



**CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT**

**2012**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The year 2012 was very challenging especially in terms of finances to run the many programs that the Association had put in place. Our goal of writing this message is to give you a few highlights of what we achieved last year and share some of the challenges that we faced.

## **2. MISSION STATEMENT**

In running the Association, we were guided by the UCA mission statement i.e. “to promote and popularize the game of cricket across the country” through:

- Delivering outstanding, memorable events
- Providing excellent service to Affiliates, Associates and Stakeholders
- Implementing good governance and matching diligence, honesty and transparency to all our activities.
- Basing our activities on fairness, which includes inclusivity and non-discrimination

## **3. PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES**

In order to achieve our mission, we set ourselves strategic priorities and objectives for 2012 among which included the following:-

- ❖ To qualify for the ICC T20 Cricket World Cup
- ❖ To professionalize the Uganda Cricket Association Administration to match current demands of the game and minimum standards of ICC.
- ❖ Develop cricket from the grass roots.
- ❖ To attract more sponsorship to help run the many programs planned for by the Association.
- ❖ To professionalize the National Teams to compete favorably with other teams.
- ❖ Improve on the playing facilities in the country.
- ❖ To improve the quality and increase the quantity of Coaches and Umpires in the Country.
- ❖ Introduce new tournaments for youngsters.

- ❖ To improve UCA's public image at both local and international levels.

The above priorities/achievements seemed an uphill task but in the past year, we achieved a lot in most of the critical areas which has enabled the smooth running and progress in the Association. However, a lot still needs to be achieved as the Association is growing. We encourage all our stake holders to come and grow with us.

#### **4. ACHIEVEMENTS.**

##### **a) Governance**

Ever since the new UCA Constitution was introduced in 2010, fundamental changes have been realized with the Secretariat being run more professionally. The Clubs have been encouraged to put structures in place to govern their activities which is a positive step in the right direction. The Association has had a wonderful working relationship with the Clubs during 2012.

Our books of Accounts have been tremendously improved upon with the installation of the Pastel Accounting System. In addition systems have been put in place to improve our record keeping and accounts systems. Monthly Financial Reports and A half year audit introduced in 2011 have continued to ensure that proper book of accounts are kept.

UCA is also now fully compliant to the ICC Membership criteria

##### **b) Media**

With the good coverage given to cricket in 2012, one can't help but feel that there's something special in Uganda Cricket Association. All the UCA activities have been properly captured by the media. I believe we have reached a turning point in cricket and we can only look ahead to grow this relationship.

##### **c) Development**

The UCA Development Program experienced a fundamental change in the 2012 cricket season. We brought on Board a Development Committee which has lined up a number of exciting programs/activities geared at improving the quality and standards of cricket at the grass root levels.

### **i. Coaching**

One of UCA's main objectives for 2012 was to improve on the quality and number of Coaches in the Country. It therefore embarked on running of these courses in various Districts. This project was greatly assisted by the Cricket Without Boundaries Volunteers who carried out Coaching Courses in the areas that they visited. The areas that benefited from their visits included Arua, Lira, Soroti, Masindi, Jinja, Kasese, Fort Portal and Mbarara. The National Coaches and Regional Development Officers were also involved in running of Coaching Clinics in schools.



*Above: a Development Officer assists a youngster*

### **ii. Cricket Without Boundaries visits and Coaching.**

In the area of external relations, Cricket Without Boundaries, once gain visited Uganda to carry out Coaching Clinics and run Courses. They were also involved in introduction of Cricket in the Northern Region.

- iii. Holiday Coaching Clinics were carried out in Jinja and Kampala Districts. These clinics were coordinated by the Regional Development Managers. These programs have become popular with over 80 kids attending daily in both Jinja and Kampala.
- iv. The Under 19 National Team squad officially kicked off their training in preparation for the ICC Africa Under 19 Tournament slated for May 2013 under Coaches Davis Turinawe and John Trust Mayeku.

## v. Umpiring

In the Umpiring department, we set out to increase on the quality of the Umpires and therefore held 2 Umpiring Courses. Umpires in Uganda have made significant leaps over the past few years. The Umpires and Scorers Association has been running efficiently providing the games with the best Officials. Internationally, below are some of the key achievements of the Umpires.

- In the Pepsi ICC Africa Division One Tournament hosted by Uganda in July 2011, Patrick Makumbi was selected as one of the 6 Umpires who officiated in the Tournament.
- Two Uganda Umpires Isaac Kwach Ayika and Francis Ekalungar travelled to South Africa in November 2012 for the ACA Umpires Seminar. This Seminar exposed the Umpires as they handled some League games in South Africa. The members wrote and examination which they passed.
- At the ACA Africa Under 19 Ladies Cup, all the Umpires who officiated were from Uganda which shows the level of trust that the Africa regional Office has with our Officials. We are looking to grow this further in 2013.

## vi. Northern Uganda Project.

Through funding by UK Sport, we were able to introduce cricket in Northern Uganda starting with Gulu, Arua and Lira Districts. Grace Mutyagaba was appointed as Development Officer for the Region. So far cricket has been introduced to over 2000 kids and more than 100 teachers. Plastic equipment has also been distributed to all schools in the region.

## vii. Academies

Three National Team ladies namely Franklin Najjumba, Mary Nanderenga and Barbra Mukankusi were invited for the ACA Senior Ladies Academy in South Africa in February 2012. The academy was sponsored by the Africa Regional Office.

In the same year, 4 National Team members namely Laurence Sematimba, Frank Nsubuga, Roger Mukasa and Arthur Kyobe were invited to play for South African sides from January –March. This was very good exposure for them as they prepared to feature for Uganda in International tournaments.

viii. In partnership with the Mehta Group embarked on the revival of cricket in Lugazi by introducing cricket in 5 primary schools. We intend to intensify this program in 2013.

d) **Grounds**

The Association fulfilled its long term dream of purchasing land to set up our home. 14 acres of land were purchased in Kisubi and we plan to construct 2 cricket ovals, nets, dressing rooms and a Hostel. Special thanks go to all those involved in making this dream a reality. The project was financed by our savings plus a loan facility from Stanbic Bank.

The Association also supported Watoto School in Bira with their construction of practice nets by contributing astra turf.

Through support from Sadolin Paints, the Association carried out renovations on both Kyambogo and Lugogo Cricket Ovals. There was also improved supervision and maintenance of the Cricket facilities.

## 5. **TOURNAMENTS**

Several tournaments both local and International were held in 2012 which gave the National sides enough playing time.

a) **ICC T20 World Cup Qualifiers 2012.**

Uganda went into this tournament beaming with confidence after holding some trial games in Kenya. The team started well pulling off convincing wins against Oman and Italy in the opening stages. With Uganda needing just a win against Namibia to progress to the next stage, the players faltered the opportunity which led to a string of losses knocking Uganda out of the tournament. We took the positives out of the tournament which will be essential in the forthcoming ICC Africa T20 Qualifiers Division one and the 2013 World Cricket League Division 3 tournament in Bermuda.

b) **ACA Africa Under 19 Ladies Cup.**

Despite the failure of the Men's National Team, the National Girls salvaged some pride for the Country by winning the above tournament which had eluded them for a number of years. Credit goes to the Coaches Habib Mugalula and Grace Mutyagaba for working tirelessly with the girls to win this tournament. The tournament was hosted by Uganda

which received praise from the Africa Regional Office which has given Uganda the nod to host the Pepsi ICC Africa T20 World Cup Qualifiers Division 1 Tournament in February 2013.



*Above: The triumphant ladies celebrate with their trophy*

#### c) **Rwanda Tour to Uganda**

The Rwanda National Team toured Uganda in April 2012 to prepare for the Africa T20 Division 3 Qualifiers in South Africa. Uganda used the opportunity to give playing time to the various teams including the Emerging XI which is supposed to feed the National Team. The Rwandese teams managed just one win against the Under 19 side in the 4 games played. It was a good gesture by Uganda to encourage International Relations between the 2 Countries.

#### d) **The East Africa Premier League and Cup**

Uganda once again fielded 2 teams in the East Africa Premier League and Cup namely the Warriors and Knights. The Knights had a daunting task to defend the East Africa Premier League trophy they won last year against the Warriors. This was not to be as the Kenyan sides had been strengthened and desperate to keep both trophies in Kenya. However, there was reason for the Knights to smile as their counterparts the Warriors clinched the EAPL trophy and were runners up in the East Africa Cup. Our hope is that the teams replicate the same form in 2013.



*Above: The Warriors Franchise team with their dummy cheque and Winners trophy*

e) **National Men's Tour to Kenya**

Uganda is already in motion regarding preparations for the World Cricket League 2013 in Bermuda. As part of these preparations, the National Team toured Kenya from 28<sup>th</sup> November -8<sup>th</sup> December 2012. A 3day game and four 50 over games were played where the former ended in a draw and the latter were shared 2 a piece. It was very good exposure for the boys who faced quality fast bowling. The positives were picked from the tournament and the shortcomings will be worked on.



*Above: Team Uganda lines up before the 3 day game in Kenya.*

f) **Ladies Tour to Kenya**

The National Ladies team toured Nairobi from 22<sup>nd</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> November 2012 for a series of games against Kenyan Select Sides. They were reciprocating an earlier tour by the Kenyan side in September 2012, where Uganda won the 50 over series and Kenya the T20s.

The Mehta Group sponsored tour proved to be a successful one for the Ladies who won the T20 series in Kenya 4 to 2.



*Above: The Ladies team in Kenya before a game*

#### h) **Women's Tour to Tanzania.**

The National Women's Team travelled to Dar es Salaam on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2012 to compete in the ICC Africa Ladies T20 World Cup Qualifiers. The other teams at the tournament were South Africa, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Tanzania and Namibia. Unfortunately the tour did not go as expected for the women who could only manage a 4<sup>th</sup> place finish behind South Africa, Zimbabwe and hosts Tanzania thus missing out on the Global World Cup Qualifier. A meeting has been convened with the Ladies Team Management to review the tournament and prepare for future engagements.



*Above: The Ladies National team during the flag off*

### **DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS**

#### a) **Multiple Industries Cricket League.**

The National Men's League 2012 was sponsored by Multiple Industries Limited. The National League had not been with a sponsor for 2 years after the withdrawal of Nile Breweries in 2010. The League attracted 18 teams divided into 2 divisions-8 teams in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 teams in the second division. The 1<sup>st</sup> Division teams played a 2 round 50 over League with the bottom 2 being relegated to Division 2. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Division played a 2 round T20 League with the top 4 qualifying for a 50 over League. The top 2 from the 50 over League were promoted to Division one. Challengers and SKLPS who had spent just

a year in Division one were relegated. Tornado B and Tamil Lions got promoted. Multiple Industries contributed UGX 1,000,000 to each team that participated.

It goes without question that this was one of the most exciting Leagues we have had in a while. It's rare that the decider goes to the final day of the tournament. Both teams needing wins in the final game, Tornado managed to beat Wanderers to clinch the title. We are looking forward to a better tournament in 2013.



*Above: Action in the Multiple Industries Cricket League*

b) **UCA National Women's League**

The League that was contested by 5 teams came to a conclusion in the month of June with a final at Lugogo Cricket Oval. Once again, Charity Trust Fund and Wanderers Cricket Club met in the final convincingly won by the former.

c) **UCA National Men's T20 League**

The above tournament in its second season ran from January to March 2012 where 17 teams took part. Patidar had an uphill task to defend the trophy against the likes of Tornado, Wanderers and Charity who had recruited new players off season. Tornado managed to dethrone Patidar who could only make it as far as the semi final.



*Above: Tornado the T20 winners celebrate with the trophy*

d) **Mehta Premier League.**

Charity Trust Fund proved yet again that they are the queens of Ugandan Ladies Cricket by winning the inaugural Mehta sponsored T20 League. This was after seeing off spirited Wanderers in the semi finals. They made easy work of Tornado in the final clinching the title. The individual winners received goodies courtesy of Mehta Group.



*Above: Charity players receive the winner's trophy from a Mehta Representative*

e) **Schools Cricket Weeks.**

The finals of both the boys' and girls' Schools Cricket Weeks were played in Kampala after qualification rounds at the regional level for both the boys and girls. Kololo SS and Jinja Senior Secondary School emerged as champions respectively. Both tournaments were played in the T20 format as the shorter version of the game has taken over world cricket.

On a positive note, the standards of play were of better quality manifesting in the hard work by the Development Officers. Plastic equipment was distributed to all the Schools that participated in this program.



Left: Part of the crowd that turned up for the Girls Cricket Week. Right: Action in the Tournament



Above: An article that appeared in one of the news papers summing up the tournament

f) **Under 17/Under 13 Tournament**

The above tournament was held in Kampala from 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> December 2012 at Lugogo and Kyambogo Cricket Ovals where a total of 6 teams were invited to participate, namely 3 Under 17 teams and 3 Under 13 teams, that played in their respective age groups. It was a T20 Tournament played on a round robin basis that proved to be exciting and very competitive. Several good players were selected from the tournament which will also be key in selecting the Under 19 team to represent Uganda at the World Cup Qualifiers in May 2013. We thank John Tumuiime who was very instrumental in this Project.



*Above: The Under 17 and 13 players pose with their troppies and certificates*

g) **Mini Cricket**

The 2012 edition of the Mini Cricket Development Program was funded entirely by Uganda Cricket Association. Only the District Competitions were held due to lack of funds. Over 5000 students from 156 schools in 19 Districts participated in this edition of the tournament.

We are looking around for a sponsor for this tournament so that the full program is run in 2013.



*Above: Minicricket action in Masindi District*

h) **Social Cricket:**

The social games by the elderly members of the cricket fraternity commonly known as *Abagurusi* continued throughout the year with an engagement every end of month. We are looking forward to strengthening these games by having more people participating. In 2012, we spread the Abagurusi games to Entebbe, Lugazi and Jinja.



*Above: Abagurusi game in Jinja to honor Mr. Pithy Ndiko for his contribution to cricket*

## 7. SPONSORS

For the record 2012 was a much better year than 2011 in terms of sponsorship, as we managed to increase on the number of sponsors most notably Mehta Group and Multiple Industries . We shall intensify the search for sponsorship in 2013. We are grateful to the following organizations sponsored some of the cricket activities in 2012.

Crown Bottlers Ltd

MAAD Advertising

Sanyu FM

CASE Medical Center

Oasis Entertainment

Nile Breweries

The New Vision

Sadolin Paints

Trinidad and Tobago High Commission

Bankstown (Australia)



*Above: UCA is presented with a dummy cheque by members of Multiple Industries*



*Above: Signing of contract with Mehta Group Directors in Lugazi*

## **8. CHALLENGES.**

Despite the many achievements in 2012, the Association had some challenges which hindered the rapid growth of the game.

- a) Lack of adequate Grounds one of the reasons we were not able to run Mawanda and Luswata tournaments.
- b) As much as some companies came in to sponsor some of the programs, the sponsorship generally was not enough to run all of our programs. We still need sponsorship for mini cricket, Ladies League, National Men's League and Interuniversity tournament.
- c) Several activities were not run due to inadequate funds.

## **9. PLANS FOR 2013**

In order to improve the game generally in the country, the following are some of the plans for 2013.

- Begin preliminary works on the Uganda Cricket Association Land as a home for cricket.

- Intensify the search for sponsorship for the various programs lined up and try and keep the already existing ones.
- Strengthening both the MCDP and SDP plus tracking the products of these programs.
- Prepare the National Team for the World Cricket League Division 3 tournament in Dubai.
- Prepare the Under 19 National Boys Team to compete in the ICC Under 19 World Cup Qualifiers.
- Encouraging clubs to set up Administrative structures so that clubs are governed at the Club level. This ensures proper running of the game.
- Introduction of new tournaments to increase on junior involvement.
- Continued improvement of playing surfaces elsewhere especially in schools and Universities.
- To attract more International Tournaments after successfully hosting the ACA Africa Under 19 Ladies Cup in December.

## 10. **GRATITUDE**

As we celebrate some of UCA's successes in 2012, it's worth recognizing the contribution of the games' volunteers who give their time up for the benefit of others and these dedicated souls are crucial in preserving cricket's special values, as well as sustaining and developing the game at grass roots, and nurturing the stars for the future.

I would also like to salute all Stake holders for making 2012 a memorable year. I am equally grateful to ICC, ACA, the Trustees, my fellow Board Members, UCA Members, all Staff at the Secretariat, Media and the entire cricket fraternity for the cooperation and support extended to me throughout 2012. With your continued support, 2013 will surely be a very productive year for cricket in Uganda

Thank you,

Richard Mwami  
Chairman UCA