

TNT TO HOST CPL (T20) 2018 - 2020

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Each year, cricket fans across the world will enjoy seven (7) games in this the most popular form of cricket today in Trinidad and Tobago. These games will comprise of five (5) preliminaries, one 1 semi-final and one (1) final. The 2018 edition of the tournament, which will be the sixth (6th) season of the league, is scheduled for August 08, 2018 to September 16, 2018.

The arrangements between the Government and CPL will see a financial outlay by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago of TT\$ 6.7 dollars (US \$1 million) for each year; half of the sum being paid to CPL in cash, while the other half will be in kind for local

government services including the cost of the Brian Lara Stadium, ground transport, hotel, police and fire services with a TT\$3.5M dollars cap. Government therefore, would have hosted four (4) CPL finals in the period 2017-2020 in Trinidad and Tobago for the price of TT\$14M in cash, which is a significant savings when compared to the cost of the final game in 2015, which was TT\$24 million. It is estimated that the 2017 CPL T20 realized TT\$23 million in revenue for the country and garnered 37.6 million in viewership worldwide.

The Honourable Darryl Smith, Minister of Sport and Youth Affairs announced that the Government of Trinidad and Tobago is pleased to continue on the Sports Tourism drive with the hosting of this major tournament. He said, "2017 saw the best finals ever and to top it all off, the Trinbago Knight Riders won at home at the brand new Brian Lara Cricket Academy (BLCA)." Minister Smith added, "We have built a great relationship with the CPL and cricket fans across the world can expect a great product of high level excitement and entertainment, just as they did in 2017."

For the year 2017, Trinidad and Tobago saw the best year for Sports Tourism with the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (MSYA) working with a number of National Governing Bodies (NGB's), to host the most and highest levels of regional and international tournaments, including the 2017 CPL finals at the Brian Lara Cricket Academy.

This year, 2018, has already started off well with Trinidad and Tobago hosting the first ever CONCACAF Women's Tournament in the Under 20 age group. Badminton also hosted its highest level of tournament in the Male and Female Continental Team Championships 2018 in February, at the National Racquet Centre. The Trinidad and Tobago Sambo and Combat Sambo Federation will be hosting the Caribbean International Open Combat Sports Championships in April, the Trinidad and Tobago Triathlon Association just won the bid to host the CARIFTA later this year, and several other sports have international events in the pipeline for 2018.

The Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs (MSYA) will continue to forge strategic partnerships for the advancement of Trinidad and Tobago as a Sports Tourism destination and looks forward with excitement to the CPL series 2018 - 2020.