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## Abstract

Cricket World Cup is the biggest international event of cricket. The first Cricket World Cup was played during 1975 in England (www. wikipedia. org). The first three matches were also recognized as Prudential Cup with the sponsorship of prudential plc, it is a pecuniary services company. Till the1992 Cricket World Cup, only 8 teams used to participate in the tournament. Later on, the number of teams increased and in Cricket World Cup2007, 16 teams had participated. But in 2011 Cricket World Cup 14 teams are participating. Introduction

Cricket is a sport that has been played around the world for more than eight centuries. It is one of the most well-loved and feverishly watched sports in the world. It involves two teams with 11 players on each side. The captain who wins the toss decides whether his team bats or bowls first. If they bat first, their aim is to score a lot of runs and make sure the other team does not reach that score. Cricket is played in many formats, but the most popular are Test cricket And One Day cricket. In Test cricket game goes on for 5 days, with each team batting twice - if time permits.

One Day is the most popular format, with each team getting 300 balls to score runs. And the other team tries to outscore them within the same number of balls. One-day cricket originally began between English County teams in the 1960's. The first one-day international was played in Melbourne, Australia, in 1971, with the quadrennial Cricket World Cup began in 1975. The Cricket World Cup is organized by the sport's governing body, the International Cricket Council (ICC). The tournament is the world's fourth-largest and fourth-most-viewed sporting event. History

The first attempt at any kind of world championship was in 1912, when a three-way series was arranged between the then current Test playing nations, Australia, England and South Africa. No similar events were held again until 1975. The first ICC World Cup (officially called the Prudential Cup) was in1975, hosted by England (see full list of host countries). This tournament included the six Test-playing nations (England, Australia, New Zealand, West Indies, India and Pakistan), who were joined by Sri Lanka and East Africa. Following the success of this tournament, it was repeated in 1979 and 1983 in England.

After this, the tournament moved to be played in other countries, maintaining a four-year cycle. 60 overs were used for the first three world cups. This was reduced to 50 in 1987 and has been that way since. Women also participate in another Cricket World cup since 1975. Cricket World Cup Hosting Nations England, 1975 This was the first ever Cricket World Cup, officially called the Prudential Cup, and was held from June 7 to June 21, 1975 in England. The tournament was held in England as it was considered the only nation at the time that had the resources to stage an event of such magnitude.

The matches played consisted of 60 overs per team. Unlike today, all players wore a traditional white uniform and red balls were used. There were also no night games. There were 8 participating countries: o Australia o England o India o New Zealand o Pakistan o West Indies o Sri lanka o East Africa (composed of players from Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia) The preliminary matches were played in 2 groups of 4 teams. The top two teams from each group played the semifinals, and the winners of these played the final.

The final was played at the Lords ground, between West Indies and Australia, with the favorites the West Indies winning by 17 runs. The West Indies scored 291 runs in 60 overs at a loss of 8 wickets. In reply Australia made 274 runs in 58. 4 overs all out. England, 197 England, 1979

This was the second Cricket World CUP (called the Prudential Cup), held in England between June 9 to June 23, 1979.

The format of games was the same as in the 1975 World Cup (preliminary matches were played in 2 groups of 4 teams, with the top two teams in each group playing the semifinals, and the winners of these playing the final). The final was played at the Lord's cricket ground in London between the West Indies and England. The West Indies won by 92 runs. They batted first and made 286 runs in 60 overs at a loss of 9 wickets. In reply, England made 194 runs before being all out after 51 overs. New Zealand and Pakistan were the other semifinalists.

There were 8 participating countries: o Australia o England o India o New Zealand o Pakistan o West Indies o Sri lanka o Canada This tournament saw the introduction of the ICC Trophy, a competition used to determine which non-Test playing teams qualified for the World Cup.

## England, 1983

This was the third Cricket World Cup (Called the Prudential Cup). The tournament was held in England for the third consecutive time, between 9 and 25 June 1983. The preliminary matches were played in 2 groups of 4 each as in the previous two tournaments, though this time each country played the other teams in its group twice. The top two teams in each group qualified for the semifinals, and the winners of this played the final

The final was played between India and the West Indies at the Lords ground in England. India scored 183 runs in 54. 4 overs all out.

In reply, the West Indies made 140 runs in 52 overs all out, with India winning by 43 runs. There were 8 participating countries:

* Australia
* England
* India
* New Zealand
* Pakistan
* West Indies
* Sri lanka
* Zimbabwe

(http://www. sportscanon. com/2011/01/25/1983-cricket-world-cup-summary/) India & Pakistan, 1987 This was the fourth World Cup event (called the Reliance Cup)  It was held jointly in India and Pakistan, held from October 9 to November 8, 1987

It was the first World Cup held outside of England. The format was unchanged from previous World Cups, except for a eduction in the number of overs a team played from 60 to 50.  The final was played between Australia and England at the Eden Gardens stadium in Calcutta India. Australia made 253 in their 50 overs with a loss of 5 wickets. In reply, England came up just short, making 246 in their 50 overs for a loss of 8 wickets. Australia winning by 7 runs. Australian David Boon was man of the final match, and the winning captain was Allan Border

There were 8 participating countries: o Australia o England o India o New Zealand o Pakistan o West Indies o Sri lanka o Zimbabwe

## Australia and New Zealand, 1992

This was the fifth World Cup event and the first tournament held in the Southern hemisphere. It was also the first tournament to feature an African Test nation, South Africa. This was the first time day/night matches were used and the first tournament to use white cricket balls and colored team uniforms. The leading run scorer of the tournament was Martin Crowe of New Zealand with 456 runs. The leading wicket taker of the tournament was Wasim Akram of Pakistan with 16 wickets

The format for this tournament changed from previous years.

All teams were in one group and played each other once, rather than in two groups. The top four qualified for the knockout stage which was contested in similar fashion to the previous events. The final was played between Pakistan and England in Melbourne, Australia. Pakistan made 249 runs in 50 overs for 6 Wickets, compared to England's total of 227 runs in 49. 2 all out. Pakistan won by 22 Runs. India, Pakistan & Sri Lanka, 1996

At the World Cup in 1996, Australia and West Indies refused to play their matches against Sri Lanka in Sri Lanka due to security concerns, causing both matches to be awarded to Sri Lanka by default.

Also, Sri Lanka was awarded a victory for their semi-final by default against India because of crowd riots. This aided their campaign which eventually led to them winning the final. The final was played between Sri Lanka and Australia in Lahore, Pakistan. Australia made 241 runs in 50 overs for a loss of 7 wickets. In reply, Sri Lanka made 245 runs in 46. 2 overs losing only 3 wickets on the way. The final result: Sri Lanka by 7 wickets. Eden Garden Stadium (Kolkata) (http://en. wikipedia. org/wiki/1996\_Cricket\_World\_Cup) England, 1999

The 1999 event returned to England after sixteen years. Some matches also held in Ireland, Scotland and the Netherlands. • This tournament has a similar group stage format as 1996, though there was a dramatic change in the second stage, where a " Super Six" round replaced the quarter-finals. One of the greatest matches in the ICC World Cup history was the Australia and South Africa tied game in their semi-final. The final was played between Australia and Pakistan at Lords, London. Australia made 133 runs in 20. 1 overs for 2 wickets; in reply Pakistan made 132 All out in 39 Overs. Australia won by 8 Wickets. (http://breakingnewsonline. et/cricket/6923-1999-cricket-world-cup-at-glance. html) South Africa, Zimbabwe & Kenya, 2003 The 2003 World Cup was held between 9 February and 24 March 2003, in Southern Africa (co-hosted by South Africa, Zimbabwe and Kenya). The number of teams participating in the event increased from twelve to fourteen. Because of security concerns, Zimbabwe and Kenya won their matches against England and New Zealand by default. The Final was played between Australia and India on 23 March in Johannesburg, South Africa. Australia batted first and made 359 runs in 50 overs losing only 2 wickets.

In reply India made 234 after being all out in 39. 2 overs. Australia was crowned champions after beating India by 125 runs. Wanderers Stadium (South Africa) (http://breakingnewsonline. net/cricket/6966-2003-cricket-world-cup-at-glance. html) West Indies, 2007

The 2007 ICC World Cup of Cricket was held in April 2007. It was the 9th World Cup tournament, and the first time it had been held in the West Indies. The tournament consisted of 16 teams, including all 10 Test playing nations and 6 qualifiers. The 10 Test match playing countries plus Kenya qualified automatically.

The other five teams qualified via the 2005 ICC Trophy. The field of sixteen teams is the largest ever for the Cricket World Cup. The 16 teams were allocated into four groups of four. Within each group, the teams played each other in a round-robin format and the top two teams advanced to a 'Super 8' round. These eight teams then played in a round-robin format, except that they did not play the other team that advanced from their respective group. The top four teams from the Super 8 round advanced to the semi-finals, and the winners of the semi-finals then ompeted in the final, held at Kensington Oval in Bridgetown, on 28 April. The first hat-trick plus one (4 wickets in 4 balls) in World Cup history was by Sri Lankan Lasith Malinga against South Africa (Super Eights: South Africa v Sri Lanka at Providence, March 28, 2007) Bangladesh, India & Sri Lank a, 2011

The 2011 Cricket World Cup was held in Bangladesh, India & Sri Lanka. It was World Cup tournament, and the first time it had been held in the Bangladesh. Pakistan was originally going to co-host this event but due to security concerns in the years leading up to the event Pakistan’s hosting rights were revoked. The format of the tournament has been revised from previous events, and 14 teams will participate instead of 16. The new format ensures that each team gets to play a minimum of six matches even if they are ruled out of the tournament due to early defeats. [pic] Sher-e-Bangla Cricket Stadium. Mirpur, Dhaka (Outside Part) (http://dhakadailyphoto. blogspot. com/2011/02/dhaka-set-for-world-cup-cricket-2011. html) Cricket World Cup Firsts 1. The first world cup was held in 1975 in England.  The first world cup held outside England was in 1987 in India and Pakistan. The first time day/night matches was used was in 1992. . The first tournament to use white cricket balls and colored team uniforms was 1992. The first tournament to feature an African Test nation, South Africa, was in 1992. 6. The first team to remain undefeated throughout the whole tournament was Australia in 2003. They repeated this feat in the 2007 tournament.

The first hat-trick at the World Cup was by Indian Chetan Sharma in a game against New Zealand in 1987 www. images. google. com Chetan Sharma Trophy

The current Trophy awarded to the winners of the ICC Cricket World Cup was created for the 1999 championships.

It is the first permanent prize in the tournament's history. The trophy was developed by a team of craftsmen from Garrard, the Crown Jewelers. It was designed and produced in London within two months.

## Cricket World Cup Trophy

The trophy is 60 cm high, made from silver and gild and features a golden globe held up by three silver columns. The columns, shaped as stumps and bails, represent the three fundamental aspects of cricket: batting, bowling and fielding, while the globe represents the world and a cricket ball. The trophy is designed so that it can be instantly recognized from any angle. The trophy weighs approximately 11 kilograms and has the names of the previous winners inscribed on its base. There is still room for a further ten teams to have their name inscribed on the base. The actual trophy is always kept by the International Cricket Council. A replica is presented to the winning team, which is identical in all aspects apart from the inscription of the previous champions. (http://en. wikipedia. org/wiki/Cricket\_World\_Cup\_Trophy)

## Conclusion

Cricket World Cup is the most premier international championship of men’s One Day International Cricket. It has huge fan following in the world, especially in South Asia. In South Asia cricket is like religion . When ever world cup comes to the people of this region gone mad. Successive World Cup tournaments have generated increasing media attention as One-Day International cricket has become more established.

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