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Sport - Cricket



Australian curator to relay wickets

VIJAYAWADA: Australian curator Ricky Aitken and his team will relay the VDCA-ACA wickets at Visakhapatnam from July 16, according to Andhra Cricket Association secretary V. Chamundeswaranath.

Chamundeswaranath said that the curators would stay for one month to relay all the turf wickets as per ICC specifications. "I am also planning to rope in (a former Aussie Test player) to head the ACA Academy at Vizag for three years and the consultations are on," he added.

He said former cricketers Abid Ali, M.V. Narasimha Rao, Rajendra Singh Haans and Bhaskar Pillai were on the race for Andhra Ranji coach for 2008-2009 season and decision would be taken soon.

"Before the Ranji season begins, we will be hosting a tournament of four-day matches involving Sri Lankan 'A' team. Andhra, Karnataka and Hyderabad are the other teams. The matches will be held in different grounds in the districts under ACA jurisdiction. The Andhra — Tamil Nadu Ranji Trophy match will be held at Vijayawada," said ACA secretary.

"ACA is also keen to introduce inter-schools tournament with prize money of Rs. 25,000 this season," he added.

Chamundeswaranath said that four Andhra players — Prabhu Kiran, G. Sarath, Sameer Ali Khan and Abhimanyu would leave for Brisbane to train at the Brisbane Cricket Academy. "They will be back before the season begins," he said. — Sports Reporter

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