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# Editor's NOTE



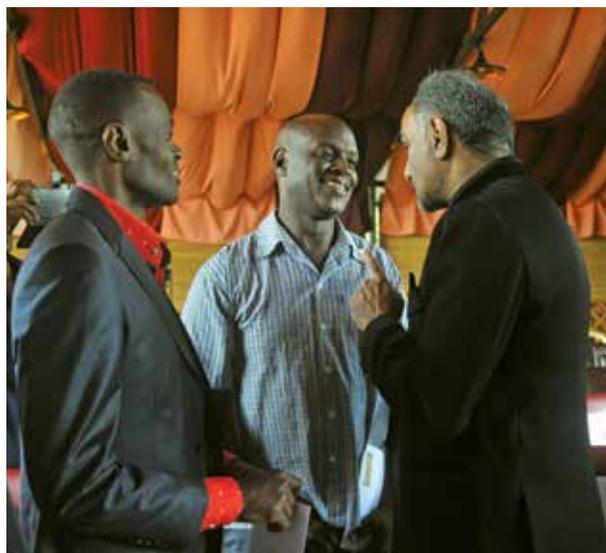
## Advantages of hosting a major event

Kenya will be on the spotlight for the better part on July while hosting the Under 18 World Athletics Championships in Nairobi. Such a major event raises the profile of a city and can lead to lasting economic benefits alongside assurance of a persistent increase in recognition and tourism. A significant benefit is the long-term investment which comes from preparing for a major event like improved sporting venues, infrastructure and transport all which leave a lasting legacy for residents. The several years of planning and investment helps create jobs and can revitalise depressed cities and create enthusiasm and excitement for such an event. Also, a major sporting event can lead to a rise in volunteerism which promotes civic virtues as well as provide an increase in spending and injection of money into the local economy.

*Ben Ochieng'*

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## Cover picture: Under 18 athlet



Aasif Karim gives tips to Tony and Martin Suji  
during the launch of his book

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**Sports Monthly** congratulates Aasif Karim on  
the launch of his book and documentary:  
**The Karims - A Sporting Dynasty**



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## Uganda's cricket on the rise as Kenya struggles qualify for 2019 World Cup

Ugandan cricket is a story of what good organisation, long term planning and youth programmes can do to transform any sport – in this case a minority one in this east African country.

The break-through for Uganda came in 1998 when Uganda got ICC associate membership. The membership means many of the development programmes will have a regular source of funds.

As Ugandan cricket is on the ascendancy, Kenya's dream of making it to the 2019 Cricket World Cup now resembles fantasy for Kenya.

The 2019 World Cup will feature 10 teams, a decrease from previous World Cups in 2011 and 2015 which featured 14 teams.

The hosts England, and the top seven other teams in the ICC rankings (comprising the ten full members and two associate members), as of September 30, 2017, will earn automatic qualification with the remaining two spots being decided by the 2018 Cricket World Cup Qualifier in Bangladesh.

This means that ICC Associate and Affiliate members, which had previously been guaranteed four spots through the Qualifier, can be represented by at most two teams and possibly none at all if they are beaten by Full Members in the Qualifier.

This also means that at least two Test playing nations will play in the qualifying tournament and therefore a Test nation could miss the World Cup for the first time.

The format for the tournament will have just one group so each team will play nine group games before two semi finals and a final.

If qualifying format was to be done today, the top eight Cricket World Cup-bound teams would be: England (hosts), South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

It would mean that the World Cup qualification would include: 1. West Indies, 2. Afghanistan, 3. Zimbabwe, 4. Ireland, 5. The Netherlands, 6. Papua New Guinea, 7. Hong Kong, 8. Scotland, 9. Kenya and 10. Nepal.

Kenya would need to reach the Final of this qualifying tournament to reach their first World Cup since 2011. They did not qualify for the 2015 edition.