

The 7th NYCL Youth Cricket Championship will be held in Maryland next Year (July 2020) hosted by Maryland Cricket League (MCL). We would like to thank Mahendra Sapa for stepping up to lead the hosting of this event and we are looking forward on working closely together on making this event a memorable one for all participants.

NYCL started in 2014 with 18 Teams and has grown to over 65 Teams in upcoming NYCL 2018 Championship planned to be held in North Carolina. The Event has been held in 7 different cities across United States and is the biggest and the most popular youth cricket event in USA.

About Maryland Cricket League: (MCL - <u>www.cricmcl.com</u>; <u>www.MarylandT20.org</u>) is a community based league of 30+ recreational adult cricket teams and 20+ hard ball youth cricket teams for the community and by the community.

How was Maryland Cricket League born?

In 2012, few cricket enthusiasts got together to raise funds for VHPA initiative Support-A-Child (SAC - www.sacusa.org) project supporting underprivileged children in Bharat to provide basic accommodation and education. Luckily for them they found local business community willing and ready to help and that's how SAC Charity Cricket League was born.

We started with 9 teams organizing 10 overs game spread across 2 weekends in a festive atmosphere. Some of the key supporters included teams from Xerox Corporation, Angarai International Inc, Opnet (later merged with RiverBed Technology), Polar IT services, Howard County Heros (made up of local business community) etc. That effort in 2012 helped us raise funds for 9 – 10 children.

Fast forward 2018-19 and the charity initiative took professional turn rebranding ourselves as Maryland Cricket League (MCL), with underline objective remaining the same. Today we have 2 dedicated cricket grounds, 30+ adult teams and 20+ youth hard ball cricket teams. Every year we organize 4 major tournaments - Spring, Fall, Entertainment (7/11) and SAC Charity Youth tournament.

The beauty of this initiative is not only it provides growing cricket community a structured platform to play cricket, but also help raise awareness about SAC Charity program raising funds for 50+ children every year. In addition since 2018 we also initiated Math Tutoring Program to uplift Math Standards in local county schools and also celebrate Christmas at local homeless center providing them dinner party.

Taking a leap further, this year we are introducing our 1st professional 16U youth cricket team at National Youth Cricket League (NYCL).

About World Hindu Council of America: (VHPA - www.vhp-america.org) is a US based not-for-profit organization. VHPA vision is an American society inspired by the eternal, universal values of Dharma defined by, "Ekam Sataha Vipraha Bahudha Vadanti" the truth is one but the Sages call it by different names; "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam," the entire creation is one family; and "Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah" may All be happy and healthy. These values are consistent with the core message of the Declaration of Freedom, which extolls the values of equality, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

VHPA envisions a dynamic American society, A society where there is freedom of thought and religion, where everyone has equal opportunity to pursue their chosen endeavors. A healthy, prosperous society, where arts and music, and literature flourish. A society that is the master of all sciences, technologies and arts that are known, and yet to be known, to humankind. VHPA seeks a vibrant society, one that is full of energy and vigor, nurturing the ideas, creativity and aspirations. VHPA wants to inspire a society that is kinder and accepting of differences and helping those in need through acts and deeds.

We believe that in order to achieve these goals, the Hindus in America must first learn about dharma, and appreciate the gift that has been given to them by our ancient seers and sages. After developing self-awareness, Hindus must bring the knowledge of these universal principles to the society at large.

We seek to propagate the dharmic principles through our acts and deeds to make impact on every aspect of life. All of our programs and activities are geared towards fulfilling our vision. We run Bal-Vihar (Sunday schools for children), youth camps and family retreats to inculcate the universal Hindu values amongst children and youth, we publish books and magazines to create awareness about HIndu dharma. We seek to unite temples and HIndu organizations through networks, and we remain vigilant against defamation of Hindus to ensure we form a strong and united community to fulfill the promise our universal vision. We serve the community through our "seva" programs, from soup kitchens and disaster relief in US to supporting the children in the remotest corners of India, because service to those in need is the highest form of worship.

Join VHPA to make a difference and discover your destiny!

Information provided by: Mahendra Sapa

