

AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION ISLAMABAD

14 November 2015

Press Release

Third Annual Fayyaz Sumbal Cup Cricket Match for Charity

Australian High Commissioner, Margaret Adamson opened the third annual Fayyaz Sumbal Cup cricket match in Lahore on 14 November 2015 in support of the Fayyaz Sumbal Foundation, an Australian-registered charity which provides support to the families of Pakistani police officers killed or wounded in the line of duty.

The Cup honors the memory of Deputy Inspector General Fayyaz Sumbal who was killed in a suicide bombing at a funeral in Quetta in 2013 while trying to save the lives of other officers. Fayyaz was well regarded by Australian Federal Police colleagues in Australia and Islamabad.

The match attended by Pakistan Cricket Board Chairman Shahryar Khan and the Inspector General of Police, brought together some of Pakistan's biggest cricketing names including Kamran and Umar Akmal and Eijaz Ahmed and officials of the Australian High Commission and British High Commission. Money raised at this year's match will go to the Punjab Police Welfare Fund to directly support the families of officers killed and wounded in the line of duty.

During the 2015-16 cricket season, three Fayyaz Sumbal Cup matches will also be played in Australia. On 16 November 2015, the first Cup match will be held in Perth with members of the Australian Federal Police playing against a local team from the Pakistani community in Perth. In February 2016 the Cup will be held at the historic international cricket ground Bellerive Oval in Hobart. The teams will feature Tasmanian journalists, public servants and one or two Tasmanian legends.

The 2015/16 season will conclude in Australia on 14 March 2016 with a match at the well-known birthplace of The Ashes urn, Rupertswood in Sunbury, on the outskirts of Melbourne. The match will be the second such match played between Rupertswood and Fayyaz Sumbal Foundation teams.

Ms Adamson welcomed the growing support for the Fayyaz Sumbal Foundation as an example of the strong people-to-people links between Australia and Pakistan.

"The common love of cricket shared by the people of Pakistan and Australia continues to be a powerful vehicle for building understanding between our two nations. I congratulate the Fayyaz Sumbal Foundation for its support of families whose loved ones have been sacrificed in the daily battle to keep communities safe," Ms Adamson said.

For further information visit www.fayyazsumbalfoundation.org

Website: www.pakistan.embassy.gov.au