

# Maiden cricket tournament a bonding experience for Al Naba

**MUSCAT:** Cricket teams representing Al Naba Group's 10,000-plus strong multinational workforce battled for top honours in an exciting in-house tournament that was held at the group's Al Misfah Camp grounds last week.

Such was the success of the maiden hosting of the 'gentleman's game' that the group is now weighing plans to field its own corporate cricket team to play professional cricket under the prestigious Al Naba brand, says a press release.

In all, eight teams representing the various camps as well as the head office that together make up Al Naba's formidable footprint in the capital region, went head-to-head in back-to-back matches played over the weekend. While some teams selected names that reflected their work sites others chose creative and inspiring titles for their groups of 11.

Playing good old fashioned cricket, but with each game trun-



cated to a maximum of seven overs per innings, the tournament saw the teams perform with high energy and true sportsmanship that belied their passion to win.

For many on the field, the tournament was a bonding experience because it required them to work together and learn from one another. For others hailing from cricket crazy nations of Asia, playing the game served as a reminder of home.

Rajesh Gonsalves, head of the recreational committee and senior manager of Human Resources,

commented: "We are heartened by the success of this first-ever tournament. There were many objectives behind the hosting of this event. Firstly, we wanted to encourage our staff to adopt sports as a vehicle for an active and healthy lifestyle. Secondly, we knew it would provide an opportunity for our large and diverse workforce to connect with each other. After all, bonds formed during recreational and fun occasions can develop into strong working relationships, which in turn bode well for productivity and staff morale."