

Secondary Schools' Twenty20 Competition postponed

Media release, 10 September, 2008, Canterbury Cricket Association, Christchurch, New Zealand: The Lincoln University Secondary Schools' Twenty20 Competition scheduled for 20-21 September in Christchurch has been postponed until the reserve dates of 27-28 September.

In light of recent rain, ground conditions at St Bede's College and Hagley Park have been deemed too wet underfoot for suitable play.

Canterbury Cricket tournament manager Mike Fisher says organisers have fingers crossed for warmer weather in the lead-up to the new tournament dates.

"We have decided the grounds are currently too wet to allow for sufficient drying time by September 21, but we're hopeful of better conditions for the following weekend," he says.

The change of dates has meant Shirley Boys' High School is unable to compete and will be replaced in the tournament by a Canterbury Country invitation team.

The Lincoln University Secondary Schools' Twenty20 Competition will comprise 12 first-XI teams from Canterbury and Otago, each playing four matches over the weekend.

Sponsored by Lincoln University, the inaugural competition builds on the huge popularity attracted by the Twenty20 format around the world, and aims to foster the game's development amongst a number of secondary schools throughout the South Island.

The tournament continues the strong cricketing partnership already present between Lincoln and Canterbury Cricket through the university's successful Sports Scholarship Programme.

Entrants for the Lincoln University Secondary Schools' Twenty20 Competition: Christchurch Boys' High School, St Andrew's College, Christ's College, Riccarton High School, Burnside High School, St Bede's College, St Thomas of Canterbury College, Ashburton College, Timaru Boys' High School, Canterbury Country invitation team, Otago Boys' High School, and a combined Otago schools team.

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About the Canterbury Cricket Association

www.canterburycricket.org.nz

Canterbury Cricket is one of six major cricket associations within New Zealand. The association is responsible for the administration of all forms of traditional cricket within the Canterbury region. The Canterbury region, which is the largest geographically in New Zealand, includes metropolitan Christchurch as well as five district associations including Buller, Canterbury Country, Mid-Canterbury, South Canterbury and West Coast.

About the Lincoln University Sports Scholarship Programme

www.lincoln.ac.nz

Lincoln University created the Sports Scholarship Programme in partnership with sporting codes including the Canterbury Cricket Association, Canterbury Hockey, Canterbury Golf, Canterbury Netball, Canterbury Rugby Football Union, and Mainland Football.

The programme has brought top sports performers to Lincoln University where they combine academic study with the extension and development of their athletic and sporting abilities through a focused training programme and access to top-flight facilities and staff.

Scholarship recipients must be academically capable and demonstrate a commitment to complete a degree programme. Academic success is an essential part of the programme and the scholars must pass their university papers in order to retain their scholarships.

Previous and current successful Lincoln sports scholars include Richie McCaw and Andy Ellis (rugby); Michael Papps and Kate Pulford (cricket); Jo McCaw, Sarah Barnes and Katie Ritchie (netball); Jo Galletly, Jane Maley and Hugh Copland (hockey); Kristian Hutton and Georgia Goulding (football); Rodney Yee, Dean Cameron and May Chang (golf).

For further information, please contact:

Mike Fisher

Tournament manager, Canterbury Cricket Association

Tel: +64 3 363 5081

Email: mfisher@canterburycricket.org.nz

Karen Brown / James Richardson

Communicate IT Ltd

Tel: +64 3 381 6655 / 6656

Email: karen@communicateit.co.nz james@communicateit.co.nz