament was to identify and develop young players as they enter their teenage years by providing them exposure in a competitive event contested by the best available talent in their age group.*

The PCB U13 Inter Regional T20 Tournament was contested by 16 regional teams from across the country from 8-15 April, 2018. Sialkot won the tournament, beating Rawalpindi by 48 runs in the final.

The aim of the tournament was to identify and develop young players as they enter their teenage years by providing them exposure in a competitive event contested by the best available talent in their age group.

The participating teams were divided into four pools of four teams each:

Pool A: Karachi, Hyderabad, Larkana and Quetta - Pool A matches were played in Karachi.

Pool B: Multan, Lahore, Bahawalpur and Dera Murad Jamali - Pool B matches were staged in Multan.

Pool C: Azad Jammu Kashmir, Federally Administered

Tribal Areas, Sialkot and Faisalabad - Pool C matches were held in Faisalabad.

Pool D: Peshawar, Islamabad, Abbottabad and Rawalpindi - Pool D matches were hosted in Rawalpindi.

The semi-finals and final were staged at the Iqbal Stadium, Faisalabad. Karachi and Rawalpindi qualified for the first semi-final while the second semi-final was played between Lahore and Sialkot regions.

In the first semi-final, Rawalpindi beat Karachi by seven wickets to book their place in the final. Batting first, Karachi were restricted to 113 for eight in their 20 overs.

Wicketkeeper-batsman Saad Baig top-scored with a run-a-ball 34 and captain Saad Asif remained unbeaten on 16. Ibrahim Khan and Zunair Hussain took two wickets each for Rawalpindi.

The chase was duly completed by Rawalpindi for the loss of three wickets in 16 overs. Opener Sheraz Khan remained unbeaten with a 45-ball 53-run contribution. His innings included six fours. Mohsin Sardar scored 38 off 33 balls.

Sialkot won the second semi-final by 29 runs. Batting first, Sialkot scored 110 for the loss of nine wickets. Musa Azeem top-scored with 35, Azan Awais scored 22 while Ali Hasan

and Mubashir Aziz took two wickets each.

Lahore were bundled out for 81 in reply with Ubaid Shahid (21) the only one to offer some resistance. Ali Hassan took four wickets and Shaban Ashraf two.

Sialkot scored 112 for eight in the final after opting to bat first. Zeeshan Sikandar scored an unbeaten 32 while Musa scored 25. Ibrahim Khan and skipper Mohammad Hasnain took two wickets each.

Rawalpindi were bowled out for 64 in reply, Ayan Malik contributing 16 runs. Ali Hassan took three wickets while Mohammad Hamza and Ameer Hamza took two each as Sialkot were crowned champions.

Sialkot's Azan Awais topped the run-scorers' list for the tournament. The left-handed batsman scored 156 runs in five innings, including two half-centuries.

Islamabad's Shamyul Hussain scored 143 runs in three innings with the help of two half-centuries. Ubaid Shahid from Lahore scored 138 runs in four innings, his tally included one half-century.

Sialkot's Ali Hassan took 14 wickets in five games to top the wicket-takers' list while Rawalpindi's Ibrahim Khan took ten wickets in four matches and Sialkot's Mohammad Hamza took eight wickets.



■ Sialkot players celebrate victory in the final

## U16 Regional National One-Day Tournament

The U16 Regional National One-Day Tournament 2018-19 included 17 teams from across the country, representing the 16 PCB regions plus a team chosen from schools across the country. The 45-overs-a-side tournament was played from 10 October to 12 November.

The teams were divided into three pools of eight each. Pool A consisted of Karachi, Hyderabad, Quetta, Dera Murad Jamali, Larkana and Bahawalpur.

Pool B included Lahore, Faisalabad, National Schools, Sialkot and Abbottabad.

Pool C included Rawalpindi, FATA, Multan, Peshawar, Islamabad and Azad Jammu Kashmir.

The top three teams from each group qualified for the Super Six stage. These teams were divided into two pools of three each, Lahore, Rawalpindi and Karachi formed one pool while the other pool included Faisalabad, FATA and Hyderabad.

Lahore and Faisalabad contested the tournament final by virtue of topping their respective Super Six pool. The final was held at the Gaddafi Stadium on 12 November.

Faisalabad won an exciting final by two wickets with an over to spare. Ali Asfand and Mohammad Awais took three wickets each for the winners while captain Sameer Saqib scored 43 and Ibtasham Rehman made 42 runs.

Hyderabad's Rizwan Mehmood scored 355 runs in seven innings at 88.75 to top the batting charts for the tournament. Sameer scored 259 runs for Faisalabad in seven innings at 51.80 while Haseebullah contributed 250 runs for Quetta at an average of 50.

FATA's left-arm spinner Abdul Rehman was the leading wicket-taker with 16 wickets in seven games at 9.25 runs per wicket. Faisalabad off-spinner Arham Nawaz also snapped 16 wickets at 11.94.



■ Lahore captain Umer Eman receives his awards from Mudassar Nazar (L) and Inzamam-ul-Haq (R)



■ Waqar Younis with the two finalist teams

Lahore's right-arm medium pacer Muneeb Wasif took 15 wickets in seven games at 13.53 per wicket.

Meanwhile, the U16 Regional National One-Day Tournament 2017-18 (40 overs-per-side) included 16 teams from across the country, representing the 16 PCB regions. The tournament was played in December (3 to 23), 2017.

The teams were divided into two pools of eight each. Pool A consisted of Faisalabad, Rawalpindi, Karachi, Peshawar, Islamabad, Multan, Abbottabad and Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

Pool B was Lahore, Quetta, Bahawalpur, Federally Administered Tribal Areas, Hyderabad, Sialkot, Larkana and Dera Murad Jamali. Pool A games were played in Rawalpindi/Islamabad while Pool B matches were staged at various venues across Lahore.

The top four teams from each group qualified for the quarter-finals, Faisalabad, Peshawar, Karachi and Islamabad qualified from Pool A while Lahore, Bahawalpur, Fata and Quetta qualified from Pool B.

Lahore faced Quetta in the first semi-final while Peshawar took on Karachi in the second semi-final. Lahore beat Quetta by 60 runs while Karachi overcame Peshawar by ten wickets to book their place in the final.

Lahore won the tournament with a comfortable five wicket win over Karachi in the final played at Lahore's iconic Gaddafi Stadium. Karachi captain Saim Ayub scored his second successive century following a match-winning knock in the semi-final but his efforts went in vain.

Bilal Munir's unbeaten 94 took Lahore to the title, Bilal guided his team to the 205-run target which was chased down by the home side in the 38th over. Saim Ayub topped the batting charts with 327 runs in eight innings at 46.71. Hyderabad's Rizwan Mehmood scored 261 runs in five innings at 65.25 while Lahore's Mubashir Nawaz made 255 runs at 36.43.

Karachi's leg-spinner Saad-Bin-Yousaf took 17 wickets in eight games at 13.59 per wicket. FATA leg-spinner Izatullah took 15 wickets in four games at an incredible 4.93 per wicket (including two five-wicket hauls) while Lahore's Umer Eman took 15 wickets in eight games at 10.80.

## U16 Pentangular One-Day Tournament

***Sindh won the PCB U16 Pentangular Tournament 2018-19, beating Khyber Pakhtunkhwa by five wickets in the final played at the Iqbal Stadium, Faisalabad.***

Five U16 teams including the four provincial sides (Sindh, Punjab, Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa) and Federal Capital were participants of the tournament held from 19-27 November 2018.

The 11 matches were played at three venues: Bohranwala Ground, Saeed Ajmal Academy and Iqbal Stadium. The tournament was played on a single league basis with all five teams playing each other once, the top two teams made it to the final.

In the final, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa were bowled out for 132 runs in 41.4 overs, after Sindh opening bowler Taimoor Mustafa had rattled the top order and reduced them to 10 for four. Opener Mohammad Suleman (34) fought hard for his team but Wahaj Riaz and Aaliyan Mehmood took two wickets each to restrict the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa middle and later order. Balochistan captain Zubair Shinwari (38) and Abdul Rehman (31) added 68 runs for the fifth wicket but could not take their team to a competitive total.

Sindh chased down the target for the loss of five wickets in 33.4 overs. Captain Kashif Ali led from the front scoring 43 off 57 balls with the help of six fours. Farhad Khan took two wickets for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

A total of three centuries and two five-wicket hauls were recorded in the tournament. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Mohammad Shehzad topped the run-scorers' list with a total of 309 runs in five innings at an average of 103, remaining unbeaten in two innings. Shehzad's tally included a match-winning innings of 104 in the round-robin match against Sindh.

Balochistan's wicketkeeper-batsman Haseebullah scored 215 runs at 71.67, including one hundred and one fifty. Haseebullah and Shehzad were both selected to represent Pakistan U16 in the bilateral limited-overs series against Australia U16 that took place in the UAE in January 2019 and the away series against Bangladesh U16 in April-May 2019.

Left-handed batsman Aseer Mughal who later also played for the national side both against Australia and Bangladesh took the third spot with 170 runs from four innings, his tally included two fifties.

Umer Eman, the left-handed batsman who captained Pakistan U16 captain against both Australia and Bangladesh, represented Punjab and scored 160 runs at 40. With the ball, the right-arm leg spinner claimed seven wickets in four matches.

Among the bowlers, Faisal Akram (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa), topped the list with ten wickets from five matches, the left-arm spinner taking five wickets for 29 runs against Federal Capital. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's other left-arm spinner Abdul Rehman took nine wickets in five games.

Sindh's leg-spinner and captain Kashif Ali took nine wickets in five matches including figures of 9-0-32-5 against Federal Capital.

Faisal and Kashif remained integral parts of the Pakistan U16 bowling unit against Australia and Bangladesh. Another regular feature and performer for the national U16 side, opening bowler Ahmad Khan took eight wickets in five matches in Faisalabad including a four-wicket haul.

### PCB U16 Pentangular One-Day Tournament 2018-29

#### Best Batsmen



**Mohammad Shehzad**  
**309 runs**



**Haseebullah**  
**215 runs**



**Aseer Mughal**  
**170 runs**

#### Best Bowlers



**Faisal Akram**  
**10 wickets**



**Abdul Rehman**  
**9 wickets**



**Kashif Ali**  
**9 wickets**

## Inter-Region U19 Three-Day Tournament

**Along with the trophy, Faisalabad pocketed Rs. 600,000. Asim was adjudged man-of-the-final for his magnificent match bag of 11 wickets for 75. Karachi Blues skipper Obaisullah Khan claimed the runners-up trophy and a cash prize of Rs. 300,000.**

The season opening event of Inter-Region U19 was held during the month of September and October.

The three-day matches are useful tests for the young players as they get tuned to matches of longer duration in a competitive atmosphere and held in an organized manner under the auspices of the PCB.

The same number of teams as in the One-Day Cup take part in the three-day matches but they were divided into three Pools of six teams each. Pool A had Karachi Blues, Dera Murad Jamali, Quetta, Abbottabad, FATA and Multan while Pool B featured teams of Lahore Blues, Bahawalpur, Peshawar, Islamabad, Sialkot and Hyderabad. Pool C comprised Faisalabad, Rawalpindi, Karachi Whites, Azad Jammu Kashmir, Lahore Whites and Larkana.



■ 2017-2018 winner Karachi Blues' captain Daniyal Aziz receives winners trophy from Ijaz Raza

The top teams from each Pool - Faisalabad, Karachi Blues and Lahore Blues - competed in a triangular stage, playing each other once. Faisalabad topped the three-way battle while Karachi Blues came second and they competed in the final held in the picturesque Mirpur Stadium from October 6.

Faisalabad dominated the final as they trounced a hapless Karachi team by an innings and 66 runs. Faisalabad won the toss and had the match won inside two days of actual play. They sent Karachi into bat and through paceman Asim Iqbal's seven for 39 in only ten overs bowled them out for a paltry 104 in only 27.1 overs. Faisalabad then scored 308 for eight declared courtesy of a brilliant 114 by Mohammad Irfan Khan.

Ali Haider (41) and Mohammad Bilal Javed (9) foiled Karachi Blues' spirited comeback by adding exactly 50 for the unfinished ninth-wicket stand. Beginning their second innings with a mountain to climb - since Faisalabad had garnered a commanding lead of 204 - Karachi Blues only managed to outlast their first-innings shambolic performance by only 8.3 overs as they crumbled in 35.4 overs for 138 to leave Faisalabad deserving winners by an innings and 66 runs.

Along with the trophy, Faisalabad pocketed Rs. 600,000. Asim was adjudged man-of-the-final for his magnificent match bag of 11 wickets for 75. Karachi Blues skipper Obaisullah Khan claimed the runners-up trophy and a cash prize of Rs. 300,000.

Suleman further was richer individually by Rs. 25,000 after finishing the competition with 46 wickets.

That was a double blow for Karachi as they had lost the U19 final to Peshawar in the same season.

Afaq Ahmed (566 in five matches), Zohaib Amanat (563) and Mohammad Basit (520) excelled with the bat in the tournament.

The 2017-18 Inter-Region U19 Three-Day Tournament was held in September-October 2017 and was won by Karachi Blues, beating the second outfit of the city, Whites, on the basis of first innings lead after the final ended in a draw.

Jahanzaib Sultan (125) and Taha Khan (104) hit hundreds to lead Karachi Whites to 341 in their first innings but Karachi Blues went a step further by knocking up 410 for five with centuries from Waheed Khan (160) and Haider Ali (101). Karachi Whites' skipper Ravi Ram (137) and Omair Bin Yousuf (75) lifted Karachi Whites to 351 in the second innings. Karachi Blues once again replied with a bang by scoring 224 for five with a magnificent hundred from Imran Shah as the match ended in a draw.

The 2017-18 had 18 teams divided into three Pools of six teams each. Both Karachi outfits and Abbottabad qualified for the second stage of Triangular phase.

Abbottabad found a batting star in Mohammad Arif who finished the tournament with 751 runs in seven matches including three hundreds and as many half-centuries. Two Karachi Whites batsmen Syed Aminuddin (519) and Omair Bin Yousuf (518) were the other top run scorers.

Ashir Qureshi (62 wickets in eight matches), Mohammad Ali Khan (43) and Mohammad Suleman Shafiqat (37) were the stand-out bowlers in the competition.



■ Peshawar captain Mohsin Khan receives trophy from PCB GM - Domestic, Mr Shafiq Ahmed

## Inter-Region U19 One-Day Tournament

The Inter-Region U19 One-Day Cup is a regular feature in Pakistan's domestic season as it helps the selectors to identify talent for the future. Most of the top performers get a chance to play for Pakistan in the ICC U19 World Cup.

The 2018-19 tournament had 18 teams divided into two Pools. Pool A comprised Islamabad Region, FATA, Quetta, Faisalabad, Karachi Whites, Rawalpindi, Dera Murad Jamali, Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Lahore Whites. It was surprising that Islamabad, FATA and Quetta ended up as the top three teams. All three teams had 12 points but Islamabad had superior net run-rate while FATA pipped Quetta by a small margin on net run-rate.

Pool B had Karachi Blues, Peshawar, Sialkot, Lahore Blues, Abbottabad, Larkana, Multan, Hyderabad and Bahawalpur. Karachi Blues won seven of their eight matches and lost only one while Peshawar and Sialkot accumulated 12 points each but Peshawar reached the semi-finals on account of a better net run-rate.

Islamabad had wins over Rawalpindi, Dera Murad Jamali, Lahore, Quetta and AJK while they lost to Karachi and Peshawar. Two of their matches were abandoned.

Peshawar trounced Islamabad in the first semi-final by 28 runs as they successfully defended a paltry total of 174 through some good bowling by pacer Izhar Ahmed who finished with five for 20. Aamer Azmat had made 61 in Peshawar's total of 174 for seven after the match was reduced to 38 overs per side. Karachi Blues had the better of FATA by 56 runs. Left-arm spinner Khaffidun Nabi Siddique turned the match on its head with five for 20 while pacer Tariq Khan took three for 31.

Peshawar region were the eventual champions as they beat a fancied Karachi side by seven wickets in the final. Karachi Blues were shot out for a mere 127 in 41.1 overs as four Peshawar bowlers took two wickets apiece. Peshawar overhauled the target in 30.4 overs for the loss of just three wickets. Skipper Mohammad Mohsin Khan finished the match with 70 not out. Mohsin also finished second in the

tournament's batting chart, scoring 381 runs in ten matches. Hyderabad's Saad Khan was the leading scorer with 387. Saim Ayub, who is making great strides and is the former skipper of Pakistan's U16 team, scored 325.

The Inter-Region U19 one-day tournament 2017-18 witnessed a total dominance by Karachi as their two outfits, Blues and Whites, played the final. Karachi Whites had the better of their city team by eight wickets in the final.

As usual, 18 teams were divided into two Pools, A and B. Karachi Whites and Sialkot topped the table from Pool A while Karachi Blues and Lahore Blues qualified for the semi-finals from Pool B.

Karachi Whites batsman Omaid Bin Yousuf, making great strides at domestic level, topped the batting charts with 653 runs at an impressive average of 93.29 with three hundreds and as many half-centuries. Haider Ali (490), Zaid Alam (476) and Rohail Nazir (406) were other top scorers as they all are making their presence felt at the junior level.

Shaheen Shah Afridi was the name to remember in the bowling department, taking 21 wickets for FATA. A few months later, Shaheen took eight wickets on his first-class debut and then broke into all three formats for Pakistan. The bowling chart, though, was topped by leg-spinner Ashir Qureshi who finished with 24 wickets.



■ Karachi Blues photographed with runners-up trophy

## Pentangular U19 T20 Cup

***With the growing popularity of T20 cricket around the world, PCB launched an Under-19 T20 Cup in 2017. Teams from Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan, KPK and Islamabad took part in the first edition held in 2017.***

The idea was to help the selectors pick the best team for the ICC U19 Cricket World Cup, which was held in January 2018. The players who played the event got an opportunity of developing a positive approach that would help them succeed in the shortest format of the game.

The 2018-19 event was held in October 2018. Balochistan surprised everyone by topping the group, helping PCB to identify talent from the province. Balochistan won three of their four matches. Punjab were second while Federal Areas, Sindh and KPK finished third, fourth and fifth respectively.

The tournament opened with an upset as Balochistan surprised the much-fancied Punjab team by 16 runs. Mohammad Asif led Balochistan to 152 for four in 20 overs before Mohammad Junaid took three wickets to restrict Punjab to 136 for nine. Balochistan also defeated KPK by six wickets, lost to Sindh by three wickets and beat Federal Areas by six wickets to reach the final.

The final was played between Balochistan and Punjab in

Multan and this time Punjab avenged their league phase defeat. Punjab were guided to 161 for five by Fahad Munir 64 and Qasim Akram who made 48. Balochistan were bowled out for 132 in 17.2 overs with Suleman Shafqat taking four for 31 and Shiraz Khan three for 18. That gave Punjab a 29-run win and with it the trophy.

Awaiz Zafar (Punjab) and Mohammad Asif (Balochistan) were the stand-out performers with the former top-scoring with 166 run and the latter piling up 134 runs. Awaiz graduated to the Pakistan U19 team the same year.

The inaugural 2017-18 edition was held in October-November 2017, and was won by KPK who exhibited great fight and talent. They beat Punjab in the final by 15 runs after posting 148 with opener Mohammad Asif scoring 69. Punjab panicked in the chase, losing three batsmen to silly run outs and struggled to 133 for nine in 20 overs.

KPK topped the table while Punjab were second, Balochistan third, Sindh fourth and Federal Areas fifth.

## Pakistan A vs New Zealand A and England Lions in the UAE

Pakistan A had a busy period in United Arab Emirates when they went toe to toe against New Zealand A and England Lions in a total of three four-dayers, eight 50-over and five Twenty20 matches between 12 October to 8 December 2018.

Captained by Mohammad Rizwan, and including the likes of Shan Masood, Abid Ali, Talat Hussain, Sahibzada Farhan, Iftikhar Ahmed, Mohammad Saad, Saud Shakeel, Shaheen Shah Afridi, Waqas Maqsood and Mohammad Irfan, Pakistan A drew both the four-dayers against New Zealand but chased down a target of 312 runs to beat England Lions in the only four-dayer by six wickets.

Pakistan A, after conceding a 45-run first innings lead, were guided home by Abid Ali, who scored 113 and put on 160 runs for the third wicket with Usman Salahuddin (77). Later, Mohammad Rizwan and Saud Shakeel scored 47 each as the match went the distance.

The feature of the four-dayers against New Zealand was the form of left-handed opener Shan Masood. Shan scored two centuries in the first match (168 and 100), while he contributed 73 and 11 in the second.

Other batsmen to steal the limelight in the two four-dayers included Abid Ali (81, 61, 10 and 105 not out), Usman Salahuddin (eight, 50 not out, 125 and 64 not out).

Mohammad Asghar and Taj Wali with five wickets apiece were the pick of the bowlers. They were followed by Ehsan Adil and Kashif Bhatti, who took four wickets each.

In the 50-over matches, Pakistan A swept aside New Zealand A by 3-0 and beat England Lions by 3-2.

Off the eight 50-over matches, Rizwan played seven and totalled 578 runs. Shan too showed his ability to accumulate runs in 50-over cricket when he aggregated 313 runs in eight matches, while Asif Ali collected 230 runs in five matches.

Among the bowlers, Mohammad Irfan (eight), Mohammad Asghar (five) and Aamer Yamin (three) shared wickets against New Zealand, while Waqas Maqsood (12), Khushdil Shah (seven) and Amad Butt and Zohaib Khan (six each) had success against England Lions.

New Zealand and England Lions won the T20 series by 2-1 and 2-0, respectively.

### ***Scores in brief:***

**12 Oct, Pakistan A vs New Zealand A, 1st T20 Match, Dubai: Pakistan A won by eight wickets**

New Zealand A 65 all out, 12.2 overs (Umaid Asif 5-20)

Pakistan A 66-2, 12.5 overs

**15 Oct, Pakistan A vs New Zealand A, 2nd T20 Match, Dubai: New Zealand A won by seven wickets**

Pakistan A 142-7, 20 overs (Talat Hussain 51, Umar Amin 48; AY Patel 3-30)

New Zealand A 146-3, 19.5 overs (GD Phillips 53, GH Worker 52)

**17 Oct, Pakistan A vs New Zealand A, 3rd T20 Match, Dubai: New Zealand A won by five wickets**

Pakistan 156-6, 20 overs (Talat Hussain 37 not out, Sahibzada Farhan 34)

New Zealand A 159-5, 19 overs (GD Phillips 69 not out; Waqas Masood 2-17, Umaid Asif 2-31)

**21 Oct, Pakistan A vs New Zealand A, 1st 50-over Match, Abu Dhabi: Pakistan A won by one wicket**

New Zealand A 222-9, 50 overs (TD Astle 51; Aamer Yamin 3-27)

Pakistan A 223-9, 49.3 overs (Mohammad Rizwan 105 not out, Iftikhar Ahmed 46, Shan Masood 32; LH Ferguson 4-28)

**24 Oct, Pakistan A vs New Zealand A, 2nd 50-over Match, Abu Dhabi: Pakistan A won by five wickets**

New Zealand A 224 all out, 48.4 overs (BJ Watling 75; Mohammad Irfan 4-37)

Pakistan A 225-5, 49 overs (Saud Shakeel 67 not out, Mohammad Saad 49)

**26 Oct, Pakistan A vs New Zealand A, 3rd 50-over Match, Abu Dhabi: Pakistan A won by seven wickets**

New Zealand A 265-8, 50 overs (WA Young 136; Mohammad Asghar 4-48, Mohammad Irfan 3-51)

Pakistan A 267-3, 48.2 overs (Mohammad Rizwan 116 not out, Mohammad Saad 43, Iftikhar Ahmed 39, Abdi Ali 32)

**30 Oct-2 Nov, Pakistan A vs New Zealand A, 1st Four-Day Match, Dubai: Match drawn**

Pakistan A 346-9d (Shan Masood 168, Abdi Ali 81, SC Kuggeleijn 4-52) and 241-3d (Shan Masood 100, Abid Ali 61, Usman Salahuddin 50 not out)

New Zealand A 278-9d (R Ravindra 70; Kashif Bhatti 3-78) and 163-4 (WA Young 74 not out)

**6-9 Nov, Pakistan A vs New Zealand, 2nd Four-Day Match, Dubai: Match drawn**

Pakistan A 427-8d (Saad Ali 144, Usman Salahuddin 125, Shan Masood 73; N. Wagner 3-3-60) and 206-2d (Abid Ali 105 not out, Usman Salahuddin 64 not out)

New Zealand A 380-8-d (JA Raval 97, R Ravindra 64; Mohammad Asghar 4-127) and 68-5 (Ehsan Adil 3-21)

**18-21 Nov, Pakistan A vs England Lions, only Four-Day Match, Abu Dhabi: Pakistan A won by four wickets**

England Lions 240 all out (SW Billings 74, J Roy 59, DM Bess 42; Mohammad Irfan 4-80, Shaheen Shah Afridi 3-50) and 266 (JM Clarke 107; Shaheen Shah Afridi 4-80, Ehsan Adil 3-55)

Pakistan A 195 all out (Mohammad Rizwan 58; MA Wood 4-67, JA Porter 3-22) and 314-6 (Abid Ali 113, Usman Salahuddin 77, Mohammad Rizwan 47, Saud Shakeel 47 not out; DM Bess 3-110)

**25 Nov, Pakistan A vs England Lions, 1st 50-over Match, Dubai: Pakistan A won by 187 runs**

Pakistan A 351-4, 50 overs (Shan Masood 161, Abid Ali 140)

England Lions 164 all out, 32.5 overs (Amad Butt 4-29, Waqas Maqsood 4-34)

**27 Nov, Pakistan A vs England Lions, 2nd 50-over Match, Dubai: England Lions won by six wickets**

Pakistan A 289-7, 50 overs (Mohammad Saad 117, Mohammad Rizwan 98; Saqib Mahmood 3-59)

England Lions 290-4, 47.1 overs (AL Davies 76, SR Hain 69)

**29 Nov, Pakistan A vs England Lions, 3rd 50-over Match, Abu Dhabi: England Lions won by 22 runs**

England 245 all out, 50 overs (O J Pope 93 not out; Khushdil Shah 3-37)

Pakistan A 223-9, 50 overs (Mohammad Rizwan 141 not out; DM Bess 3-35)

**2 Dec, Pakistan A vs England Lions, 4th 50-over Match, Abu Dhabi: Pakistan A won by 181 runs**

Pakistan A 335-4, 50 overs (Adil Amin 120 not out, Mohammad Rizwan 73, Shan Masood 61, Ali Imran 57)

England Lions 154 all out, 31.4 overs (AL Davies 42; Waqas Maqsood 5-32)

**5 Dec, Pakistan A vs England Lions, 5th 50-over Match, Dubai: Pakistan A won by seven wickets**

England Lions 169-9, 50 overs (JM Clarke 60 not out;

Zohaib Khan 4-27)

Pakistan A 170-3, 39.5 overs (Mohammad Saad 67 not out; Israrullah 57)

**7 Dec, Pakistan A vs England Lions, 1st T20, Abu Dhabi: England Lions won by four wickets**

Pakistan 131-8, 20 overs (Umaid Asif 40; Sajid Mahmood 4-14)

England Lions 135-6, 19.2 overs (T Kohler-Cadmore 33; Mohammad Irfan 4-24)

**8 Dec, Pakistan A vs England Lions, 2nd T20, Abu Dhabi: England Lions won by four wickets**

Pakistan A 139-9, 20 overs (Shan Masood 42; LS Livingstone 3-24)

England Lions 145-6, 18.5 overs (LS Livingstone 35 not out; Mohammad Irfan 2-18, Aamer Yamin 2-35)



■ Shaheen Shah Afridi in action against England Lions

## Pakistan U16 vs Australia U16 in the UAE

The Pakistan U16 cricket team had the first taste of wearing national colours and the accompanying expectations when they travelled to United Arab Emirates to play five 50-over matches and one T20 fixture against Australia U16 from 9-20 January 2019.

The future stars of Pakistan cricket performed exceptionally well, winning the 50-over series 3-2 and following that up with a resounding six-wicket win in the only T20 match of the tour. The series was part of the bilateral junior series arrangement between Pakistan and Australia. As per the arrangement, both teams play each other on a home and away basis and the U16 players who impress in these games often graduate to represent their country in the U19 ICC Cricket World Cup.

Abbottabad-born all-rounder Ahmad Khan was one of the star performers of the series. New-ball bowler, Ahmad finished with a haul of 13 wickets at an average of 13.69 in five games. With the bat he contributed 84 runs in three innings (only one dismissal) including a top score of 55.

Left-arm spinner Faisal Akram also made a big impression taking ten wickets at 20.50. Captain Umer Eman, who bowls right-arm leg spin, took seven wickets in the 50-over matches' series and the left-hander also topped the Pakistan batting list with 151 runs at 31.80 and a best of 74.

Kashif Ali scored 126 runs at 31.50 while middle-order batsman Rizwan Mehmood made 114 runs, including a best of 51, and was dismissed just once in three innings.

Pakistan won the opening match of the series by five wickets. The bowlers led by Ahmad (3 for 30) and Faisal Akram (3 for 33) rolled over Australia for 170 in 44.3 overs. Pakistan chased down the target in 39.4 overs with wicketkeeper Haseebullah Khan (33) and Kashif Ali (28) leading the way.

Australia won the second game by three wickets in a low-scoring but exciting match in which saw the visitors chased down the 192-run target for the loss of seven wickets. Ahmad made an all-round contribution for Pakistan scoring 55 runs and taking two wickets.

Pakistan bounced back strongly to win the third match by four wickets in another low-scoring game. Batting first, Australia were sent packing for 140 runs with Faisal taking five wickets for 26 runs. Ahmad took three wickets as he continued his domination over the opponents. Pakistan lost six wickets in the pursuit of the target which they accomplished in the 39th over with Rizwan remaining unbeaten on 36 while Haseebullah scored 33.

The fourth match was another closely fought game with Pakistan falling short of Australia's 278-run total by a mere 27 runs. Ahmad produced another incisive bowling spell taking three wickets for 53 runs, Farhad Khan and Aaliyan Mehmood taking two wickets each. Umer led Pakistan's fight with the bat with a gritty 74 while Rizwan scored 51.

Pakistan produced a top-class performance in the final game to clinch the series, Ahmad and Umer took two wickets each as Pakistan rolled over Australia for 212 runs in 47.5 overs. Sameer Saqib's 56, Umer's 36 and Kashif Ali's 31 not out helped the boys in green get past the target in 46.1 overs.

The only T20 was also won by Pakistan on the basis of another all-round team effort. Umer took three wickets and Kashif two as Australia were dismissed for 153 batting first. Pakistan's batsmen, led by Muhammad Shehzad's unbeaten 73 and Sameer's 57, got past the target on the final ball of the match.



■ Ahmed Khan raises his bat after reaching half-century

### Scores in brief:

**9 Jan, 1st 50-over Match: Pakistan U16 beat Australia U16 by five wickets**

Australia U16 170 all out, 44.3 overs (Noah McFadyen 48, Nivethan Radhakrishnan 44, Jamison Murphy 22; Ahmed Khan 3-30, Faisal Akram 3-33, Umar Eman 2-24)

Pakistan U16 171-5, 39.4 overs (Haseebullah Khan 33, Kashif Ali 28, Aseer Mughal 22 not out, Ali Hasan 23, Umer Eman; Nivethan Radhakrishnan 2-31)

**11 Jan, 2nd 50-over Match: Australia U16 beat Pakistan U16 by three wickets**

Pakistan U16 191-7, 50 overs (Ahmed Khan 55 not out, Aseer Mughal 44, Kashif Ali 31; Noah McFadyen 3-42, Nivethan Radhakrishnan 2-24)

Australia U16 192-7, 42.1 overs (Noah McFadyen 59, Nivethan Radhakrishnan 59, Shobit Singh 23; Umer Eman 2-27, Ahmed Khan 2-30)

**13 Jan, 3rd 50-over Match: Pakistan U16 beat Australia U16 by four wickets**

Australia U16 140, 37.3 overs (Noah McFadyen 38, Nivethan Radhakrishnan 33, Connor Cook 13; Faisal Akram 5-26, Ahmed Khan 3-32)

Pakistan U16 142-6, 38.5 overs (Rizwan Mehmood 36 not out, Haseebullah Khan 33, Ahmed Khan 22 not out; Joshua

Smith 2-22, Connor Cook 2-31)

**16 Jan, 4th 50-over Match: Australia U16 beat Pakistan U16 by 27 runs**

Australia U16 278-8, 50 overs (Shobit Singh 107, Ryley Smith 59, Jamison Murphy 56; Ahmed Khan 3-53, Farhad Khan 2-46, Aaliyan Mehmood 2-46)

Pakistan U16 251, 49.5 overs (Umer Eman 74, Rizwan Mehmood 51, Faisal Akram 39; Jamison Murphy 4-25, Nivethan Radhakrishnan 3-32)

**18 Jan, 5th 50-over Match: Pakistan U16 beat Australia U16 by six wickets to win series 3-2**

Australia U16 212 all out, 47.5 overs (Ryley Smith 95, Noah McFadyen 37, Nicholas Davis 32; Ahmed Khan 2-25, Umer Eman 2-32)

Pakistan U16 216-4, 46.1 overs (Sameer Saqib 56, Umer Eman 36, Kashif Ali 31 not out, Rizwan Mehmood 27 not out; Noah McFadyen 2-43)

**20 Jan, only T20, Dubai: Pakistan U16 beat Australia U16 by six wickets**

Australia U16 153 all out, 20 overs (Ryley Smith 43, Devlin Webb 38, Nivethan Radhakrishnan 27; Umer Eman 3-30, Kashif Ali 2-5)

Pakistan U16 154-4, 20 overs (Muhammad Shehzad 73 not out, Sameer Saqib 57)



■ Pakistan U16 players celebrate the dismissal of an Australian batsman



■ Pakistan U16 players photographed before team's departure for Bangladesh series

## Pakistan U16 in Bangladesh

Pakistan U16, led by Lahore-born all-rounder Umer Eman, toured Bangladesh for two three-day matches and three 50-over matches in April-May 2019. The hosts won the three-day series 1-0 and gained victory in the 50-over series by a 2-1 margin.

The first three-day match was played in Fatullah (29 April to 1 May) and Bangladesh opted to field first after winning the toss. Pakistan were bowled out for 148 in 50.4 overs in their first innings, Mohammad Waqas top-scoring with 39 runs while Umer contributed 32 runs.

Pakistan's bowlers fought back with the ball, right-arm pace bowler Khalid Khan taking five wickets as the visitors rolled over the hosts for 139 runs, gaining a nine-run first innings lead. Pakistan were then bowled out for 110 in their second innings, opener Sameer Saqib scoring 48 runs while Ahmed Khan made 24.

Bangladesh chased down the 121-run target for the loss of five wickets to take what proved to be a decisive 1-0 lead in the series.

The second three-day match was played in Khulna 6-8 May. Bangladesh batted first and posted a 292-run first innings total with captain Rihad Khan scoring the only century of the series.

Pakistan opening bowler Aseer Mughal took four wickets while Ali Asfand took three wickets. Umer scored 57 runs for Pakistan as the visitors replied with 220, handing Bangladesh a 72-run first-innings lead.

The hosts declared their second innings at 183 for eight, setting Pakistan a 266-run target. Pakistan played out 25 overs in the last session on the third day scoring 103 runs for the loss of three wickets as the match ended in a draw.

With 98 runs at 32.67 in four innings and a top score of 57, Umer was the top-scorer for Pakistan in the series. Mohammad Waqas made 79 runs. With eight wickets at 15.50, Khalid was the leading Pakistan bowler in the three-day series while Aseer took seven wickets at 9.57.

The 50-over series was played at the Sheikh Abu Naser Stadium in Khulna. In the opening match, batting first, Bangladesh scored 228 runs for the loss of nine wickets. Mahfuzur Rahman Rabbi scored 66 runs. Farhad Khan took four wicket while Aseer followed his good form in red-ball cricket with a three-wicket haul.

Pakistan were bowled out for 139 runs in reply, Kashif Ali top-scoring with 64 off 67 balls, his innings including nine fours and one six.

In the second match, Bangladesh batted first and posted a 259-run total for the loss of seven wickets, Mofizul Islam Robin top-scored with 69. Aseer and Aaliyan Mehmood took two wickets each. Pakistan batsmen fought hard in reply but fell 17 runs short of the Bangladesh score ending their innings at 242 for nine. Sameer scored 55 off 87 balls.

Pakistan won the final game on the back of a fine century by wicketkeeper-batsman Haseebullah Khan. The right-hander

who opened the innings scored a stroke-filled 129 off 141 balls, his innings including 11 fours and four sixes. Haseebullah added 143 for the first wicket with Sameer who scored 64 runs. Pakistan totalled 279 for eight in their 50 overs.

A fine bowling effort by Aseer and Farhad, who took three wickets each, restricted Bangladesh to 250 in 47.5 overs, Pakistan won the game by 29 runs to end the tour on a high note.

Haseebullah topped the series' batting charts for Pakistan with a total of 154 runs in two innings. Sameer who scored 122 runs at 40 runs per innings was the second best performer with the bat for Pakistan.

Aseer topped the bowling charts with eight wickets at an average of 16 runs per wicket, Farhad also took eight wickets at 19.63.

### Scores in brief:

#### First Three-Day Match, Fatullah: Bangladesh U16 won by five wickets

Pakistan U16 148 all out (Mohammad Waqas 39, Umer Eman 32, Ali Asfand 17 not out, Mushfiq Hasan 4-37, Ashiqur Rahman 2-22, Mahfuzur Rahman Rabbi 2-47) and 110 all out (Sameer Saqib 48, Ahmad Khan 24; Ashiqur Rahman 4-21, Mahfuzur Rahman Rabbi 4-38)

Bangladesh U16 139 all out (Sakib Shahriar 43, Mofizul Islam Robin 28, Khalid Khan 5-33, Ahmad Khan 3-38) and 121-5 (Sakib Shahriar 65, Rihad Khan 18 not out; Farhad Khan 1-17, Ahmad Khan 1-26)

#### Second Three-Day Match, Khulna: Match drawn

Bangladesh U16 292 all out (Rihad Khan 136 not out, Mofizul Islam Robin 53, Maksudur Rahman 31; Aseer Mughal 4-38, Ali Asfand 3-50) and 183-8 dec (Aich Mollah 87, Sakib Shahriar 32; Aseer Mughal 3-29, Umer Eman 3-34).

Pakistan U16 220 all out (Umer Eman 57, Aseer Mughal 22, Kashif Ali 22; Mushfiq Hasan 3-38, Mahfuzur Rahman Rabbi 3-42) and 103-3 (Sameer Saqib 35, Mohammad Waqas 29 not out, Muhammad Shehzad 26; Mahfuzur Rahman Rabbi 2-25).

#### First 50-over Match, Khulna: Bangladesh U16 won by 89 runs

Bangladesh U16 228-9, 50 overs (Mahfuzur Rahman Rabbi 66, Azizul Haque Rony 35, Sakib Shahriar 34; Farhad Khan 4-54, Aseer Mughal 3-53).

Pakistan U16 139 all out, 41.4 overs (Kashif Ali 64, Mohammad Waqas 27, Aseer Mughal 19 not out; Azizul Haque Rony 2-19, Mahfuzur Rahman Rabbi 2-31, Mushfiq Hasan 2-34)

Player of the match - Mahfuzur Rahman Rabbi

#### Second 50-over Match, Khulna: Bangladesh U16 won by 17 runs

Bangladesh U16 259-7, 50 overs (Mofizul Islam Robin 69, Aich Mollah 52, Mahfuzur Rahman Rabbi 44 not out; Aseer Mughal 2-40, Aaliyan Mehmood 2-53)

Pakistan U16 242-9, 50 overs (Sameer Saqib 55, Mohammad Waqas 38, Umer Eman 34, Mahfuzur Rahman Rabbi 3-50, Ashiqur Rahman 2-39)

Player of the match - Mahfuzur Rahman Rabbi

#### Third 50-over Match, Khulna: Pakistan U16 won by 29 runs

Pakistan U16 279-8, 50 overs (Haseebullah 129, Sameer Saqib 64; Shamsul Islam Epon 5-45, Mahfuzur Rahman Rabbi 3-44)

Bangladesh U16 250 all out, 47.5 overs (Sakib Shahriar 60, Mahfuzur Rahman Rabbi 46; Aseer Mughal 3-37, Farhad Khan 3-52)

Player of the match - Haseebullah



■ Pakistan fast bowler Aseer Mughal in action during a three-day match against Bangladesh U16 in Khulna - Courtesy: BCB



■ Rohail Nazir salutes - Courtesy: ICC

## ICC U19 Cricket World Cup 2018

With 12 wickets in five matches, left-arm fast bowler Shaheen Shah Afridi was the biggest find of the tournament for Pakistan. Shaheen graduated to represent the national senior team in all three formats the same year.

Pakistan, led by all-rounder Hassan Khan with wicketkeeper-batsman as his deputy, were placed in Group D ahead of Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Ireland. They went on to defeat South Africa in their quarter-final match before losing the semi-final to India.

Pakistan's third position match against Afghanistan was rained off but due to their better standing in Group D, the boys in green were awarded the third position.

The ICC U19 Cricket World Cup 2018 comprised 16 teams and was played in New Zealand from 13 January to 3 February. India lifted the trophy beating Australia by eight wickets in the final.

Pakistan lost their tournament opener against Afghanistan in Whangarei. Batting first, Rohail's 81 run innings took the team to their 188-run total in 47.4 overs. Afghanistan reached the target in the 48th over, losing five wickets in the process. Hassan took two wickets while Shaheen Afridi and Mohammad Taha grabbed a wicket each.

Shaheen Afridi inspired Pakistan to roll Ireland by nine wickets in their second match also played in Whangarei. Shaheen bowled with sustained hostility to end with figures of 8.5-3-15-6. The left-arm's six-wicket haul ensured an easy chase for the batsmen with Muhammad Zaid Alam's unbeaten run-a-ball 43 guiding the team home.

Pakistan beat Sri Lanka in their last group match to ensure their progress to the quarter-final stage. Batting first, Sri Lanka were bowled out for 188 in 48.2 overs. Leg-spinner Suleman Shafqat took three wickets while Shaheen Afridi continued his good form to end with two wickets.

Pakistan chased down the target in the 44th over for the loss of seven wickets. Ali Zaryab Asif's 94-ball 59 held the innings together. Muhammad Zaid Alam made 28 runs while captain Hassan guided the team past the target with an unbeaten 24.

The quarter-final against South Africa turned out to be another exciting chase for Pakistan as the boys in green got home with three wickets and 13 balls to spare.

South Africa were restricted to 189 for nine in 50 overs. Mohammad Musa, the right-arm fast bowler who progressed to represent Islamabad United in the HBL Pakistan Super League 2019, took three wickets while Shaheen Afridi once again contributed with the ball taking two wickets. Ali Zaryab's unbeaten 74 off 111 balls ensured a three-wicket win for Pakistan.

Pakistan lost the semi-final to India by a 203-run margin.

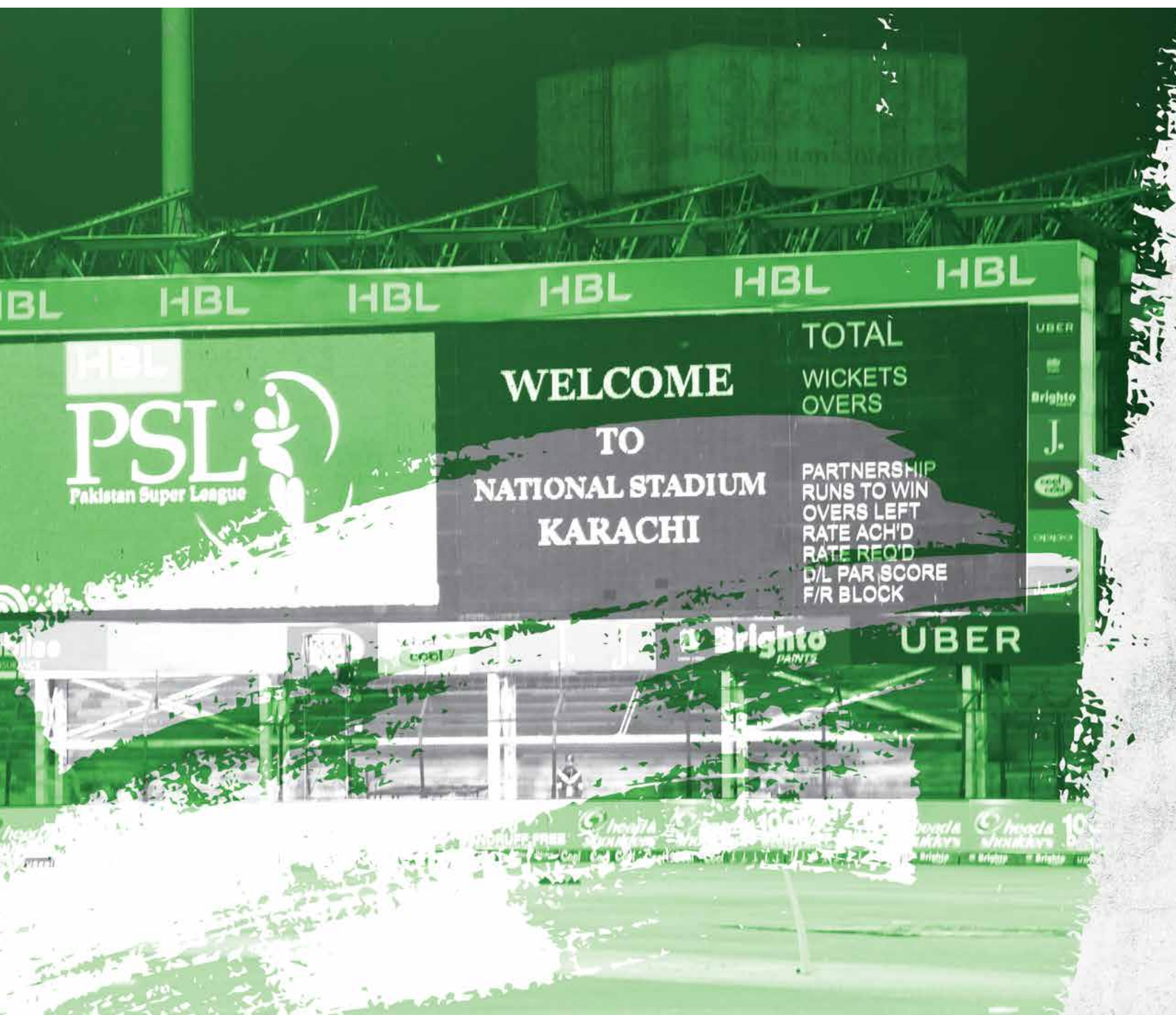
Batting first, India scored 272 for nine in 50 overs. In reply, Pakistan were dismissed for 69 in 29.3 overs.

Ali Zaryab was Pakistan's highest scorer in the tournament. The left-handed, middle-order batsman scored 164 runs in four innings at 54.66. Rohail's 81 was Pakistan's highest individual score of the tournament.

Shaheen Afridi occupied the fifth spot in the most wickets list with a tally of 12 wickets at 14.58. Shaheen conceded a mere 3.58 runs per wicket, his economy rate was the best among the bowlers who took 10 or more wickets in the tournament.



■ Pakistan U19 pose for a selfie shot - Courtesy: ICC



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## Summary Consolidated Financial Statements

# Chief Financial Officer's Report

I am pleased to present audited accounts of Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) for the year ended 30 June 2018 along with Auditors' report that also includes the audited results of HBL PSL 2018. These audited financial statements have also been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Governors.

The income of PCB at PKR 5.13 Billion (which is 17 percent higher than previous year) remained at a consistently satisfactory level. The main contribution of this income was HBL PSL, incomes from hosting World XI, Sri Lanka and West Indies and ICC contribution. Incomes from Sponsorships and Logo Money increased by 42 percent but Rental Income decreased by 37 percent during the year mainly because of renovation work at Cricket House after which, it is expected to rise. Consistent with our investment portfolio and overall interest rates, our interest income remained almost at the same level.

Our expenses (before tax) have arisen by 27 percent to PKR 5.13 Billion during the year mainly because there have been more home tours during the year under review. Furthermore, holding of HBL PSL matches in Pakistan has also increased our costs pertaining to TV production, security and administration. This year, PCB invested more towards Cricket Promotional expenses both at domestic and international level by increasing its spending on increased central contract fee, developmental programmes for players, coaches and trainers alike including their fee and PCB Awards 2018.

Resultantly, PCB had to face a net deficit of PKR 133 Million after taxation. A year before, the PCB had recorded a surplus of PKR 215.7 Million.

PCB reserves remained almost steady at PKR 7.4 Billion but most of the planned capital expenditure is expected to fall in the next financial year. Reduced reserves are likely to be replenished with healthy cash flow expected in the next financial year. Also, PCB is planning to massively invest towards significant upgrading of various infrastructure facilities which remained neglected during the past ten years due to absence of international cricket from Pakistan but now require major renovation and upgradation in view of return of international cricket HBL PSL in Pakistan.

## Forward Review:

The financial year 2018-19 is expected to be a better year with PCB hosting series against Australia and New Zealand that have very good commercial values however 2019-20 shall be a challenging one since we would be scheduled to host Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. The commercial value of these tours is low which will result in PCB utilizing its reserves in the coming year. PCB continues to explore new avenues of revenue enhancement and optimal utilization of available resources.

## Conclusion:

In conclusion, I would like to acknowledge the major contribution made by our HBL PSL franchises and sponsors which has been of great benefit to cricket in Pakistan.

Badar M. Khan, FCA  
Chief Financial Officer

# Deloitte.

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF PAKISTAN CRICKET BOARD

### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) which comprise the statement of financial position as at June 30, 2018, the statement of income and expenditure, statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in fund and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies (here-in-after referred as "the financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of PCB as at June 30, 2018, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as applicable in Pakistan.

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as applicable in Pakistan. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of PCB in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* as adopted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (the Code) and we have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Emphasis of Matter

We draw attention to the note 5.6 and note 6.2 to the accompanying financial statements which describe that PCB has capitalized and in process of capitalizing certain costs in connection with construction and installation of civil works, flood lights and electric screens at Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium, Iqbal Cricket Stadium Faisalabad, National Cricket Academy Lahore and Ghari Khuda Baksh Cricket Stadium, however, the lease agreements in respect of such stadiums / academy have not yet been finalized with the concerned government departments. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

### Responsibilities of the Management and Board of Governors for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as applicable in Pakistan, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the PCB's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate PCB or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Board of Governors is responsible for overseeing PCB's financial reporting process.

Member of  
Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited

## Information other than the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report Thereon

We understand there will be no other information accompanying the financial statements. Accordingly, we do not have any obligations to report on such information.

## Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs as applicable in Pakistan, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the PCB's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the PCB's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the PCB to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with Board of Governors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditors' report is Rana M. Usman Khan.

*Deloitte Yousuf Adil*  
Chartered Accountants

Lahore  
Date: May 20, 2019

Member of  
Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited

## Pakistan Cricket Board Statement of Financial Position as at June 30, 2018

	Note	2018 Rupees	2017 Rupees
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Non current assets			
Property and equipment			
Operating fixed assets	5	790,599,632	319,441,886
Capital work in progress	6	803,572,009	886,563,914
Intangible assets	7	5,602,671	7,349,849
Long term loans	8	2,290,163	2,831,089
Long term investment	9	37,500	37,500
Long term security deposits		8,209,058	7,843,050
		1,610,311,033	1,224,067,288
Current assets			
Stores and spares		47,631,312	42,329,742
Due from sponsors, franchisees, boards and associations	10	173,042,319	262,604,030
Loans and advances	11	115,403,517	106,342,946
Short term prepayments	12	9,878,739	39,882,086
Other receivables	13	65,119,236	38,141,984
Taxation-net		275,071,434	192,249,858
Short term investments	14	7,187,788,800	7,220,000,000
Cash and bank balances	15	215,840,145	377,400,161
		8,089,775,502	8,278,950,807
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>9,700,086,535</b>	<b>9,503,018,095</b>
<b>FUND AND LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>General fund</b>		<b>8,283,173,629</b>	<b>8,434,024,058</b>
Non current liabilities			
Long term liabilities	16	189,637,925	127,630,329
Deferred revenue	17	57,575,140	45,575,487
Long term security deposits		599,215	599,215
		247,812,280	173,805,031
Current liabilities			
Creditors and other payables	18	1,004,600,500	767,816,742
Current portion of long term liabilities and deferred revenue	19	164,500,126	127,372,264
		1,169,100,626	895,189,006
<b>TOTAL FUND AND LIABILITIES</b>		<b>9,700,086,535</b>	<b>9,503,018,095</b>
<b>CONTINGENCIES AND COMMITMENTS</b>	20	-	-

The annexed notes from 1 to 38 form an integral part of these financial statements.

*Rana M. Usman Khan*  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

*Ehsan*  
CHAIRMAN

## Pakistan Cricket Board Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended June 30, 2018

ASSETS	Note	2018 Rupees	2017 Rupees
<b>INCOME</b>			
Tours and tournaments			
- Tours outside Pakistan		-	7,265,199
- Tours inside Pakistan - neutral venues	21	964,519,322	1,198,629,673
- Tournaments	22	3,360,716,885	2,495,208,399
		4,325,236,207	3,701,103,271
Sponsorship and logo income		204,991,797	144,141,095
Rental income	23	25,378,682	40,332,470
Return on investments and bank deposits	24	459,869,099	459,706,621
Other income	25	115,528,181	27,961,455
		805,767,759	672,141,641
Total income		5,131,003,966	4,373,244,912
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Direct expenses			
Tours and tournaments			
- Tours outside Pakistan	26	207,376,174	454,246,418
- Tours inside Pakistan - neutral venues	27	754,099,698	355,721,785
- Tournaments	28	2,216,723,789	1,847,856,437
Cricket promotional expenses	29	697,443,127	487,171,500
		3,875,642,788	3,144,996,140
Administrative expenses	30	1,189,892,107	829,465,960
Depreciation and amortization	5 & 7	69,949,558	58,344,394
Financial charges	31	848,066	1,281,659
		1,260,689,731	889,092,013
Total expenditure		5,136,332,519	4,034,088,153
(Deficit) / surplus for the year before taxation		(5,328,553)	339, 156,759
Taxation	32	127,756,739	123,408,200
(Deficit) / surplus for the year after taxation		(133,085,292)	215,748,559

The annexed notes from 1 to 38 form an integral part of these financial statements.

  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

  
CHAIRMAN