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BOPARA AND PATEL IN ENGLAND T20 LINE-UP

Ravi Bopara and Samit Patel have been named in the 14-man England squad for this month's upcoming Twenty20 series with the West Indies.

England will play the tourists twice in one weekend at the Oval in London. Firstly they will meet on Friday September 3 and then they will face each other again two days later.

26-year-old all-rounder Bopara, who plays for Essex at county level, has been a vital part of the national set-up since making his debut in a one day international against Australia in early 2007. He is the second Sikh after Monty Panesar to play for the country.

Nottinghamshire's Patel, also 26, has starred in the last two T20 matches and has worked his way back into the fold after previously being dropped over fitness concerns.

KHAN RULES OUT MAIDANA CLASH

Boxer Amir Khan says there will be no repeat of his thrilling bout with Marcos Maidana – as he turns his attention to Erik Morales for his final opponent at light-welterweight.

Twenty-four-year-old Khan beat Maidana last December on points and it is understood the Argentinian is desperate for a rematch.

But the WBA and IBF light-welterweight champion insists it will not happen.

Khan said: "Maidana's been saying I'm avoiding him and don't want to fight him, but he was my mandatory a year ago and I beat him fair and square.

"Now he wants a rematch but I've got bigger fish to fry.

"If I was to fight Maidana again I'd beat him again, only more convincingly this time."

Khan added: "There are other names I want and I want them quickly because they might not be there again.

RABADIA: "I WANT TO RAISE THE PROFILE OF ASIAN DARTS"

Arrows master wants more Asian's to take up the sport

By **Andrew Wake**

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Rohit 'Rock-it' Rabadia is looking forward to a mammoth 24-hour charity darts marathon before making his assault on the BDO championship rankings.

From 6.30pm on Friday 23 September to 8pm the following day, Rabadia, Britain's only professional darts player, will be joined at the Chiswick Memorial club by an array of top class players as they sling their arrows in aid of Cancer Research UK and MacMillan Cancer Support.

But the London-based Tungstan technician also hopes to give the sport a huge shot in the arm by promoting the sport to the Asian community.

"The charities are very important to me and we've a plan to raise £5000, which I'm sure we'll have done by the end of the night," Rabadia said. "It's a good night for the youngsters to come along and play a few games with the professionals and that's a chance they won't get very often.

"But I want to try and raise the profile of Asian darts players. Unfortunately, the sport has long had a association with pubs and drinking so a lot of Asians have stayed away from it."

Rabadia, 31, will be taking part in



BDO tournaments across Europe before the end of next year and hopes to build up enough rankings points to enter the BBC-televised world championships in 2013.

"That would be dream," he enthused. "Hopefully seeing an

Asian darts player on TV will inspire more to take up the sport.

"There are already some good Asian players in the local leagues but the never try the professional route because they don't have the backing of their families.

"Often, they are told to forget about sports and concentrate on studying, which there is nothing wrong with, but in some of the darts tournaments now the prize money on offer is more than a year's salary in a lot of jobs."