



Date 5<sup>th</sup> August 2009

### **Standard Bank U16 County Cricket Festival 2009**

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Standard Bank is sponsoring the longest running youth county cricket festival in the British Isles again this year.

Eight teams representing the Island and UK counties will compete in the annual five-day Standard Bank U16 County Cricket Festival to be played in Jersey from 24 to 28 August. The matches will be played at Les Quennevais, the F B Fields, Victoria College, Granville and the Farmers Field in St Martin.

The tournament is organised by the Jersey Cricket Coaches Association and has been taking place since the early 1980s. As well as the sponsorship from Standard Bank, the tournament also receives support from Education, Sport and Culture and the Jersey Cricket Board. Peter Gough and Craig Hogan of the Jersey Cricket Board will be coaching the Jersey team and Chris Jones, the secretary of the Cricket Coaches Association is the festival organiser. As well as encouraging young players at county standard, the festival gives between 20 and 30 local and invited overseas umpires the opportunity to umpire a very high standard of representative cricket.

Claire Reid, Director of Marketing and Communications for Standard Bank said they were delighted to continue their association with youth cricket in the Island and to support such an important and exciting event in the local cricket calendar.

'Cricket is a great sport which expects each individual player to give their best for the success of the overall team,' she said. 'Moreover, it is based on an underlying sense of fair play and respect for your opponents – whether a team wins or losses. We are extremely pleased to support a sport which not only provides a healthy activity for young people but which also instils in its participants such notable qualities and attitudes to life.'

The competing countries use the tournament to trial and recruit future professional cricketers. Many of the players who have played in Jersey since the festival began have gone on to become professional players with several representing their countries. They include Mark Ramprakash, Tim Bresnan, Simon Jones, Graeme Thorpe and Ashley Giles, all of whom have represented England.

Mr Gough said the Jersey Cricket Board was most grateful to Standard Bank for its support. 'They have been associated with us for many years and are great friends of cricket. Playing at county level is crucial in young player's development as it enables the boys to develop and hone their skills against some of the best youth cricketers in the UK.'

Standard Bank has been a supporter and sponsor of the sport at local, national and international level for more than a decade. In June this year the bank was a Local Partner to the ICC World Twenty20 – cricket's twenty over world cup – which was played in England. Its investment in, and innovative sponsorship of, domestic twenty-over cricket has helped to revitalise the game in South Africa and has set benchmarks for the global expansion of the format.

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#### **NOTES TO EDITOR**

For more information, and to arrange interviews, please call Deanne Le Gresley on 01534 735253, or email [deanne@directinput.ie](mailto:deanne@directinput.ie)

#### **Standard Bank U16 County Cricket Festival 2009**

##### **Fixtures list:**

Group A: Yorkshire, Hampshire, Buckinghamshire and Berkshire

Group B: Surrey, Sussex. Oxfordshire and Jersey

Monday 24 August	Yorkshire	v	Berkshire	at Les Quennevais (1)
	Hampshire	v	Buckinghamshire	at Les Quennevais (2)
	Surrey	v	Oxfordshire	at F.B. Fields
	Jersey	v	Sussex	at Grainville

Tuesday 25 August	Hampshire	v	Berkshire	at Grainville
	Yorkshire	v	Buckinghamshire	at F.B. Fields
	Surrey	v	Jersey	at College Field
	Sussex	v	Oxfordshire	at Farmers Field
Wednesday 26 August	Hampshire	v	Yorkshire	at F.B. Fields
	Berkshire	v	Buckinghamshire	at College Field
	Surrey	v	Sussex	at Grainville
	Jersey	v	Oxfordshire	at Les Quennevais (1)
Thursday 27 August	(1) 1 <sup>st</sup> in group A	v	2 <sup>nd</sup> in group B	at Farmers Field
	(2) 2 <sup>nd</sup> in group A	v	1 <sup>st</sup> in group B	at College Field
	(3) 3 <sup>rd</sup> in group A	v	4 <sup>th</sup> in group B	at Les Quennevais (1)
	(4) 4 <sup>th</sup> in group A	v	3 <sup>rd</sup> in group B	at Les Quennevais (2)
Friday 28 August	Final			
	Winner of 1	v	Winner of 2	at Grainville
	3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Place			
	Loser of 1	v	Loser of 2	at Farmers Field
	Plate Final			
	Winner of 3	v	Winner of 4	at F. B. Fields
	Plate 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Place			
	Loser of 3	v	Loser of 4	at Les Quennevais (2)

Standard Bank is a leading African banking group focused on emerging markets globally. It has been a mainstay of South Africa's financial system for over 145 years, and now spans 17 countries across the African continent. Its international expansion has taken it to 19 countries outside Africa including Brazil, Russia and China. The bank's headquarters are in Johannesburg and it is listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

The Standard Bank Offshore Group has offices in Jersey, Isle of Man and Mauritius and provides a range of services for private and corporate clients including banking, wealth management, trust and company administration, asset management, investment services and fund administration.

### Key facts and figures

- Standard Bank Group assets of approximately US\$162 billion (December 2008)
- Market Capitalisation of approximately US\$14 billion (December 2008)
- Present in 36 countries around the world
- Employs more than 50,000 people world-wide (including Liberty)

For further information [www.standardbank.com/wealth](http://www.standardbank.com/wealth)