



MEDIA RELEASE
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NATIONAL T20 CRICKET CHAMPION TO BE CROWNED FOR FIRST TIME IN MORRISVILLE, NC ON OCT. 3

- *Toyota Minor League Cricket Championship final to take place at scenic Church St Park, a \$5.2M cricket facility near Raleigh, North Carolina*
- *Final four teams to compete for largest purse in American cricket history on Oct. 2-3*
- *Historic weekend for American cricket to be broadcast live on Willow TV*

LOS ALTOS, CA - Minor League Cricket (MiLC) announced today that the inaugural Toyota Minor League Cricket Championship finals will be held at Church Street Park in Morrisville, North Carolina. The semi-finals will be held as a doubleheader on Saturday Oct. 2, and the championship match on Sunday Oct. 3. The winning team will take home \$125,000 out of a total \$250,000 total purse, the largest in American cricket history.

Broadcast coverage for the finals weekend will take place on Willow TV, with a multi-camera set-up to provide enhanced coverage of all three games. Willow TV is available in over five million households and is the leading dedicated broadcaster of cricket in the United States.

Finals weekend at Church Street Park, located only 15 miles from downtown Raleigh, is free to attend for all games. Fans will have the opportunity to meet and greet with international star cricketers, enjoy local food trucks, music and a family activity zone.

Church Street Park, a \$5.2 million cricket facility opened in 2015, is the home of Minor League Cricket's Morrisville Cardinals and the Triangle Cricket League, founded in 2009.

"The community around Church Street Park and in the broader Raleigh region has embraced cricket with incredible passion and that makes this venue an ideal location for this historic Finals Weekend," **said Justin Geale, Tournament Director, Minor League Cricket.** "This outstanding cricket facility provides a scenic setting for a wonderful weekend of action to determine a national T20 champion for the first time."

The route to qualification for the Finals Weekend will come via the Conference Semi-Finals, to be held the prior weekend, Sept. 25-26. The top two teams from each of Minor League Cricket's four divisions following the end of regular season play will take

part in best-of-three matchups, with the four winning teams advancing to Finals Weekend on Oct. 2-3.

“The Minor League Cricket season has so far exceeded expectations, with the regular season providing an unprecedented scale and level of competition in domestic cricket, giving young American players an incredible opportunity to develop their skills.” **said Iain Higgins, CEO, USA Cricket.** “Finals Weekend will showcase the strides cricket in America is rapidly taking to realize the vision of making cricket a mainstream sport in the United States outlined in USA Cricket’s Foundational Plan.”

Finals Weekend will conclude the historic inaugural season of the Toyota Minor League Cricket Championship, the most extensive competition to ever take place in American cricket. The tournament represents a new era for the sport in the United States, with 27 participating teams competing in over 218 matches taking place in 21 cities nationwide.

Minor League Cricket is the only nationwide tournament involving the strongest male players playing against each other at the best available facilities and forms a critical part of the evolving USA Cricket domestic cricket structure and pathway. The primary aim of the tournament is to give a platform and opportunity for the best cricketers in America to showcase their abilities at a national level and build cricket in communities across the country.

The full schedule and list of all competing 27 teams and their divisional breakdown is available at www.minorleaguecricket.com.

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT

Email: media@majorleaguecricket.com

ABOUT MINOR LEAGUE CRICKET

Minor League Cricket is a national Twenty20 cricket competition for 27 city-based teams from across the United States, launching this summer. More than 200 games will take place at 26 venues, featuring more than 400 players. Minor League Cricket will provide a foundational structure for cricket in the United States, providing a pathway to Major League Cricket and the United States National Team for the nation’s best players.