Cricket in Olympics?

Kranti Khandekar explores the youngster’s take on the idea of the inclusion of Cricket in 2020 Olympic.

With the start of the Beijing event less than a week away, Adam Gilchrist believed that cricket has the potential to be included in the Olympic Games and that will secure the game’s global future. Although, considering the success of the new format and the Indian Premier League, he said Twenty 20 is the ideal version to be included in the 2020 Olympics. Let’s find out the Gen X’s view on this issue...

I think cricket is not ready to be included in 2020 Olympics, because hardly 10-12 countries play cricket, so to include the twenty-20 format, we need to run a campaign which will teach the world how to play cricket in the first place.

- Sanket Parab, Engineering Student.

As things stand now, cricket doesn’t have a chance to be included in the near future. A lot of lobbying and horse trading is required to get a sport to be included in the Games, as evidenced by the recent controversy regarding selection of venues and the resulting bribing allegations amongst the adjudicators.

The inclusion of cricket in Olympics will help spread cricket in new territories and raise its popularity amongst women too. Before including cricket, we need to make our cricket popular in the majority of the competing Olympic nations, by making it exciting and ground-breaking in countries that haven’t yet caught the ‘cricket-bug’. This will also result in cricket getting more competitive and thereby flourishing in countries where it is currently played today.

The 2008 Youth Commonwealth Games were held in Pune- the first time ever being held in India itself, people will become more aware of the potential of our athletes and provide them with the support needed,” says Mubashir Ahmedi, a sports enthusiastic. “It will teach the world how to play cricket in international standards,” he concludes.

If you think the 2008 Youth Commonwealth Games was all about sports? Ainee Nizami finds out more about the theme, the mascot and much more.