

ICC Hall of Fame now includes Dravid, Ponting and Taylor



Each year, the International Cricket Council (ICC) honours cricket legends from across the world by including their name in its hall of fame as an appreciation for stupendous performances through the year. Perhaps this year ICC picked three veteran cricketers in the form of Rahul Dravid from India, Ricky Ponting from Australia and Claire Taylor from England to be bestowed with being listed in the ICC Hall of Fame.

Both Rahul Dravid and Ricky Ponting, the ex-captains of their teams and highly dependable middle order batsman of the team where as Claire Taylor is retired England women cricket team's wicket-keeper as well as batting champion. With the feat, Dravid became the fifth Indian cricket player to be inducted in the list where as Ponting joined the list with 24 other Australians honoured prior to him. Taylor was marked as the seventh woman cricketer to join and third English player to be inducted in the list of cricketing heroes.

About India, former Indian cricketing icons like Bishan Singh Bedi, Sunil Gavaskar and Kapil Dev were included in the ICC Hall of Fame in 2009; where as star leg spinner Anil Kumble was included in the list in 2015. The decision to include all three Dravid, Ponting and Taylor was made by a jury committee of former inductees and members of the media. Dravid, who was popularly known as the 'wall of India', said, "to find your name in a list of all-time greats across generations is something one only dreams of while setting out on a cricket career."

Expressing gratitude, Ponting, the former master-class one-down batsman of Australia, said, "I loved every moment of my journey as a player and am so very proud of the team and personal achievements along the way." Taylor said it was a great honour to be inducted "alongside some of the greatest names of the men's and women's game from across the world and throughout the generations, players who I looked up to during my playing career and hold in great esteem."