



Media Release

Thursday, 3 December 2020

Legends join Seven's Summer of Cricket Gavaskar and Lara sign on to cricket's best team

Cricket's #1 commentary team has just got even better, with the Seven Network adding two of the game's all-time greats – Sunil Gavaskar and Brian Lara – to its star-studded line-up for what is shaping up as a spectacular 2020-21 season.

Gavaskar, a fearless opener who averaged 51.22 in 125 Tests for India, will join Seven for all four Tests in Australia's blockbuster series against India, when the world's two best teams compete for the coveted prize that bears his name – the Border-Gavaskar Trophy.

From the opening day of the first Test at Adelaide Oval on 17 December, Gavaskar will be part of Seven's incomparable team that will again be led by cricket's most astute commentator, former Australian skipper Ricky Ponting.

Former Aussie stars Michael Slater, Damien Fleming and Simon Katich will also return as expert commentators, along with Greg Blewett in the Adelaide Test, while Mel McLaughlin, James Brayshaw, Tim Lane, Alison Mitchell and analyst Trent Copeland round out Test cricket's best commentary team.

Across 131 Tests and 299 One-Day Internationals for the West Indies, Lara was one of the most destructive batsmen cricket has seen. He will be a key member of Seven's BBL coverage, which kicks off 10 December.

The swashbuckling left-hander, who still holds the record Test score of 400 not out, never got to play T20 cricket at international level, but no batsmen before or since has been more naturally suited to the game's shortest format.

Lara will be in illustrious company in the commentary box, with Seven's BBL team including Ponting, Slater, Fleming, Brayshaw, McLaughlin, Blewett, Copeland, Brad Hodge, Lisa Sthalekar, Abbey Gelmi, Jason Richardson, Andy Maher, Alister Nicholson and Erin Holland.

In another exciting addition to Seven's coverage this summer, five-time ICC Umpire of the Year, Simon Taufel, will join the Test team to give his expert analysis on any contentious decisions.

Seven West Media Chief Revenue Officer, Kurt Burnette, said: "Seven's Summer of Cricket is looking good. We have the best commentary team in Australian sport all in one place. We are the only place where Australians can watch the cricket live and free, and we are the only place where marketers can get their messages in play, reaching millions of engaged and connected Australians over the summer."



Media Release

Ricky Ponting said: “The build-up to this summer has obviously been very different, but we’re now on the brink of a season that’s as exciting as any in recent memory.

“At the centre of it is the Test series against India. This rivalry is now as fierce as any in international cricket and this summer shapes as a heavyweight contest between the two best teams in the world. I can’t wait to step back into the Seven commentary box.”

For more information, please contact:

Jack McLintock
Corporate and Government Affairs Manager
M: 0450 608 022
E: jmclintock@seven.com.au

About Seven West Media

Seven West Media (ASX: SWM) is one of Australia’s most prominent media companies, with a market-leading presence in content production across broadcast television, publishing and digital.

The company is home to some of Australia’s most renowned media businesses, including the Seven Network and its affiliate channels 7two, 7mate, 7flix; broadcast video on demand platform 7plus; 7NEWS.com.au; The West Australian; and The Sunday Times. With iconic brands such as Australia’s leading news and breakfast programs **7NEWS** and **Sunrise, Big Brother, SAS Australia, Farmer Wants A Wife, The Voice, Home and Away** and **Better Homes and Gardens**, Seven West Media is also the broadcast partner of the AFL, Cricket Australia, Supercars and the Olympics.