

2012 Annual Report

Youth Development

Youth Cricket in Switzerland continues to thrive.

Cricket is being played regularly by over 300 junior players. In addition to junior clubs Geneva Youth Region CC, Luzern Lions, Cossonay CC (juniors section), Gingins CC, Basel Dragons Junior CC and Zurich Crickets CC, cricket is also played in schools: at Lyceum Alpinum in Zuoz, College De Lemman, Ecole Internationale De Geneve, and at Zurich International School. The opportunities for juniors to play cricket in Switzerland are as wide-ranging and plentiful as ever.

Highlights of the cricketing year at home include

- 3 U15 cricket Sundays in Zurich in February and March, at which the pick of Swiss U15 cricketers competed in tight, long games.
- The Zurich Crickets U17 International tournament in March.
- The first Basel Dragons indoor tournament for U9, U11, U13 and U15 players, featuring Swiss and overseas teams.
- The ongoing participation by the Swiss Colts side in the national senior league.
- The Swiss national club championships at Zuoz in May, played over the long Whitsun weekend in 2012 with players from 5 age groups for the first time - from U9 to U17.
- The Lemman Cup, in early September, between Suisse and Schweiz teams at U11, U13 and U15 for the first time.
- The Gingins Indoor tournaments in November for U11 and U13 players, and separately U15 players, again with international participation.

In addition, Switzerland has been represented internationally in competitions and on tours from U11 level through to U19, with teams representing us in Denmark, Holland, England, Luxembourg and Spain. Swiss Youth Cricket was delighted that a number of our players were selected for the senior Switzerland national side in 2012, including one 15 year old player.

Both at a national level and at club level, Swiss juniors across the country have benefited from coaching by English professional coaching teams. These visits accelerate and deepen individual players' development, as well as that of our own coaches.

It is because of the commitment of the coaches, parents and players that Youth cricket in Switzerland takes place. It is conducted entirely on a voluntary basis. The Swiss Cricket Association would like to thank all clubs, coaches, parents, players, umpires, scorers, sandwich makers, drivers, tournament organizers, first aid providers, groundsmen and all other individuals who help us play cricket. We would also like to thank the sponsors of youth cricket in Switzerland for their generous contributions, which go a long way to making cricket available to all that want to play.

In 2012 Patrick Henderson stepped down as the Youth Development Officer of the Swiss Cricket Association after 8 years. Patrick's commitment over this period has been extraordinary, and the achievements and growth of Swiss Junior Cricket while he has been in position impossible to have foreseen. The Swiss Cricket Association would like to thank Patrick most profoundly for all that he has done for us.

John Millar, Youth Development Officer (Acting)