

KOC AIMS TO REKINDLE PASSION AMONG FORMER KERALA CRICKETERS IN GCC AND FAR EAST



Officials and sponsors at the announcement of the Kerala Overseas Cricket team. — Supplied photo

DUBAI — Cricketers of yesteryears from Kerala, currently working in the GCC countries & Far East recently formed the Kerala Overseas Cricketers (KOC) team in Dubai.

As per the team management, the sole objective of forming the GCC team is to bring all former Kerala state cricketers under one umbrella, in which all players will have a great opportunity to meet each other and strengthen their camaraderie after a long gap.

As far as the players are concerned, it would bring a lot of nostalgic feelings as well as fulfillment of long cherished dream of playing against their old team mates and friends all over again since they left competitive cricket many years back.

"KOC" team has been scheduled a visit to Kerala for friendly exhibition matches which will be held at Tripunithura Cricket Ground and Kochin Refineries Cricket Ground at Ambalamukal. A 30

over and a 20/20 match has been scheduled on January 11 and 12.

Two teams from Kerala will be filled with former Ranji Trophy as well as junior state cricketers which will be played against Overseas Cricket team. Also, majority of the KOC players represented Kerala Ranji as well as junior state. KOC team consists of players from UAE and one each from Kuwait, Qatar, & Singapore.

Organisers of this exhibition matches mentioned that it is going to be really exciting and fun. People will have the opportunity to watch yesteryears Kerala state players playing all over again. As a part of this event, a felicitation programme will be held on January 11 at the NM Royal County Tripunithura to recognise promising Kerala cricketers like Sanju Samson and Jagdish.

KOC office bearers mentioned that "as a part of KOC's commitments towards supporting Kerala

cricket, we will be closely working with Kerala Cricket Association (KCA) and chalk out plans which would benefit promising Kerala cricketers."

The main sponsor of this event will be Consolidated Shipping Service LLC (CSS-Dubai) and co-sponsored by Space Max Contracting LLC, a leading International turnkey design and build contractors. The Chairman of consolidated Shipping Services, Kaladharan said "By associating with KOC as a sponsor, CSS has reiterated its commitment towards social activities and the emotional bonding they bring among the expat community."

Moreover, it gives us great pride to partner with KOC, as most of the members are known to our organisation. Also we assure the NRI community that CSS group will always stand with the activities that could bring about a healthy cohesion among us."