



OVER **70'S** WORLD CUP 2026 NEW ZEALAND

PRESS RELEASE

OVER 70'S WORLD CUP | CHRISTCHURCH

TOUR OVERVIEW



Christchurch 8013, New Zealand

Veterans Cricket India proudly presents the remarkable journey of the **India Over 70s Squad** during their participation in the prestigious Over 70s World Cup held in Christchurch, New Zealand.

The team departed from Bangalore on **10th February** and arrived in Christchurch on **12th February**, marking the beginning of an inspiring international campaign showcasing passion, fitness, and the enduring spirit of cricket beyond age.

The tour was meticulously planned, combining competitive matches, practice sessions, team-building activities, and cultural experiences, reflecting the true essence of international cricket.



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PREPARATION & PRACTICE



The team began preparations immediately upon arrival:

- First practice match at **St Albans Park**
- Multiple net sessions on 13th and 14th February
- Second practice match at **Marist Harewood Cricket Club**

These sessions helped the squad acclimatize to New Zealand conditions and build strong team synergy.

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MEET & GREET – OPENING CEREMONY

On **17th February 2026**, a special **Meet & Greet session** was held where all 8 participating teams came together, marking a memorable start to the tournament. The event included a team lunch and an interactive session that fostered camaraderie among players from different nations.



A symbolic moment of the event was when the **first ball of the tournament was bowled**, officially declaring the **Over 70s World Cup open**.



TOURNAMENT JOURNEY

Despite challenging weather conditions, including match postponements due to heavy rain, the team displayed resilience and sportsmanship throughout the tournament.

Key matches included:

- **India vs England** at Mandeville Park

India: 112/9 | England: 113/0

Result: England won by 10 wickets

- **India vs Sri Lanka** at Sefton Domain

India: 190 | Sri Lanka: 153

Result: India won by 37 runs

- **India vs Canada** at Burnside Park

Canada: 280/6 | India: 165

Result: Canada won by 115 runs

- **India vs New Zealand** at Bert Sutcliffe Oval

India: 222/6 | New Zealand: 226/0

Result: New Zealand won by 10 wickets (DLS method)

- **India vs Australia** at Burwood Park

India: 105 | Australia: 109/1

Result: Australia won by 9 wickets





• **India vs Rest of the World** at St Leonard's Park

India: 138 | Rest of the World: 100/2 (21)

Result: Rest of the World won by 50 runs (DLS method)

• **India vs USA** (rescheduled match)

India: 113 | USA: 198/5

Result: USA won by 85 runs



The team's adaptability and commitment were evident as they navigated schedule changes and continued to perform with determination.





GALA DINNER & TOURNAMENT FINALE

On **5th March 2026**, all participating teams came together for a **grand Gala Dinner**, marking the conclusion of the tournament. It was a memorable evening where players, officials, and teams celebrated the spirit of cricket and shared their experiences.

The **World Cup Final** was played between **England and Australia** at the prestigious **Hagley Oval Stadium**, where **England emerged victorious**, winning by **15 runs** to lift the Over 70s World Cup trophy.

The evening served as a perfect closing celebration, highlighting sportsmanship, unity, and lifelong friendships built through the tournament.



Team Bonding & Experiences

Beyond cricket, the tour was enriched with memorable experiences:

- Scenic visits to **Diamond Harbour & Lyttelton Port**
- City tours including Christchurch City Centre and Birdlings Flat Beach
- Team lunches and cultural outings
- Special dinner interaction with former international cricketer John Wright
- Team gatherings and outings

These moments strengthened camaraderie and created lifelong memories for the players.



India Over 70s Squad

The team was led by experienced and passionate cricketers:

Captain: Keith Alexander

Vice-Captain: Channi Singh

Squad Members:

- Amarinder Lal
- Andrew Pinho
- Francis Braganza
- Hemachandran Nair
- Jaspal Singh
- K Udhayagiri
- Kamlesh Amin
- NP Singh
- PK Raman
- Shashikant Aggarwal
- Sivarama Jandaliya
- Tarun Shah
- Inderraj Tony Singh



CLOSING NOTE

The tour concluded on **7th March**, marking the end of a competitive and enriching international campaign. The India Over 70s team demonstrated exceptional spirit, resilience, and sportsmanship while competing against top international veteran teams.

Veterans Cricket India extends its heartfelt appreciation to all players, support staff, and well-wishers for making this tour a memorable experience.

LOOKING AHEAD

With more international tours and tournaments on the horizon, Veterans Cricket India remains committed to providing global platforms for veteran cricketers to showcase their talent and continue their cricketing journey.

