

A NEW CHAPTER STARTS FOR MADRID CC

The 2010 season was an extremely difficult one for Madrid CC in many ways. But our unstoppable commitment to cricket in Madrid won over a season that could have easily destroyed a club with less dedicated members.

2010 saw Madrid CC put out a second team for the first time in its history. David Stirton (2nds Captain) and Joss Bancroft (Secretary) pulled off a minor miracle in getting together players that managed to compete against even the stronger clubs in the division. The season was a huge success. OK – we didn't win the league, but the simple fact that we have had a full season of cricket in the seconds was a huge achievement. And one the whole club is very proud of.

Madrid CC's first team had an interesting roller coaster ride of a season and played its last game in the league as late as NOVEMBER in the league finals play offs.

Last year also saw Madrid CC's Third Annual Solidarity T20 Cricket Tournament held in La Manga Club. With teams from all over Europe including Estonia, England, Norway, Spain and even the Dutch National Champions with 5 international players in their arsenal, the tournament looked set to be even more impressive than the one of 2009. And then..... a week before the start of play..... Thousands of miles away..... A **VOLCANO** erupted and nearly wrecked 12 months of hard work!!! I have to admit, of all the possible foreseeable problems I could have had with the event, an erupting volcano was pretty much the last on the list of possible disruptions. With 6 of the 8 participating teams coming from abroad and flights cancelled all over Europe, we were in a lot of trouble! However, luck was on our side and the flight restrictions were lifted just ONE hour before the first teams flew out. In the end only Tallinn CC from Estonia were unable to travel and, with a team from Spain filling their place, the tournament went ahead as scheduled and raised over 5000€ for The Fundacion de Vicente Ferrer and Madrid CC. The event was a huge success!

A new chapter has now begun with the start of the 2011 season. We have started training earlier than ever thanks to moving our AGM to December instead of late January and thanks to some good weather in February. We have already had a huge number of new players join the club and we look forward to welcoming even more in the upcoming weeks. This weekend see's our first friendly inter club match of the season as well as additional training in the nets and with the bowling machine. Everyone is now eagerly training in preparation for our 4th annual T20 tournament in just 5 weeks time. With the event taking place on Easter Weekend and our first league games of the season starting just two weeks later we can now welcome in the new season with open arms.

Good luck to all of our members this year. I hope it's a good one! With your support and help we will continue to grow as a club and show the rest of the country we still intend on being the best organised and most committed cricket club in Spain!

I will see you on the field!

Jonathan Woodward
President Madrid CC
Events Coordinator Cricket España