# Cricket's Olympic Revival in 2028: Insights from Former Stars



**Cricket's Olympic Comeback in 2028 Sparks Enthusiasm**

In a recent podcast, former England cricket captain Kevin Pietersen expressed that playing cricket in the Olympic Games would be an extraordinary experience for any cricketer. Reflecting on his career, which includes a T20 World Cup victory and triumphs over cricket powerhouses like India and Australia, the 43-year-old emphasized the unique prestige of competing in the Olympics.

Cricket will rejoin the Olympic Games for the 2028 event, marking its return for the first time since 1900. The International Cricket Council (ICC) predicts that the event will attract over 3 billion viewers worldwide across TV and digital platforms.

Pietersen noted the shift in cricket's landscape, comparing the Olympics to other major cricket tournaments. He highlighted that the quadrennial nature of the Olympics adds a special allure, distinct from annual leagues like the IPL or other franchise-based competitions.

Adding to this sentiment, former South African opener Hashim Amla discussed the tough decisions players face regarding their allegiance to international or franchise cricket. Amla emphasized the need for the Olympic schedule to avoid clashing with other cricket leagues to ensure player participation.

Former Indian pacer S Sreesanth, a member of the 2011 World Cup-winning team, mentioned that a gold medal win for India at the 2028 Olympics would be the pinnacle achievement, comparing the Olympics' significance to an Oscar victory.

The inclusion of cricket in the Olympics has historical roots in the US, where the sport was initially popular among British colonists before being overshadowed by baseball. The revival of interest in cricket in the US, fueled by immigrants primarily from the Indian subcontinent and the Caribbean, has led to a gradual increase in its popularity.

Notably, the US cricket team, comprising players of diverse origins, put forth impressive performances in the recent T20 World Cup. Their success has garnered amusement and admiration globally, with a bright future anticipated for cricket in the US. The upcoming 2028 Los Angeles Olympics is expected to further enhance cricket's profile in the country.