



## **Press Release**

**24<sup>th</sup> January 2011**

### **Announcing the launch of the Clydesdale Bank International GPL T20**

The Guernsey Cricket Board is pleased to announce that teams representing Cenkos, Wave Telecom, Mourant Ozannes and BDO will take part in the inaugural GPL T20.

Further the GCB is delighted and thrilled to welcome on board Clydesdale Bank International as the Tournament sponsor in a three year deal.

This is without doubt the most exciting event to take place in local cricket history and perhaps any realm of local sport. Four weekends of back to back cricket pitting the very best of the Guernsey cricket world alongside stars of international and county cricket from the professional ranks. Names of these players will be announced shortly as contracts are secured. There will be no local Club loyalties as each player is 'purchased' by the Franchise owners in what they think and hope is the best team to sweep all others aside and take the trophy.

Before a ball is bowled there will be the excitement and tension of the CBI GPL Auction night as each Franchise looks to spend its GCB\$25, 000, 000.00 wisely and get the best players on offer. Players have been selected by National Coach Andy Cornford and National Manager Pete Vidamour. The Auction will take place on Tuesday 1 March at The Farmhouse starting at 7.00pm.

Games will be played across each Friday and Saturday in June starting Friday 3 June. There will be one game on a Friday and three on a Saturday. Games will start at 5.30pm on a Friday and 10.15am, 1.45pm and 5.15pm on a Saturday.

GCB CEO Mark Latter said; “We are all very much looking forward to the GPL and seeing the buzz put back into evening cricket and drawing big crowds again to KGV. There will be top class cricket to watch as well as other entertainment aimed at all ages on the boundary plus food and drink outlets. We are mixing fun with the serious side of getting our cricketers set for the T20 game as this becomes a feature of ICC Europe cricket.”

The new Franchise owners are equally excited by the venture and gave their views;

Ross Allan, Head of Business at Wave Telecom said: “The GPL T20 is set to be one of the most exciting cricket tournaments the island has seen in the history of the sport - showcasing Guernsey’s top players along side a selection of internationally renowned stars. We’re delighted to be apart of this new and innovative competition and look forward to joining the crowds in June.”

John Bacon, co-founding partner of Cenkos Securities, now working with Jon Ravenscroft, founder and CEO of Cenkos Channel Islands, said of the GPL;

‘Cenkos has always had a very strong sports orientation. In London our main focus was Horse Racing and Cricket to a lesser extent. It’s been wonderful for me personally to link up with a fellow Cricket Nut in Jon (Ravenscroft) here in the Islands. Together we are eagerly anticipating the GPL and all at Cenkos are very much looking forward to our Franchise giving a good account of itself. Moreover we are delighted to be helping the GCB achieve its main goal of furthering the development of 20/20 cricket on Guernsey, ahead of the upcoming ICC tournament in July.’

"Mourant Ozannes partner Christopher Edwards said "We are delighted to be associated with this new and exciting venture. Though we are now in several jurisdictions we remain attached to our Guernsey roots, and are pleased to support this great initiative which will benefit our Island's cricketers."

Paul Burnard, Marketing Director of BDO Limited, the independent firm of chartered accountants and business advisers based at Rue du Pre in St Peter Port says that “As a truly local business, yet one which has a global reach, we are delighted to be involved with the inaugural GPL T20 the intention of which is to enhance the ability of the island’s cricketers to compete on the global

stage. The tournament will undoubtedly prove to be a highlight of Guernsey's sporting calendar for 2011, and many years to come."

Tournament sponsor Clydesdale Bank International's Managing Director James Blower said; We are thrilled to be supporting the Guernsey Premier League and working with the GCB to help develop cricket in Guernsey even further. Clydesdale Bank International has a huge affinity with cricket with Alastair Cook, Paul Collingwood and Alec Stewart working as Ambassadors for the Bank and we look forward to what promises to be an exciting Tournament.

A dedicated Tournament website will be up and running soon where you can follow all the action with ball by ball statistics and features and pictures on all the teams.

Make a date in the diary now and come and catch a match!

Ends

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