



FROM THE KEI CRICKET FAMILY

Welcome to the **July 2026 Edition** of the Kei Cricket Monthly Newsletter. As we reflect on the previous month, we celebrate a period of growth, development, and opportunity across the Kei region. From recognising excellence in grassroots cricket to strengthening our coaching structures, identifying talented players, and welcoming new members to the Kei Cricket family, every initiative demonstrated our commitment to growing the game and creating sustainable pathways for the future.

This edition highlights the achievements, development programmes, and strategic initiatives that continue to shape the future of Kei Cricket.

JOSEPH NGQASA NOMINATED FOR CSA AWARD

Kei Cricket proudly congratulates **Thabani Joseph Ngqasa** on his nomination for the **KFC Mini Cricket Coordinator of the Year** at the Cricket South Africa (CSA) Awards 2026.

This prestigious recognition celebrates Joseph's outstanding contribution to grassroots cricket and his unwavering dedication to introducing thousands of young boys and girls to the game through the KFC Mini Cricket Programme. His passion, leadership, and commitment continue to make a lasting impact throughout the communities we serve.

"Congratulations, Joseph! Your Kei Cricket family is immensely proud of this well-deserved achievement."

PROVINCIAL TEAM COACHES' & MANAGERS' WORKSHOP

Kei Cricket recently facilitated a series of strategic technical sessions to prepare for the upcoming season. This included a specialized workshop conducted by **Andre du Plessis**, which brought together our Provincial Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches to refine tactical frameworks and alignment.

Separately, Kei Cricket hosted a comprehensive meeting for all Provincial Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches, and Managers to align operational standards, player welfare protocols, and team management practices. This session was immediately followed by a crucial selectors' meeting to finalize strategic planning for our provincial structures. Together, these initiatives ensure a robust support system that promotes excellence on and off the field.

COACHING THE COACHES

Kei Cricket, together with its valued donor, successfully **Coaching of Coaches Programme**, reaffirming its commitment to strengthening grassroots cricket through coach education.

The programme equipped coaches with updated coaching techniques, practical skills, and player development strategies, empowering them to create positive and effective learning environments for young cricketers across the Kei region.

CSA HUB IDENTIFICATION CAMP

Kei Cricket proudly participated in the **CSA Hub Identification Camp**, an important initiative within Cricket South Africa's national player development pathway. Kei Cricket was proudly represented by Head Coach **Mawande Ntshinga** and Coach **Thembelihle Mahlanyana**, while Cricket Services Manager **Dumisa Makalima** served on the national selection panel, contributing to identifying top talent nationwide.

★ PROVINCIAL TRIALS & CUP CAMP

Kei Cricket successfully conducted provincial trials across various districts, providing aspiring cricketers with an opportunity to showcase their talent and compete for provincial selection. The trials formed an important part of the player identification process for upcoming Regional and National Weeks, allowing selectors to assess emerging talent from schools and cricket hubs.

Following the trials, selected players attended the intensive **Provincial Cup Camp**. This specialized camp focused heavily on improving technical skills, tactical awareness, physical fitness, and building strong team unity as players continue their journey within the high-performance pipeline.

👤 WELCOMING OUR FIRST NYS BATCH

Kei Cricket proudly welcomed the first intake of **National Youth Service (NYS)** participants for the new programme cycle. The new recruits joined various cricket development programmes across the region, where they will gain valuable workplace experience while supporting coaching, administration, and community cricket initiatives. Their arrival reflects Kei Cricket's continued commitment to youth empowerment, skills development, and creating meaningful opportunities through sport.

🌱 GROWING TOGETHER

Through coach education, talent identification, player development, and youth empowerment, Kei Cricket continues to build sustainable pathways that benefit players, coaches, and communities alike, making cricket accessible, inclusive, and impactful.

🔭 LOOKING AHEAD

The coming month promises continued growth through player development programmes, school cricket activities, provincial team preparations, and community engagement initiatives as we inspire the next generation.

ONE TEAM • ONE VISION • GROWING THE GAME

Kei Cricket Union • Mthatha, Eastern Cape, South Africa

🌐 www.keicricket.co.za

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