

THE NIGHTWATCHMAN

Christmas edition 2016



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2016 has been a very busy year for those involved in cricket in the SWD and there has been significant growth in the game. The achievement of coming 2nd on the scorecard and having a number of incentive and 'portfolio' winners on the scorecard was a massive achievement for our small, but proud union. The emergence of a crop of young cricketers out of the high performance pipeline is very encouraging and exciting and we will be watching these cricketers closely.

Moving into 2017, there is a lot happening on the coach education front with 4 courses starting early in January taking place, with another 4 planned for the off season as we move to equip and accredit all cricket coaches in the region with the necessary qualifications.



We wish everybody in the cricketing fraternity in South Africa a very blessed Christmas and New Year and trust that this wonderful game in South Africa will continue to bring us as a people closer together, forging relationships and strengthening bonds that can only be made on a sports field! This is also a time to reflect on our inputs into the game, in whatever position we find ourselves in, and to remind ourselves that whatever we do, it is for the good of the players on the field and not ourselves.

From everybody in the SWD Coaching Department—we wish you a very happy Christmas and New year!

AGATHAGALOU STARTS ANEW:

by Warwick Austin 26 November 2016, 12:05

Having retired from County Cricket shortly before his 26th birthday, Andrea Agathagelou has returned to First-Class cricket emphatically, amassing 550 runs in five innings for South Western Districts in the Sunfoil 3-Day Cup this season.

A captain of the 2007 SA Colts team that featured David Miller and a member of the 2008 SA Schools team that included Temba Bavuma, Andrea Agathagelou was a prodigious cricketing talent emerging from Fields College in Rustenburg.

Agathagelou made his First-Class debut for North West in 2008 at the age of 18 and played 24 matches for them, registering over 1800 runs at an average of 39. He then opted to make the move to the United Kingdom in 2010, where he would later sign-on to play with nine-time County Championship winners Lancashire.

"I never got an opportunity to play anywhere else really; my agent managed to pick up a gig for me in the UK and it was easier for me because I had an EU passport. I saw it as a great opportunity as a youngster to play some cricket on the other side of the world", said Agathagelou.

He spent a few seasons in Manchester, helping the club to a Division Two title in 2013, before moving to Leicestershire for the 2015 season due to a lack of game time behind the likes of Ashwell Prince, Simon Katich, Jos Buttler and Usman Khawaja among others.

"If I had one regret in my career it is that I didn't make that move earlier. Lancashire are one of the biggest Counties, so it was difficult for me to break in. I did really well in the second side there, but didn't get nearly as much first team cricket as I would really like", explained Agathagelou.



Left: Andrea Agathagelou cuts while in action in the county championships in the United Kingdom

"I just felt that a smaller County like Leicestershire would offer more opportunities and be better for me", he added.

At the conclusion of the 2015 County Championship, the then 25-year-old made the decision to retire from the game of cricket to pursue business interests in South Africa.

"I started a business with a friend of mine that began taking off and I felt that needed more of my attention, so I retired from cricket in October last year to pursue that fulltime. After about seven or eight months, the business started taking care of itself and I started to miss cricket, so I decided to come back", Agathagelou expressed.



Above: Andrea Agathagelou has returned to the South African cricket scene with a bang! Having scored 550 runs in 5 innings he has brought some much needed stability to a young SWD batting line-up

IMMEDIATE SUCCESS

Living in Pretoria, the talented right-hander joined up with Tuks Cricket Club and immediately tasted success, before taking up an offer to play in the Sunfoil 3-Day Cup.

“I got two hundreds in my first three games for Tuks and then got a call from SWD (South Western Districts). They needed a senior player and I saw it as an opportunity to play some First-Class cricket again”.

Thus began a comeback seen often in the scripts of Hollywood movies as Agathagelou started doing all the talking with his bat. Scores of 109 and 199* in his opening First-Class match versus Easterns were followed by a 90 in the subsequent Lisa A match against the Benoni team.

They say ‘when it rains it pours’ and pour it did for the new SWD star as he racked up a further two First-Class tons against KwaZulu Natal Inland (115*) and KwaZulu Natal (125*).

550 runs at an average of 275, with four hundreds in five innings, Agathagelou sits atop the run charts in the Sunfoil 3-Day Cup and attributes much of his success to his sabbatical.

“I think it is probably one of the best things I have ever done for my career. I played County Cricket for six years and got a bit overwhelmed with the amount of cricket I played over that period. It became a job and I lost my enjoyment for the game, so taking a year off brought that enjoyment back”.

His performances have not gone unnoticed, with the BuildNat Cape Cobras having called him up to their squad for the CSA T20 Challenge.

“Well I have lived in Pretoria since January and then I moved down to George. As I was busy unpacking my cupboard, I got call from Paul Adams to join the (Cobras) training session and I ended up leaving at 03h30 in the morning to make it in time for the training. So at the moment it has been a bit of a roller-coaster ride”, said the SWD run machine.

A fresh start, a simplified approach and a hunger for runs have seen Agathagelou prosper once more on the cricket field in his country of birth. While still harbouring aspirations of playing international cricket, the level-headed 27-year-old is taking each game as it comes. “A year ago I didn’t think I would ever play cricket again and now I am just enjoying it. For the first time in a long time I am just enjoying focusing on having fun on the park and I am going to keep it that way for as long as I can”, concluded Agathagelou.

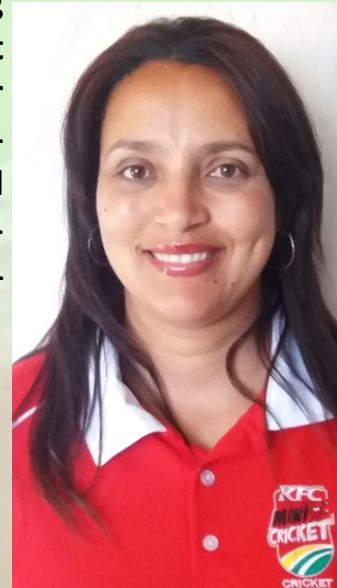


Above: A sight his SWD teammates have already seen a few times this season.

COACHING 'HOT SEAT': IN CONVERSATION WITH ANNELENE GEORGE AND GLENDA STALMEESTER.

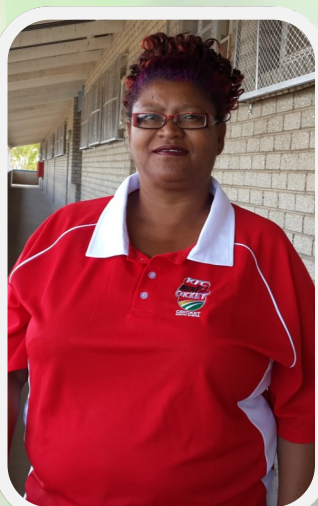
Hampo: "Hi Annelene and Glenda. Thank you for your time and it is a real privilege to be chatting to two ladies who have been doing some fantastic coaching in the KFC program! We noticed at the recently held KFC Mini Cricket Provincial Festival that you both had a number of players from your two teams identified by the various coaches who spent the day identifying future talent. Its obvious from the skills your players showed on the day, that you are both doing some great work at the KFC level! Well done. Can you give us a short, 'bit of background' on yourselves please?"

Annelene: "I was born in Somerset East, Eastern Cape in 1976 and finished my primary and secondary school in Port Elizabeth 1994. I completed my teaching degree at Dower College 1997 and then worked for Shoprite and Checkers for a few years. I got married to Brentin George.....A year later we had a son. I then started teaching at a school Hillcrest Primary School in PE. Here I was introduced to mini cricket which was Bakers in those days and I did my level 1 coaching course as well. We relocated to George 2007 where I started teaching at Dellville Park Primary (temporary) and was expecting baby no.2—a little girl. I then moved to Kretzenshoop Primary School and I teach grade 1, 2 and 3. I participate in all the extra-mural activities at school as a KFC mini cricket coach, netball coordinator, team leader at athletics and I help organize school functions. My hobbies are reading, socialising and watching movies."



Above: Annelene George—KFC Mini Cricket Coach from Kretzenshoop Primary in George

Glenda: "I'm Glenda Stalmeester, from Dysselsdorp and teach at P J Badenhorst Primary School. I come from a family that is fanatical about sport. I am currently the Mini- Cricket coordinator in De Rust and Dysselsdorp Region. My motto in life is - "If you are willing to do the work, you can achieve more than you can imagine!"



Above: Glenda Stalmeester—KFC Mini Cricket Coach from P J Badenhorst Primary in Dysselsdorp

"Brilliant! Annelene, how did you get into KFC Mini Cricket Coaching and how long have you been coaching for?"

"I have a passion for cricket and a passion to work with kids. What an excellent combination and that motivated me, to get involved. I have been coaching now for 8 years."

"Glenda, what are the aspects of coaching at this level that you love the most?"

"It is difficult to single out just one aspect because cricket is coached in its entirety and I just love all of it! "

COACHING 'HOT SEAT' CONTINUED...

“Annelene, what have been some of the highlights of your involvement with KFC Mini Cricket that you have enjoyed the most?”

“Recognition for my hard work and when I look at the end result of my cricketers and the development and skills that they have achieved. What more can you as a coach ask for. One of my mini cricket boys was selected for the under 12 SWD development team. Wow I get goosebumps..... And a big shout out to KFC for selecting me to be part of 2015 Seminar in Stellenbosch, that was a special highlight for me. Thank you KFC Cricket.”

“Glenda, what are the aspects of coaching at this level that you love the most?”

“The fact that players enjoy themselves, get satisfaction and are incorporated into provincial teams “

“Annelene, when working with kids in the KFC programme, what do you think are the key, non cricket skill related things that coaches should always focus on?”

“I believe that you need to develop a child holistically and build confidence and love for the game.”

And Glenda, what are the key cricket skills that you will focus on when working with these young cricketers?

“I will focus on the development of basic skills in batting, bowling, fielding and wicket-keeping and also the athletic development of children in a simplistic form.

“Annelene, when working with kids in the KFC programme, what do you think are the key, non cricket skill related things that coaches should always focus on ?”

“Interaction, motivation, socializing, teamwork and enjoyment (fun)”

“Thanks very much ladies for your time ladies. Any parting advice you would have for other teachers who would like to get involved at this level?”

Annelene: “Teachers, get involved and make a change in these young cricketers lives. Have a positive attitude and approach towards other coaches and players. Finally just enjoy yourself.”

Glenda: “That it is more than just the game. It’s an opportunity to teach children valuable life lessons and social skills such as teamwork and discipline, but most of all it is about enjoyment “

COACHING EDUCATION

UPCOMING EVENTS AND COURSES



COACHING COURSES

A number of courses will be run in January and February so please see the dates below and follow the necessary application process in order to book your place, because numbers are limited!

- Level II Course (George) - starts 9 January 2017
- Level 1 Course (Mossel Bay) - starts 7 February 2017
- Level 1 Course (George) - starts 6 February 2017
- Level 1 Course (Riversdale) - starts 19 January 2017
- Level II Refresher - 10 March 2017

4 Orientation Courses will be run in the following regions for new / beginner coaches in the following areas in January and February (dates to be confirmed): Bridgton/Bongolethu; D'Almeida/Kwanonqaba; Thembalethu; L'Vallia and Knysna. For new coaches who are interested in progressing to the Level 1 course, the orientation course is your first step and we encourage you to attend this 6 hour course which will prepare you for your journey as a coach.

COACHING FORUMS

- 18 January—George and Oudtshoorn coaching forums
- 14 February—Knysna coaching forum
- 22 February—Mossel Bay forum

HIGH PERFORMANCE NEWS

PROVINCIAL AGE GROUP SQUADS

The SWD Youth Cricket Teams are currently taking part in the national tournaments around the country. Live scores can be followed on the following links:

All boys teams on <http://www.espncricinfo.com/ci/engine/match/index.html?view=live>

Girls U19's on <http://www.websports.co.za/cricket-summary.html>

The tournaments taking place are:

- CSA U13 Week: Cape Town— 9-13 December
- CSA U15 Week: Potchefstroom— 8-12 December
- CSA U17 Week: Benoni— 11-15 December
- CSA Girls U19 Week: Pretoria— 9-13 December
- Coca-Cola Khaya Majola Week: Bloemfontein— 16-20 December

KFC MI CRICKET PROVINCIAL FESTIVAL 2016



It's a great pleasure to report back on the KFC Provincial Mini Cricket festival that was held on the 12th of November 2016 at the Recreation Ground in Oudtshoorn. The festival was a real success with 827 kids and 129 Mini Cricket Coaches and Volunteers present. The KFC cricketers really enjoyed their time at the festival. The festival was opened by Mr Mr Hennie Cremer from SWD Board of Directors. David Mokopanele (Manager: Mass Participation CSA), Tegan Mill (Playmakers) and Tumi Kgasoe (MC), and Mr Johan Weyers (Manager Amateur Cricket) were present at the festival. The teams played 2 rounds of matches against different schools during the morning and the SWD RPC/ Hub and Black African Program Coaches ran a coaching clinic before the round of matches started. Talent identification was also done during the duration of the festival by our RPC/Hub and Black African Coaches.

230 Kids was identified at the and the identified players will be put into a hard ball program that will be run by the RPC/Hub and Black African Coordinators going forward.

I would like to thank the SWD Office Staff and the Volunteers for their contribution during the festival and the planning thereof.

Gary Moos
SWD Cricket
(Mini Cricket Coordinator)



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To see the SWD Cricket website click [here](#)

