



### In this issue:

- \* *Japan win EAP Women's Regional Title*
- \* *Staff changes in EAP office*
- \* *PNG make history with turf facilities*
- \* *Ura Rigana player profile*

### Upcoming EAP Events

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| 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2010                      | Cricket Indonesia U17 National Championships    |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2010    | ICC Development Committee – Jakarta, Indonesia  |
| Early July, 2010                               | Australian Indigenous XI tour PNG               |
| September 2010                                 | 2010 Pepsi ICC EAP U17 Cricket Trophy – Vanuatu |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> to 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov. 2010 | Asian Games - China                             |

## Japan wins EAP Women's Cricket Trophy

Earlier this month, Japan defeated Papua New Guinea by 9 runs in the final of the 2010 Pepsi ICC EAP Women's Cricket Trophy to move into the Women's World Cup Qualifier, where a successful tournament there will see the team play in the ICC Women's World Cup in 2013.

Papua New Guinea progressed through the preliminary rounds undefeated, thanks to narrow victories over both Japan and Samoa early in the tournament, progressing directly to the playoff game. Japan and Samoa faced off in the Preliminary Final for an opportunity to play PNG in the Grand Final, with Samoa falling short of Japan's total of 9 for 112, being dismissed for 100.



After four consecutive days of hot weather, the sky opened up and consistent rain greeted the players at Sano Cricket Ground as Japan Captain Ema Kuribayashi won her fourth toss in a row, electing to bat first against an experienced PNG line-up in the decider.

Japan found the conditions difficult at the start, and coupled with an outstanding spell of bowling from PNG opening bowlers Pauke Siaka and Tanya Ruma, found themselves at 1 for 36 after 20 overs when play was stopped due to rain. While play resumed briefly shortly after, another rain delay meant Japan would only have 42 overs to set a score for PNG to chase down.

Ema Kuribayashi (21) was run-out soon after the resumption of play, bringing the reliable Katrina Keenan to the crease, however when partner Kurumi was dismissed without scoring, Japan were looking exposed at 4 for 53.

Keenan began patiently, pushing singles and running well between wickets, before unleashing an almighty attack on all bowlers towards the end of the innings that included five boundaries and two enormous sixes. Keenan was finally dismissed for a spectacular 60, and Japan were able to post a respectable 5 for 125 at the end of their 42 overs.

After Duckworth-Lewis calculations, PNG were given a target of 132 to win from their 42 overs, a total made all the more difficult due to the tough conditions. However, PNG openers Mabel Ipi and Norma Ovasuru started particularly well, edging to 42 without loss before Ovasuru was dismissed L.B.W to Ema Kuribayashi.

While the score was continuing to tick along, wickets were falling at regular intervals, and when PNG captain Ura Rigana was caught for 12 off the bowling of Ayako Nakayama, PNG were reduced to 4 for 68. Boni David (15) and opener Mabel Ipi continued to score consistently, however when Ipi was adjudged L.B.W from the bowling of Kuribayashi, the game was all of a sudden in the balance.

With Japan operating spinners from both ends, PNG were finding it difficult to force the pace, and the runs began to dry up. Kuribayashi bowled an outstanding spell, supported well by young leg-spinner Ayako Nakayama, and the two combined to have the game in the balance, PNG sitting precariously at 9 for 123, requiring 9 to win from the final Kuribayashi over.



On the 2nd ball of the final over, number 11 Nao Kone hit the ball high and deep into the outfield, where one of Japan's best fielders, Mariko Yamamoto, was waiting to accept the catch, Japan the victors by 9 runs.

Japan will now progress to the ICC Women's World Cup Qualifier, while Papua New Guinea and Samoa will have to wait until the 2012 East Asia - Pacific Regional Tournament.

**Player of the Tournament**

*Katrina Keenan (Japan)*

**Team of the Tournament**

1. Ema Kuribayashi @ (Japan)
2. Norma Ovasuru (PNG)
3. Mariko Yamamoto (Japan)
4. Melinda Hodgson (Samoa)
5. Katrina Keenan (Japan)
6. Ura Rigana (PNG)
7. Lily Mulivai (Samoa)
8. Varoi Morea + (PNG)
9. Pauke Siaka (PNG)
10. Ayako Nakayama (Japan)
11. Tanya Ruma (PNG)
12. Regina Lili (Samoa)



**Left:** Victorious Japan Women's National Team celebrate victory in the 2010 Pepsi ICC EAP Women's Cricket Trophy played in Sano, Japan earlier this month.

**Bottom left:** 'Player of the Final' and 'Player of the Tournament', Japan's Katrina Keenan, accepts the awards from ICC EAP Elite Panel Members Neil Harrison and Nigel Morrison.  
**Bottom Right:** Japan Captain Ema Kuribayashi and Papua New Guinea Captain Ura Rigana exchange gifts after the Grand Final. Both players were selected in the Team of the Tournament.



## Significant staff changes at ICC EAP Office

The ICC East Asia – Pacific Development Programme Office has undergone significant staff changes over the past few months, with several staff being given wonderful opportunities to further develop their professional careers.

Former Regional Development Manager Matt Weisheit has moved to the Victorian Rugby League (VRL) as General Manager, helping to develop the game across Victoria and Melbourne, while former Regional Development Officer Charlie Burke has moved to Hong Kong, accepting the National Coach role with the Hong Kong Cricket Association. While we wish both Matt and Charlie well, we will certainly be barracking hard for Papua New Guinea in Pepsi ICC World Cricket League Division 3 in 2011, where PNG and Hong Kong will clash!

Andrew Faichney has been announced as Regional Development Manager and has already started in the Cricket Australia Offices. Andrew knows the Pepsi ICC Development Programme well, having held the position of ICC Development Events Manager at the ICC Head Office in Dubai over the past four years.

Replacing Charlie Burke will be Tom Evans, who has extensive experience in cricket, most recently as Regional Cricket Manager for the Inner East Metro Region with Cricket Victoria. Tom will start on the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010 in the Cricket Australia offices.

## Papua New Guinea makes history in EAP region

Cricket PNG have become the first Member Country of the East Asia – Pacific region to acquire world class turf wicket facilities, with the “Home of Cricket” in PNG, Amini Park, having a 6 wicket block laid recently. Cricket PNG will now begin to prepare the wickets for the upcoming tour of the Australian Indigenous XI in early July 2010.

Under the guidance of Cricket PNG Chairman Mick Nades and CEO Bill Leane, significant sponsor input made this outstanding achievement possible, including support from Hebou Constructions, Badili Hardware, Monier, Air Niugini, Central Drillers and Esco, while the ICC East Asia – Pacific Office, Queensland Cricket, the GABBA Trust and Jimboomba Turf were also important contributors.



# ICC EAP Player Profile

**Name:** Ura Rigana

**Country:** Papua New Guinea Women's Team

**Batting:** Right handed

**Bowling:** Right arm medium pace

**Highest Score:** 85

**Best Wicketkeeping:** 6 for 5

**Greatest Personal Cricketing Moment:** Winning the match against Taora when I was bowling the last over and they only required 3 runs to win.

**Favourite International Cricketer:** Matthew Hayden

**Which International Cricketer Do You Play Similar To?** Michael Clarke

**Who would you rather bat against and why, Brett Lee or Shoiab Akhtar?** Brett Lee because he doesn't swing the ball

**Have you ever made a golden duck?** No

**Have you ever made a diamond duck?** No

**Who is the best player you have seen from the East Asia – Pacific Region?** John Ovia

**Who is a better spin bowler, Shane Warne or Muttiah Muraliduran?** Shane Warne

**Who is the fastest bowler you have faced?** Tanya Ruma

**What is the best moment of representing your country in the National Cricket team?** Performing well for my country

**Which 3 cricket personalities would you most like to have dinner with:**

1. Seura Loa
2. Fred Bau
3. Bernadette Clem

**Below:** The Papua New Guinea Lewas team at the 2010 Pepsi ICC EAP Women's Cricket Trophy held in Sano, Japan in May 2010. PNG were Runners-Up in this tournament behind Japan.

