

Cricket Hall of Fame praised for maintaining high standards

Well known New York's cricket administrator, Mascelles Bailey, praised the Cricket Hall of Fame for its dedication and for maintaining high standards. "This is what can happen when we work together," he said, following his induction into the 27-year-old institution, Saturday, September 20 at ceremonies held at the Marriott Hotel, Hartford, Connecticut.

Bailey, a Financial Consultant and former president of the legendary Metropolitan Cricket League in New York, said that most of his spare time was dedicated to cricket and that he had decided to give whatever service he can to the sport in New York.



Roy Sweeney, right, introduces Mascelles Bailey at ceremony.

"Our hearts are in the right place. The power of cricket unites us. We are all united in our cause towards cricket in the U.S.," he said, while paying tribute to a number of individuals which included Roy Sweeney, Clifford Hinds, Hugh Pitter, John Aaron, Lloyd Scott and Lee Ramsay, whom he said played outstanding roles in the promotion of the sport in New York "

He singled out Sweeney, as a tireless advocate for the sport at all levels whose dedication to cricket in the U.S. is unmatched. "He is a man who thinks big, one who is dedicated and visionary," Bailey said. As president of the United States Cricket Promoters Association, Sweeney was responsible for bringing the full West Indies' team to New York to play on more than one occasion. He was resolute in keeping the game of cricket alive in North America, pouring 40 years of experience in all aspects of the game into an organization which he designed to make a lasting impact on the sport with the simple objective to foster and promote cricket at its highest level in the U.S.

Bailey also praised Hinds, a former officer of the USACA, for his outstanding work with the development of youth cricket in the U.S.

"I live by a simple maxim to serve," he said. "Each day I seize on every chance I get to serve. He who serves best is he who serves the most," he said, declaring that no other sport engenders such great passion and following as that of cricket.

"Keeping the game alive in New York is not an easy task," he said, and paid tribute to the many women who help out each weekend at the parks. However, in my mind, he said that the individuals who show up first at the park for a game, who are also the last ones to leave, who will spend their own money, time and energy so that others can enjoy themselves to my mind are the true heroes of the game in the U.S.