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IMPORTANT NOTICE

ASSOCIATION ANNUAL DINNER

Members are advised that the Association's Annual Dinner and Awards Presentation will be held at the Bankstown Sports Club on April 16, 2016.

Entertainment for the evening will be provided by world renowned ventriloquist Darren Carr.

Registration forms will be sent out early in the New Year and it would be great to see as many members as possible in attendance.

Executive Officer update – Darren Goodger

Season Underway Across the State

At the time of writing the season is underway across NSW with competitions in full swing. The NSW Blues have won the Matador BBQs One Day Cup with a convincing victory in the Final over South Australia. The NSW Country Colts Carnival has been run and won, being very well hosted in Dubbo, with Central North winning the title back to back. Various State Challenge Carnivals have been held in male and female programs.

The Sydney Grade competition is six rounds deep and half the matches in the Poidevin Gray Shield have been completed. The Kingsgrove Sports T20 Cup Final was played at Coogee Oval on Sunday 29 November 2015 with Randwick Petersham defeating Sydney University. Simon Lightbody and Troy Penman are to be commended on their fine performance in the Final.

The Plan B Regional Bash, which has been a highly successful franchise based T20 competition played in the country zones, will culminate with Conference Finals and the Final to be played at the SCG on Sunday 6 December 2015 – a fantastic opportunity for country players and the six NSWCUA country members who will officiate – Paul Dilley, Neil Findlay, Graeme Glazebrook, Greg Jones, Ross McKim and Phil Rainger.



Graeme Glazebrook & Greg Jones

Carolyn Sheehan – Life Membership of Cricket NSW

The Association offers sincere congratulations to member Carolyn Sheehan from Mudgee who has been a regional coach of girls' teams for 34 years and a New South Wales youth coach for 18 years. Carolyn was honoured with Life Membership of Cricket NSW at the Association's AGM on Monday 7 September 2015.

A driving force for girls' cricket in Western NSW, she has also filled in on many occasions as CNSW U15 team manager and assistant coach and currently is involved with the NSW Academy.

Carolyn has worked with every NSW women's State coach for the past 30 years, developing an excellent relationship with Breakers coach Joanne Broadbent due to their passion for country girls' cricket and NSW.

The cousin of former Australian all-rounder Lisa Keightley, Carolyn began with NSW as a 16-year-old junior, travelling with Lisa to Sydney for training sessions and tournaments.

While Lisa went on to play for Australia and coach at international level, Carolyn has dedicated her time and coaching ability to developing girls from across NSW. All the current Country-based players have been either coached or encouraged by Carolyn throughout their formative years.

Carolyn has been a wonderful servant of cricket in Western Zone. She is an outstanding person, truly humble, passionate about the game and always willing to assist others to develop their cricket and life skills.

Carolyn has given to so many that precious commodity of time. She is a deserving recipient of Life Membership of Cricket NSW. Her recognition was well received right across the Western Zone.

Chris McLeod – First Class Debut

Chris McLeod (Randwick Petersham) made his first class debut as a scorer in the Sheffield Shield match between NSW and Tasmania at Bankstown Oval last month. Chris deserved this appointment.

He has demonstrated excellence as a scorer and a genuine commitment to his club. I know he enjoyed the experience of working alongside International Scorer Christine Bennison. We hope it will be the first of many appointments for Chris at first class level.



Christine Bennison & Chris McLeod

Jay Lenton – First Class Debut

I share with members an email that was sent to Sydney Cricket Association Grade panel umpires, and Cricket NSW staff, following Jay Lenton's selection to represent NSW in the Sheffield Shield match against Victoria at the SCG 6-9 November 2015.....

Dear members,

The fight is won far away from witnesses – behind the lines, in the gym, and out there on the road – long before I dance under those lights. Muhammad Ali.

The New South Wales Blues Sheffield Shield team has been selected and announced for the Round 2 match starting at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Friday against Victoria. Jay Lenton has been selected in the Blues squad for this match.

Jay is an outstanding example of everything you want being on the other side of hard work and a strong, positive and resilient attitude. Delisted from the Blues squad at the end of season 2013-14, Jay sought full time employment and on merit won the position of NSWCUSA Administration Officer over 92 other applicants. His degree in Sports Coaching and Administration has been put to good use and NSWCUSA has been the beneficiary. Jay has been an outstanding addition to our team here at Cricket NSW and many members who have dealt with Jay in his role have described him as the consummate professional who possesses outstanding people and communication skills.



In terms of his cricket, Jay continued to be selected in the New South Wales 2nd XI team, representing the State on 12 occasions at that level. He changed cricket clubs and went to Manly-Warringah where he made a strong contribution to the Club's First Grade Premiership win, their first title in 26 years. He impressed all and sundry at Manly-Warringah and was appointed Club Captain for season 2015-16 and is a respected member of the Club's Leadership Group.

Two weeks after becoming a premiership player in April Jay commenced preparation for this season working overtime on his fitness throughout the autumn, winter and spring and on his skill development as the season drew near. He has scored three First Grade centuries this season – they haven't come about through luck. On the road to success there is never a crowd on the extra mile.



On Friday Jay will become the 737th cricketer to represent New South Wales as a first class player. He is a wonderful example of hard work paying dividends with selection. John Wooden wrote that success is peace of mind that is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to become the best you are capable of becoming. Spectacular achievements are always preceded by unspectacular preparation.

As an Association, and I know I write here for so many members, we offer Jay our congratulations on his selection. Jay will be keen to make the best contribution he can to the Blues – it's more than just about being selected in a team, it's about making the strongest and most positive contribution you can and recognising that hard work starts when you reach the next level.

That next level has arrived for Jay and we wish him the very best for his first class debut starting at the SCG on Friday. May it be the first of many matches for Jay Lenton in a New South Wales Blues cap.

*Regards,
Darren Goodger.*

National Indigenous Cricket Championship

Formerly known as the Imparja Cup, the NICC will be held in Alice Springs in February.

Congratulations are offered to Berend du Plessis (pictured below) who has been selected as the NSW Umpire to attend this Championship.



McDonald's Country Championship Final

Congratulations to Graeme Glazebrook and Bruce Whiteman who were selected to umpire the McDonald's Country Championship Final between Newcastle and Southern at No. 1 Sportsground (Newcastle) on Sunday 29 November 2015. Newcastle 9-257 defeated Southern 8-254 by three runs.

Anthony Hobson – Futures League Debut

Congratulations are offered to Anthony Hobson who was selected by Cricket Australia to make his Futures League Debut standing in the match at Coffs Harbour between NSW and Tasmania (23-26 November 2015). Anthony stood with fellow member Simon Lightbody. The highlight of the match was an unbeaten triple century to Daniel Hughes.



Anthony Hobson & Simon Lightbody

Cricket Australia U19 National Championship

Ten umpires have been selected by Cricket Australia to attend the U19 National Championship in Adelaide which started on Monday 30 November 2015. NSWCUA has three representatives – congratulations and best wishes are offered to Anthony Hobson, David Taylor and Ben Treloar on their appointment.

Claire Polosak – ICC Women's World T20 Qualifier

Congratulations and best wishes are offered to Claire Polosak who has been selected to umpire at the ICC Women's World T20 Qualifier being held in Bangkok (28 November-5 December 2015). This is the second occasion Claire has been selected to umpire internationally after standing in the Cricket New Zealand U21 Female National Championship last year.

Phil Rainger – Australian Country Cricket Championship

The ACCC will be held in Mount Gambier from 3-11 January 2016. We congratulate Phil Rainger on his selection as the NSW umpire to attend the ACCC. Phil resides in Taree and officiates in the North Coast Zone. He has been a member of the Country Representative Umpire Panel since season 2013-14. This is the first time that NSWCUA has been invited to send an umpire to an ACCC being held interstate.



Brian Booth & Phil Rainger

Annual Convention

The Annual Convention held at Bradman International Cricket Hall of Fame in Bowral was an outstanding success. There are many to be thanked for their contribution:

- Troy Penman and Jay Lenton for their organisation and administrative expertise.
- All members who facilitated sessions and took themselves out of their comfort zone to benefit others – Gerard Abood, Greg Davidson, Simon Lightbody, Muhammad Qureshi, Simon Taufel, Ben Treloar, Anthony Wilds.
- Our guest speakers who added so much to the Convention – Joanne Broadbent, Kath Koschel, Geoff Lawson and Bob Parry.
- Administration Officer Jay Lenton who facilitated an excellent session on umpiring from a player's perspective.
- Marty Edgell and Bill Hendricks – they did a great job with the Convention photography.
- Laurie Borg and the Social Committee.
- Marty Edgell for his work with our new umpires
- Merchandise Officer John Evans and his team.
- Rina Hore, staff at Bradman, and their volunteer team for their outstanding hospitality.
- All members who attended the weekend – you making that commitment is appreciated and it shows your dedication to self-improvement – the hard work goes in for your benefit and all who attended brought with them such a positive attitude that it made Convention 2015 a pleasure to be a part of.



Graham Chudleigh and Simon Taufel

Vote of Thanks

I wish to offer a vote of sincere thanks to Troy Penman and Jay Lenton. As Administration Manager and Administration Officer respectively they do an outstanding job for NSWCUA on a daily basis. Their hard work, commitment and loyalty to the Board, each other and the membership are appreciated. They are an outstanding team and this is recognised by both the NSWCUA Board and Cricket NSW Management.

Eight rules for success...

- [Improve every day – as a player, as a person, as a student.
- Care about your team mates, friends and family.
- Show great effort and enthusiasm.
- Associate with only quality people.
- Expect more of yourself, always.
- Do it right, don't expect less.
- Be genuine.
- Make discipline a way of life.

Bill Snyder, American Football.]

Lord's Experience – Karl Wentzel

The Sydney Cricket Ground Trust (thanks mainly through the very capable organisational skills of Paula Booth) organised a cricket tour to UK during the second half July 2015 playing thirteen matches around London, Windsor, Winchester and Arundel. There were three very memorable locations - those playing against the Royal Household in Windsor Castle Park (whilst the Queen was in residence and Her Majesty drove past the ground during the match), the Duchess of Norfolk XI game which had to be called off due to rain, but provided the opportunity to visit the 18th Duke of Norfolk's Arundel Castle and finally the match against MCC at the historically famous Lord's ground. Whilst returning to London from Winchester, our coach stopped in Hambledon where we had a drink in the Thomas Lord pub (where the garden was full of beautiful white hydrangeas) and then went to view his grave site where he was buried in 1832 in the grounds of the local St John's church yard in West Meon. As history goes, Thomas Lord owned the Lord's ground at St John's Wood and leased it to the MCC until they eventually purchased it from him.



The MCC club which was founded in 1787 moved to their current home of cricket in 1814. They own the Lord's ground and are the guardians of the Laws of Cricket. They have a Membership of approx 28,000 with some 2,000 members representing them on the field of play. The current waiting period for full membership is approx. 30 years and talking to the players, the quickest way to become a member is to play for the MCC. Players have to be of 1st XI standard, play 10 games over a 2 year period and if selected (based purely on performance) are then required to play a further 20 games for the MCC over a period of 5 years before becoming a full member. It was interesting to hear that for the game against the SCGXI in excess of 400 members applied to play for the MCC team on Monday, 27th July 2015.



After our arrival at Lord's the SCGXI players, plus our NSWCUA member Narelle Johnston (official scorer for the tour) and I (touring umpire) were escorted by ladies and gents wearing white blazers and ties to our respective rooms in the Members grandstand. In the umpires' room was the other umpire Peter E. McKenzie (RAO ECB ACO) who together with the match coordinating manager and umpire room attendant welcomed me to the ground. The match manager also advised us of the format of play (50 overs each) and that the match had to be played in accordance with international conditions. Peter then advised me that it is customary for visiting umpires to stand at the media end facing the great view of the members' grandstand.

For those interested, the letters after Peter's name is his official title of Regional Appointments' Officer, England and Wales Cricket Board, Association of Cricket Officials. The ECB has 4 RAO's responsible for the appointment of umpires for senior ECB matches throughout England and Wales. Peter has umpired 2nd County matches and makes in excess of 1000 appointments per year all done on line.



The umpires' dress code for the match was white and I proudly wore the NSWCUA white shirt. However since it was a typical cold and cloudy day, my blue umpire jacket was not suitable and the room attendant phoned the stores department and arranged for a white coat.

Another attendant arrived with a beautiful woollen umpires' coat which I wore throughout the match. They also fully understood the reasons why I had to wear a helmet during umpiring and were pleased to notice that it was a white helmet.

The toss was taken on the pitch with our NSWCUA centenary medallion. The SCGX1 Captain, Richard Burton, won the toss and elected to bowl. The SCGX1, which included great players such as Stuart Clark,

Stuart MacGill, Ryan Carters, Corey Collymore, Tim Cruickshank and Anthony Clark (Blacktown) and Andrew Jones had MCC 7/119 until a 2nd county player M.S.Coles (102) and tail enders lifted the score to 238 all out in the 48th over. (Andrew Jones 3/33, Stuart Clark 3/38.)

We then took half an hour for lunch when we were escorted to the upstairs players' dining room for a 3 course fully waited meal (including a choice of 4 mains).

The SCGX1 had a good start but unfortunately could only achieve 198 all out with Stuart Clark top scoring with 52 runs and Tim Cruickshank making 33 runs. Generally speaking the MCC bowlers managed to get more swing with the Dukes ball and handled the famous "Lord's (ground) slope" (approx 10 to 12 feet) better.

When we returned to the umpires' room on the table were plates containing a selection of sandwiches and various cakes. The attendant took our bar drink orders and after returning with the drinks, I was officially presented with the coat I wore in the match, a lapel badge and tie for making history as the first ever umpire who wore a helmet whilst officiating in a match at Lord's.

After presentations to the players on the field we proceeded to the showers and dressed into our number one's for dinner in the famous members' long room. Before dinner we were taken to two bars, the first called the committee bar where we could have any alcoholic drinks. We then went to the long room bar where we were given only Pimms lemonade or champagne which are the traditional drinks everyone seemed to enjoy during a test match.



The SCGXI touring party consisted of 46 members and other than the 15 members who were involved in the match, the rest were suitably entertained during the day by MCC members in a private box, taken and shown the facilities around the ground including the member stands, museum, and the large media dome.

After our drinks in the bar the doors to the long room were opened and we were asked to take our seats at our allocated table number with our name tags. The long room was amazing with 29 people seated at the long, top table and the balance of 80 people on 7 tables adjoining the top table. The tables and room were beautifully decorated and the room swarmed with waiters and waitresses serving the drinks and food. The dinner was hosted by the President of the MCC David Morgan O.B.E, D.L. and other MCC Board and committee members.

Neil Maxwell, Chairman of Sydney Cricket Ground Trust also attended the dinner. Bronwen Regan (wife of the Major of Warringah, Michael Regan) made an inspiring speech on the Spirit of Cricket. It was said that Bronwen may also have made history at Lord's being the first lady to have delivered a speech in the long room. Entertainment was provided through a public conversation "on the world of cricket" between John Stephenson, Assistant Secretary of MCC, John Emburey (ex England test player) and Stuart Clark and Stuart MacGill (ex Australian Players).

The time spent at Lord's will always be fondly remembered by everyone who attended the tour (including my lovely wife Collette). The hospitality provided by the MCC was absolutely incredible.

My experience at Lord's in the month of July 2015 was fantastic and will never be forgotten. To have attended the first two days at the 2nd Ashes test witnessing Steve Smith get his first double century, to have had a drink in the Thomas Lord pub and gone to his burial site in West Meon, to have umpired on such a world famous ground with so much cricket history and to have enjoyed a dinner in the long room will also always be fondly remembered.





Anthony Bathe, Keiran Knight & Wayne Allan



Craig Lees & Adam Davy



Anthony Wilds, Graeme Glazebrook
& Darrin Masters



Andrew Hamilton & Mark Hughes



Graham Swan, Dhanushka Jayakody,
Chris Cassin & Simon Lightbody



Victor Gauci, Arthur Watson & Ray Marshall

NSWCUSA Convention – Ian Wright

The 2015 NSW Cricket Umpires and Scorers Association convention was held at the Bradman Museum and International Cricket Hall of Fame in Bowral on Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 August.

The attendance of 15 scorer members was above the attendance of conventions in recent years, and included a spread of representative level scorers, first grade and lower grade scorers.

Merilyn Fowler was again the coordinator and main presenter, and did an outstanding job in arranging an educational, entertaining and interesting program. The theme for this year was "Be Your Best". This emphasised that whether you aspire to score for Australia in Test Matches, or just for your local community club, then you should strive for excellence.

The main presentations on the first day were the following:

Merilyn presented on "Be Your Best" - this included an ice-breaker maze puzzle and a worksheet where we were all asked to set out our motivation and goals for our scoring. We all completed a worksheet which helped to analyse what motivates us. For example categories included Achievement Orientated, Affiliation Orientated, Security Orientated and Influence Orientated.

Chris McLeod spoke briefly of his experience in being selected to score in Alice Springs for the Imparja Cup. Chris noted that each State has several differences in how their scoring association works and how they operate.

Ben Treloar presented a discussion on various scenarios that can occur in matches. We were asked to provide our suggested answers and Ben provided his answers and the Law which applied in each case.

Merilyn presented a session on What Makes a Good Scorer. Everyone participated with various suggestions. Among the suggested responses were:-

- Prepares well for the day
- Accurately records all details
- Communicates well with partner and umpires
- Checks details with partner regularly
- Maintains concentration
- Watches play until the ball becomes dead
- Keeps details of extra information needed including team 50s, partnerships etc
- Maintain enthusiasm
- Strive to improve skills
- Works well as a team

After lunch Darren Goodger provide an update of the season and operations at the Cricket Association Office. A major achievement last season was that for the first time ever, umpires were supplied in 100% of matches in Grade and Shires cricket throughout the season.

Bob Parry ran through a summary of some Law changes that will take effect this season.

Joanne Broadbent spoke of her experiences as a Test Cricketer for Australia and her role as coach of the NSW Breakers.

Merilyn provided a session on Goal Setting and self-assessment. Participants were provided with a sheet to allow us to do a self-assessment of our performances as scorers, to assist in improvement and scoring excellence.

An excellent dinner was held together with the Umpires in the Bradman Museum.

Day 2:

Most participants attended breakfast at a café in Bowral

Kath Koschel spoke to the combined Umpire and Scorers group. Her topic was "Getting the Best Out of Yourself". She largely spoke on diet and hydration.

Gerard Abood spoke of his cricketing career, from a player in lower grade Shires and Grade, to his progression to the National Umpires Panel.

After lunch we had an interactive session on "Nightmare Scenarios" which was chaired by Merilyn. A wide range of issues that can arise was discussed and the best ways to avoid the problem or to resolve the issue.

Merilyn presented a scoring exercise from a game from a televised match, which everyone was asked to score on score sheets and linear sheets.

The convention was a great way to start the season and get everyone thinking cricket and scoring again.

Our thanks to Merilyn and all of the guest speakers throughout the two days.

Ian Wright
Scorers Committee

Merchandise Winner



\$100 Merchandise Voucher

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NSWCUSA Convention – Rob Pye

The Bowral Convention - a country umpire's perspective.

Alright, the email is in confirming the dates and location for the 2015 Umpires and Scorers Convention. Having previously attended the last country venue at Cootamundra and experiencing not only a great learning opportunity but an excellent couple of days, I wanted to give myself every chance to get to Bowral.

First things first, I have to check with the War Office to make sure we haven't got something previously planned, which I'm supposed to know about. Second, I need to get my mate and fellow umpire, Bill McCarron to confirm his availability. Bill's retired, but tells me he's pretty busy most of the time. Having recently taken a redundancy and retired from 'paid' work myself, I now work at my wife's cafe in our small country town in Maclean on the Northern Rivers. This would therefore require careful negotiation and a clearance to go and play. Naturally my absence meant it would be necessary to get coverage and maybe a week on the road this time won't be a reality like the Coota run. Hmmm, number 1 daughter doesn't get back from the snow season until October and really I couldn't justify asking number 2 daughter to take a sickie, just for me... Ok, thinking cap on.

With everything it's all about timing, so knowing that my wife was planning a work related 'research and fact-finding' trip to Sydney; I decided to plant the seed on my intentions on going to Bowral. However I first had to negotiate the terms and get to the Umpire training and development weekend in Coffs Harbour which was being facilitated by Goodge, Paul Dilley and Gary Crombie. As the contact point and behind the scenes organiser, that provided an Ace, I now needed a Bower. As luck would have it, my wife and Gary used to work together in Navy Recruiting over 30 years ago. So this presented another opportunity to say giddyay to Gaz, show a few pictures from the old days and spend a couple of days in Coffs doing my 'research' and preparation. Step one completed. Ok, so all's good now, Bowral's got the green light, but Bill's not sure on his availability. I'd already sent Troy the registration and cheque for both of us, so a quick call to NSWCUSA to find out when would be the latest I could advise on Bill's intention.

Time has flown by now and there's only 2 weeks until the convention. Damn, forgot about the accommodation, odds on there won't be much left now??? So with laptop and mobile phone in hand I set about finding accommodation that was within walking distance to the Bradman centre. Those of you who recall the Bull's transport issues at Coota will understand that it is extremely handy to be within walking distance to and from the convention location and most other 'conveniences'.

Two days later, many phone calls and numerous replies of *'Sorry, for some reason we are booked out that weekend'* I finally managed to find what I believed to be an ideal location - the Bowral Hotel. It has all the requirements that Bill has told me we need, double bed for him, single for me, ensuite, bar with TAB and TV's to watch the footy, plus the walking convenience. There was no breakfast available on site, but Google has confirmed a cafe, again within walking distance, that will do the trick. A quick thought about no gym, which is four days off, plus bacon and eggs each morning, no more cereal toast for this fella, living the high life on this trip.

Next was to make sure the ute was right for the trip, so organised a car service as Google tells me that it will be an 8 and 1/2 hour trip from my front door. This time we would be going straight through, no overnighter this trip, remembering that that can be a trap too!

I checked in with Bill again and he's giving me the news that he's probably going to be a non-starter. We agree to wait until the cut-off date advised by Troy before we do anything further. It's now Friday the 14th of August, the cut-off date. Bill reluctantly lets me know he should stay home and naturally gives me a gob full about not enjoying myself and no ringing him at any time in the wee hours to let him know how I'm going and about any new dance moves the Bull has.

So I'm on my own now, the lone wolf, hahaha. Naturally there'd need to be a big effort by me in the cafe during the week, I would be a machine. If I got this right, I'd get the full papal blessing when I left.

Now in a stroke of genius I had even negotiated the Thursday off so I could do some general admin stuff, but more importantly get my kit ready and packed, then fuel up the ute. I'd be leaving at first light on Friday morning, eating at truck stops was now the plan.

Friday morning has arrived, walked past the gym, smiling, I did a quick recce outside. Noting it was a bit cold I started the ute, showered and pulled a long sleeve westie over the blue singlet. My next stop would be the Halfway Creek truck stop for a real breakfast.

At Halfway Creek I took the opportunity to fill up again, and reckoned somewhere near Newcastle would be my next stop. As it turned out, I ended up settling for our major sponsor at Hexham but it was around school finish time, so it was chockers. Nevertheless I needed to sort myself out as I need human fuel and water and didn't plan on stopping in Sydney if it wasn't necessary.

Having not considered the roadwork delays and the impact that was going to have on my travel time, I hit the outskirts of Sydney around Peak Time, which seems to be all day? After an hour in that I pulled over for a coffee and also to fuel the ute again and then headed back into the cattle crush for the final leg. Note, back home I can travel over an hour in any direction and still not encounter a traffic light.

Next stop Bowral, however I had to negotiate the M2 & M7 first. So again I turned to Google to get me through with the least issues. This area was all new territory to me, I haven't been around here for a very long time, in fact the Motorways weren't built then. I was totally amazed at the number of vehicles that were lined up on the off-ramps to go into Parramatta, Blacktown etc, quite a sight. Pulled into Bowral and located, thanks to Google, where the Bowral Hotel was, so thought I'd do a quick run up to the Bradman Centre, just to make sure I knew where I was going in the morning. A check of the car clock and it worked out to be a 10 hour trip, I think the Sydney traffic got me. For the shortest leg of the trip, it took the longest amount of time.

Somewhere between making the booking and checking in, the daily rate had increased by \$20 a night, but I wasn't letting that ruin the weekend. However when the publican said "Do you want a key to look at the room first?", I thought uh-oh. Now I've lived a bit rough especially during my time in the services, plus our cricket club used to stay at the Sands Hotel in Coolangatta every year, before the renovation, and that was a dive, at 6 bucks a night you couldn't expect much. So I bravely replied, "Nah, it's right, just gimme the key". After all I was only sleeping and showering there.

Nervously putting the key in the door, I was surprised to find a neat room and small ensuite, with a wide-screen TV on the wall, what was he on about? Later I found out that some 'city' travellers aren't quite prepared for the spartan or austere room conditions in boutique Bowral. I rang Bill to let him know I was there and told him the story about the room. Straight away he too had flashbacks to the 'Sands'. With everything from the ute now in the room I showered and went out.

Knowing that the noisiest place was the best chance of finding where Goodge, Troy and Jay would be I did a lap of town. The only place I didn't find was the Imperial Hotel, Google Walk let me down, it kept me going in circles, so back to the Bowral pub.

Straight away an issue, NO Gold on tap, so I had to have a stubby. At least the sportsman bar wasn't packed, so I was able to watch the footy and the dish lickers without any drama's. Next, in walked a few likely lads, as it turned out these were the Tamworth boys, Wayne introduced himself and asked me to join him and the other fellas, Dan, Tiny and Geoff. I'd met Geoff before when I was fortunate to get a start in the Country Plate and Shield semi's in Tamworth last season. So we ordered dinner and told some tall stories for a while. Knowing day 1 was a full program I excused myself and headed back to my room to watch the Ashes for a while, knowing I'd done the right thing...

In the morning at the cafe having my B&E, I was pleased to see Marty Edgell walk in and he had Errol with him and a new umpire Shane as part of their breakfast group. I'd previously met Marty at Coota and as it turned out Marty holidays every year up my way at a tiny beach village called Brooms Head. His dad did the trek each year with the family when he was a youngster and he's being doing it regularly with his family.

At the convention the next couple of days were great, fantastic presentations by the lads and ladies, and I took the opportunity to capture copious amounts of notes which I would later type up and provide as reference options to share with the North Coast and Lower Clarence umps. As we were filing into the centre I literally bumped into Graham 'moonshine' Moon, we'd both been appointed to the Shield and Plate games in Tamworth last season, so we sat together. Later that evening I met up with Kim 'noggy' Norris, who I'd umpired with on two previous country carnivals and we enjoyed the evening meal at the Bradman Centre with a host of others and fantastic service provided by Rina and her staff.

Sunday, the last day which started with the B&E again and a host of other umps doing the same. Last night I mentioned to Noggy that I was staying the Sunday night, which was likewise for him, so we agreed to do the Bradman tour in full after the Convention close. Being able to spend time at all the Bradman exhibits and reading through the information about cricket in general was inspirational and a great read. The whole set up is fantastic. Later that evening we met up for dinner and probably would have chatted all night if it hadn't been for the bar staff wanting to close up.

Next morning, an overcast Monday with slight drizzle and as I sat in the cafe, again enjoying my B&E, I thought about everyone going to work and I'd be mixed up with that through Sydney. The ute was already packed, so I hit the road for the long trek home.

Once through the maze of motorways, thanks again Google, with numerous beeps on the E-Tag and a fuel up for me and the ute I knew I'd be right now until Macksville. Once the 110kph signs were up, I spent most of my time trying to re-tune the radio to something that was interesting. As soon as 3pm hit I was desperately trying to locate Talk'n'Sport, with Heaps and the boys there's always a good laugh and plenty of sporting info.

The rain was setting in now and the news on the radio was indicating I was just in front of a pretty severe rain depression. So speed was adjusted for the weather, which worked out ok as I was now in the roadwork area, which was 60kph anyway. By the time I reached Macksville, there was some respite to the weather, so I again took the opportunity to fuel up and get a coffee. Only 2 1/2 hrs to go now. Incidentally, Macksville is the start of the North Coast Cricket Council area, with Iluka being the northerly point, a trip between the two being about 3 1/4 hrs with a good run.

With a couple of really slow speeds due to the heavy rain and mist, I was soon in 'roo territory as I came closer to home. The roo's were obviously taking shelter as none were seen and with the sun well and truly set, I was really looking forward to getting home. The sensor light on the house clicks on as I pull in and relief at finally getting home sinks in.

Somehow I'd bettered my travel time down and was home in 8 1/2 hrs and the following statistics are provided:

- Total mileage for the trip - 1508 km
- Average fuel - 8.5l/100k
- Average speed - 85.6 km/h

A few observations:

- 110kph must mean this is the minimum speed you are to do?
- Some sort of fascination with Blue Phone stopping areas on the motorways, there was usually a car at every one?
- "Keep left unless overtaking" seemed to only apply when there was no traffic to be seen in front of the lead vehicle.

Convention Presenters



Geoff Lawson



Joanne Broadbent



Jay Lenton



Muhammad Qureshi

Famous Quotes

The future depends on what we do in the present

-Mahatma Gandhi

*I've failed over and over and over again in my life.... And
that is why I succeed*

-Michael Jordan

*Have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They
somehow know what you truly want to become*

-Steve Jobs

*Life itself is your teacher, and you are in a state of
constant learning*

-Bruce Lee

*Success is walking from failure to failure with no
loss of enthusiasm*

-Winston Churchill

*Something I learned early is to not worry about
what I can't control..... But what I can control is my
attitude, my effort, and my focus every single day*

-Tim Tebow

*Hard work beats talent when talent
doesn't work hard*

-Tim Notke

**The first thing is to love your sport. Never do
it to please someone else. It has to be yours.**

-Peggy Fleming

Technique - From the Coaching Panel.....

Positioning at bowler's end

A stance in a natural standing position of about 3-4 metres from the stumps will allow the eyes to watch the bowler's feet placement without head movement. Once the ball is played, the umpire must position herself where best to observe all action required for potential run outs at the bowler's end.



A good “trigger” is for the umpire at the bowler's end is to move whenever ball hits bat (except for nicks to keeper / slips). The pace of movement will be dictated by the call of the batter on strike:

- Batter calls NO – Umpire takes a pace or two before returning to their normal position
- Batter calls WAIT – Umpire moves at walking pace to preferred position on appropriate side of the wicket
- Batter calls YES – Umpire moves swiftly to preferred position on appropriate side of the wicket

When the ball is hit square or behind the wicket it is recommended that umpires move to the same side as the ball is travelling in order to have an uninterrupted view of proceedings. By getting into the preferred position the umpire should not be in a position where fielders may be impaired. The benefit of moving to the same side as the ball for shots played into the outfield square of the wicket is to enable a check on legitimacy of fielding / catches close to the boundary.

When the ball is played into the V it is recommended that the umpire moves to the opposite side to where the ball is travelling. A quick judgement must be made by the umpire.

If the umpire were to go to the same side as the ball when it is struck into the V they may impede the fielder or be in line with the return.

When moving into position at the bowler's end the first movement at all times should be towards the striker. Best technique is to head for the popping crease then back out. The benefits of this are twofold –

1. It ensures as much of the action is in front of the umpire who must observe the ball being fielded / caught
2. The umpire can check the batters touching down at the bowler's end without having to look back over their shoulder whilst positioning

At Striker's End

Adopting a focus position for run outs helps “sell your decision” to participants. Regardless of the resulting decision, players cannot accuse you of not concentrating.



Remember you are always in the game at the striker's end. When a spinner is on if the striker plays forward, look for a stumping. If the striker moves back, look for “hit wicket”. Be game aware, and do not look at your counter while the ball is in play.

Stand side-on to the stumps to watch both the ball and the running batsmen with quick sideways glances. Never totally take your eye off the ball. Only turn back to face square on to the wicket when the ball has been returned past you. This will eliminate any chance of being hit by the ball if you take your eyes off it.

Enjoy your umpiring!

Graham Chudleigh, Geoff Garland, Graham Reed, Darren Goodger.

NSWCUSA Coaching Panel.

Cricket Australia U/17 Championship – Marc Nickl

The Championships were held from 28 Sept to 8 October in Queensland and included 10 teams. All States and Territories were represented with ACT & NSW Country having a combined team, and the 2 extra teams being Vic Country & a CA Under 16 team that was selected from the best performers at the Under 15 Championships of which Glen Stubbings umpired the final.

I would like to start by thanking the NSWCUA selectors, Darren Goodger and the CA selectors in giving me this wonderful opportunity. With 10 teams being in the Championships there was room for an extra 2 umpires and NSW, WA & Tas were lucky enough to have 2 umpires each represented. Keiran Knight was NSW's other umpire and I was lucky enough to share an apartment with him reliving times of the past when we both went to school and played cricket together in the late 80's at Merrylands High.

The format was all one day games of which 5 were played a day, with a schedule for each umpire of 2 games in a row followed by a rest day. This saw a total of 40 games played with each umpire officiating in 8.



My first game between Tas & WA was played on an under prepared wicket as the pitch that they planned to use was effected by a Sunday afternoon thunderstorm. Other than that slight distraction we noticed that a player had been incorrectly named on the WA team sheet before the game started so ensured that was sorted before we started. It only took me 8 balls before I was giving out my first dismissal.

Game 2 saw all 5 games decided by Duckworth Lewis as a severe thunderstorm hit. This was a good opportunity to ensure the match was managed appropriately, player safety ensured and also a good test that overs/power play reduction calculation scenarios were completed. My game was NT v ACT/NSW Country with Jeff Cook & Mark Cameron the coaches. Jack Edwards from Manly & Nicholas Arnold from Syd Uni played for NT.



Following the rest day we had an early start to head up to the Sunshine Coast for Game 3 which I was lucky enough to officiate with Kerian Knight - CA XI v QLD these teams were coached by Stuart Law, John Davison & James Allsop. This was a cracking game with QLD the eventual winners winning by just 13 runs. Max Bryant from QLD scored at more than a run a ball to score 83, he was certainly the most entertaining batter of the championships also scoring 141 off 91 balls in QLD's big chase in the grand Final beating NSW Metropolitan. Another standout performer of the championships was Jason Sangha of the CA XI this 15 yo scored at better than a run a ball 68 in this match and was unfortunately run out. This was a great piece of umpiring by Kerian who correctly called back the CA XI skipper as they had just crossed at the time of the wicket being broken.

Late in the match Steve Waugh's son Austin & James Sutherland's son Will tried in vain to get the required total. I was kept on my toes as the QLD wicket keeper twice had his gloves in front of the stumps when the batter hit the ball.

The next day was another early start as it was another game up the sunshine coast which I umpired Game 4 Vic Country v SA. Here was my first experience with the keeper of the championships Alex Reardon, within 5 overs he had completed 2 very smart stumpings standing up to a left arm medium pacer with 1 actually deflecting off the batters pads as well. We had to ask Matt Elliott the Vic Country coach to leave the field after he ran out drinks to the boys, sorry no coaches allowed on the field.

After the rest day we were back to games played locally in Brisbane and Game 5 was NSW Metro v Vic Country with the NSW coaches being Beau Casson & Grant Lambert. The Player of the Championships Ryan Hackney from Penrith peeled off another half century in this game and hit the ball hard straight (once into me). He had a habit of hitting the ball hard at the umpires also cleaning up a WA umpire in the Grand Final. Hackney scored 3 centuries & beat Dominic Thornley's record by scoring 495 runs.



Game 6 and I was lucky enough to umpire the 1 v 4 Qtr. final of NSW Metro v WA. Param Uppal who now plays for Fairfield scored 64 and other then 1 disputed catch it was a straight forward win for NSW by 118 runs.

Game 7 saw SA hold onto 5th spot by beating ACT/NSW Country by 10 runs defending 282 in a high scoring game. Alex Reardon the gun keeper showed he was handy with the bat as well batting the full innings for 94 not out. Sam Skelly brother of Tom who used to play for Uni of NSW made the Australian team due to his excessive pace. However, his radar was out on this day as his first 5 balls were all wides!!

My final game was at the picturesque Churchie which is one of the exclusive Brisbane private schools. This was the 5th v 10th match of SA v Tas, with SA keeping their ranking of 5th by winning by just 8 runs.

During one of the rest days we had a professional development workshop run by CA's Bob Parry & Ian Lock followed by a tour of the National Cricket Centre at AB Field.

It was interesting to see the various development stages of the 15 & 16 yo kids. Amazingly there were at least 6 who were taller than me. Mentally the strong ones stood out. Jack Edwards from Manly was over looked by NSW and played for NT, he was quoted as saying before their game against NSW that "this was my grand final" – he was determined to show them – he scored 90! On the other scale there was a kid from Tassie who fell apart emotionally before a game as he was homesick and had to fly home half way through the championships.



A CA XI to be coached by Ryan Harris was picked which will compete at the Under 19's in Adelaide in November, this side included some of the players I mentioned Bryant, Hackney, Reardon and Sangha who amazingly will be 15 and up against some quick 18 yo bowlers, he lives in Newcastle and I expect him to be playing first grade in Sydney next year. The other NSW player picked was Fast bowler Ryan Hadley from Blacktown.

The whole experience was a great learning opportunity as we had the entire CA Umpire assessors fly in and out at various times sharing their duties between assessing umpires at these championships and the National Panel umpires performing at the start of the Matador Cup. I personally learnt a lot about my own game, field craft and techniques as well as other important teamwork and communication methods.

So thanks again to the selectors and Darren, congratulations to QLD for winning and to all the boys selected in the CA XI, well done to Keiran Knight for umpiring a semi-final, and good luck to Anthony Hobson, David Taylor, & Ben Treloar who will be umpiring at the Under 19 Championships in Adelaide in November.

Thanks,

Marc Nickl

Cricket Umpire – find a word

A K L K E T S Z L R T F M A E Z B W N P
 U V F D A E R E E R U Q Y F L X S J G J
 C K Z U K U F T D Q C Q M B P Y S S J J
 R Z F Y W K F B M M K N I Z H W D I D V
 Y E W H S A B C B K E S N V I X A V B T
 L O Y A R F C A J G R I R Z N P T A H A
 D K V C F O I R W R I G H T S N X D V Z
 D L Z I N L E V I T J Y K P T H M T B N
 B F K N H P R G W T T O B P O G M I U E
 N D E A R V Y U B V N T H C N B R V E A
 Z L C A A C F A Y T Z M K N E S I A T T
 L H H H K J N B O R W I C K S D T B G W
 E A X F C N P H I L L I P S R O P R W E
 R H O T E N S C J W D U S O S Z N O M G
 K L W R D D E K P F B B F L N F Y O E M
 U Z M F E P C R B A B N Y H K X Q K R B
 S A E O A E V N F Q E D U G X L F S R R
 N A C G K I C V H X R E I F F E L F I X
 Z J R Q Z B P E O Q K V W O W E E Z A A
 R R P A H J Z P Q G U A C Z Q U D X H Y

Words

Bailhache	Harper
Bannerman	Johnson
Borwick	McConnell
Brooks	Oxenford
Crafter	Phillips
Davis	Reiffel
Egar	Taufel
Elphinstone	Tucker
French	Wright
Hair	Wykes

National Umpire Seminar – Claire Polosak

Between Tuesday 22nd September and Friday 25th September, the National Umpire Panel (NUP) as well as the Development Panel joined together in Brisbane at the BUPA National Cricket Centre to complete pre season training.

Tuesday 22nd September

Today was a pleasant start to the seminar with a game of spirited bare foot bowls, a BBQ dinner, and a fun and relaxed environment to meet everyone. In attendance was the complete 12 member National Panel as well as the 5 Development Panel members. Also joining was Sean Easey, Bob Parry, Ian Lock and Cate Ryan from Cricket Australia, and the Umpire High Performance Panel consisting of David Levens, the Australasian ICC umpire coach and Tony Hill, the New Zealand Cricket Umpire coach. It was a great environment to meet new people and also catch up with panel colleagues.

Wednesday 23rd September

In the first half of today the development panel and the national had separate sessions. The development panel spent the morning discussing different on field challenges and how we would approach them. For example, how to manage a bowler running on the pitch and ensuring our pitch handover process was smooth. It was fantastic to have Bruce Oxenford join us and provide experience in his stories.

We then entered the 3rd umpire's room where we started the training. Here we discussed the role of 3rd umpire and what to expect, and how to build techniques so we could be successful in the box. The experience of Tony Hill, Ian Lock and Bruce Oxenford was invaluable as they shared their success stories, and lessons they had learnt.

After lunch the Development panel joined the NUP for a group meeting where we workshopped the culture of the group and the values that the group stand for.

Sam Nogaski and Geoff Joshua lead a session guiding the group through the code of conduct. We examined video footage and role-played how we would deal with it, in relation to the Cricket Australia Code of Conduct.

Thursday 24th September

Today we were split into 4 teams for our breakout sessions. These breakout sessions covered a variety of things, such as the all important 3rd umpire training, eye testing, LBW training and also effective fitness.

3rd Umpire training

This training was invaluable in my preparation for my 3rd Umpire role that was coming up in the Matador- here we had the CA TV van and director and technical officer hooked up through a radio system, just like what there would be on game day.

The director would feed through footage and then we were required to lead the director to provide the angles and shots that they had in order for up to make our decision.



I learned very quickly the questions to ask to receive the information that I needed for my decision. This including asking for the reverse angle, split screen and zoom, and phrases such “Rock and Roll” and the all important “Is that all you have?” or “Do you have anything else?” when liaising with the director. This was quite unnerving process, as not only was it a new skill, I also had 5 other umpires watching what I was doing! We all had a few goes at the process. After the first one, my hands were shaking, but by my 3rd and 4th I felt more confident about the whole process.



Eye testing

Here Pat Gerry took each of us individually to have our eyes tested. Pat Gerry is an optometrist who specialises in sports optometry. While we were waiting, we attended the Queensland Bulls nets session, where we also tried on sunglasses with different coloured lenses. It was the first time I met the Bulls, they made us all to feel welcome while we were in the nets.

LBW training

Now we were in the indoor nets. The net was set up with two different camera angles- one down the pitch behind the umpire and one from square leg. There was a delayed feed onto a big screen.

Two young men who work for CA had it set up and were there for us to practise. Conveniently one was left handed and one was right handed. We fed them balls and they faced up, allowing them to occasionally be hit on the pads, where there would then be an appeal to the umpire who would make a decision. If we wanted to we could watch it on the big screen and analyse it. What I found fascinating was being able to watch the ball from different angles. It's amazing how much (or how little!) the fielders can actually tell from different angles around the bat!



Effective fitness

Here we were shown different exercises that can be done in a hotel room or even the most basic of hotel gyms. There was a particular focus on strength training (push ups etc) and core exercises. We then went to the pool to learn a recovery session routine, the idea being that we could do this in hotel accommodation after a day's play. (NB normally my recovery consists of stretching and hydrations, but while I was in Brisbane for the WNCL in October, I used the complete recovery program, adding the pool session to my previous routine and it worked wonders! I felt fresh each day- much more than I have in the past, especially when I have had consecutive days Cricket). We finished the session with a small amount of mindfulness and relaxation.



Friday 25th September

Today we kicked off with Warren Kennaugh, who is a behavioural strategist. His session was on the idea of red and blue thinking. Essentially, when you are in the blue thinking, you are calm and in the present. Red thinking on the other hand means that you are not aware of what is going on around you, you are emotional and probably not working to you greatest capacity. We discussed different personality archetypes and also strategies of removing ourselves from the red thinking, or the way I think of is as a red box and a blue box.

Following Warren, Benita Lalor, a Cricket Australia Dietician, presented to us her passion for studying sleep, fatigue and how this affects match day performance. I learned that these are all factors that affect the umpires just as much as the players. I was very excited to learn that naps are good (provided they are before 3pm and for no longer than an hour!). We also discussed other preparation strategies, such as calling ahead to the hotel to make sure your room is not on the road/ noisy side of the hotel, and travelling with sleeping accessories such as your pillow or an eye mask to make sure you can sleep as 'normally' as you can.

Following this session, the seminar was wrapped up and we all headed back to the airport. I think the seminar was a success, and although I can't speak for the others I know that I feel very excited and ready to take on whatever the season throws at me!

20 Things You Gradually Learn as You Let Go of the Uncontrollable – Marc and Angel Chernoff

It's always necessary to accept when some part of your life has reached its inevitable end. Closing the door, completing the chapter, turning the page, etc. – it doesn't matter what you title it; what matters is that you find the strength to leave in the past those parts of your life that are over.

It's all about embracing the truth: What has happened is uncontrollable; what you do now changes everything!

Of course, knowing this and actually living a lifestyle that reinforces this truth are two very different things. Letting go is NOT easy – it's a journey that is traveled one day at a time. If you stick with it, here's what your journey will ultimately teach you:

1. The most powerful changes happen in your life when you decide to take control of what you do have power over instead of craving control over everything you don't.
2. Most people make themselves unhappy simply by finding it impossible to accept life just as it is presenting itself right now.
3. If you worry too much about what might be, and wonder too long about what might have been, you will ignore and completely miss what is.
4. When you are lost in worry, it is easy to mistake your worries for reality, instead of recognizing that they are just thoughts. Mindfulness is the remedy.
5. The biggest obstacle to growth you'll ever have to overcome is your mind. Once you can overcome that, you can overcome anything.
6. Almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a little while, and that includes YOU.
7. You won't always have it easy, but there is always a reason to be grateful. And the greatest gift of your gratitude is that the more grateful you are, the more present you become.
8. The secret to getting ahead is to focus all of your energy not on fixing and fighting the old, but on building and growing something new.
9. Letting go doesn't mean you don't care about something or someone anymore. It's just realizing that the only thing you really have control over is yourself in this moment.
10. In most cases, you can't calm the storm – it's not worth trying. What you can do is calm yourself, and the storm will pass.

- 11.** You can always control the way you respond to what happens, and in your response is your power.
- 12.** Oftentimes letting go is simply changing the labels you place on a situation – it's looking at the same situation with fresh eyes and an open mind.
- 13.** There is absolutely nothing about your present circumstances that prevents you from making progress, one tiny step at a time.
- 14.** The day you “understood” everything, was the day you stopped trying to figure everything out. The day you find peace and freedom again will be the day you let everything go.
- 15.** You must let go of certainty. And you must remember that the opposite of certainty is not uncertainty, it's openness, curiosity and a willingness to embrace life as it is, rather than resisting it. The ultimate challenge is to accept yourself exactly as you are, and accept life just as it is, but never stop trying to learn and grow to the best of your abilities.
- 16.** Underneath it all, the hardest part is not really letting go, but rather learning to start over.
- 17.** Stepping onto a brand new path is difficult, but not more difficult than remaining in a situation that no longer fits, or no longer exists.
- 18.** Sometimes it takes a little heartbreak to shake you awake, help you let go, and show you that you are worth so much more than you were settling for.
- 19.** When it comes to social drama, letting go of other people's rude remarks is the best step forward. Most haters don't really hate you; they just hate where they are in life, and you're a reflection of what they wish to become
- 20.** Your heart might be bruised, but it will gradually heal and become capable of feeling the beauty of life once again. It's happened to you before, and it will happen again – life is always changing. When something ends or someone leaves, it's because something else or someone else is about to arrive – you will feel alive and whole again soon.



60 SECONDS WITH JAY LENTON



Bede Sajowitz



Anthony Hobson & James Figallo



Glen Stubbings

60 Seconds with James Figallo

Name:	James Lawrence Figallo
Background:	Born at Caringbah hospital (now known as Sutherland hospital) my parents moved around a bit, but lived in Kyogle from 1980 - 1986. Went to School with Mark Simula and we did play cricket together and we made our Sydney first grade umpiring debuts about the same time...
Day job:	Registered Nurse, currently working for the NSW Nurses and Midwives Association as an organiser.
Officiating debut:	2004 with the Camden District Cricket Umpires Association I think 5th or 6th grade. Some poor batsmen was given out LBW that day. However the biggest memory was that the match was a tie!!!
Career Highlights:	My first grade debut and the Central Coast premier league grand finals are stand outs but the next two are just as strong a highlight for me. First time I umpired at Chatswood oval, I used to look at that oval every day as I caught the train to university and thought how good it would be to be out there. Last Sunday I umpired the regional big bash at Robin Oval in Maitland over 300 people watching, rock music, MC, Doug Walters for the toss, a great game that was another tie, and a great partner in Anthony Hobson. But every time I umpire I enjoy it so I could name almost every game as a highlight, as well as tell you something from it.
Best cricketer you have officiated:	Brett Lenton, actually he hasn't played test level, but I think Scott Coyte is very good.
Funniest thing to happen whilst on a sporting field:	I have seen nudie runs, snakes, hobos appearing from nowhere. However a lot of the sledges that aren't rude make me laugh.
Any superstitions:	Always clean shaven.
Who is your favourite official to have or still is officiating in a sport (can be any sport)? Why?	Greg Lill is a favourite I did three games with him and I still tell people his stories from those games. Whether any of them are true or not doesn't really matter they just make me laugh... Also he is very humble and generous of his time to other umpires.
Any special talents:	I grow roses in my front yard. I was an expert wound care consultant and stomal therapy nurse at Concord and Nepean Hospitals.
Best piece of advice:	It's only a game, have fun and enjoy yourself.
What got you into umpiring?:	I was always interested. Did the course when our second boy was born, as I was home. I'm a slight cricket tragic.
Three people you would love to have dinner with:	Joanne my wife Friends, Justin and Lisa Wicks. We always have a great time. However if the wives aren't there. Myself, Justin, Scotty O'Brien another mate and doctor Emmet Brown. We would love him to get us back in time with a current sports almanac.

60 Seconds with Bede Sajowitz

Full Name:	Bede Thomas Sajowitz
Background:	I was born in Manly, but have lived in North Balgowlah for most of my life.
Day job?	I'm a part-time waiter whilst I'm studying communications and journalism at UNSW
Officiating Debut and the first time you fired someone?	It was 4th Grade Shires between Warringah and Epping, we lost all of the first day to rain and on the fourth ball of the fourth over, I had a ball hit the opener on the pads and after careful consideration, I slowly raised my finger for the first time.
Career (to date) officiating highlight(s)?	I got to stand with Darren Goodger in my second game and my grade cricket debut, which was a fantastic learning experience. Being appointed to my first 4th Grade match within my first month of umpiring was also quite significant for me.
Best cricketer you have officiated?	So far, the 5th Grade Sutherland captain, Steve Kourouche has been the most impressive. He was pretty good with the bat, a handy part-timer and an attacking captain who led his team with the utmost respect for the game, the opposition and the umpires.
Strangest (funniest) thing to happen whilst on a cricket field?	I had the responsibility of bowling the last over that my school team would ever play together (after six seasons). We got to the last ball, packed the slips cordon with nine and instead of finding the edge, I went and hit the top of off stump.
Who is your favourite official to have or still is officiating in a sport (can be any sport)? Why?	Growing up, Billy Bowden's eccentric signalling was always enjoyable to watch whenever he was in the middle. But the way Tony Archer used to control NRL games was very impressive. He always appeared to be cool-headed and it was obvious that the players and the game were under control.
Any superstitions?	I always make sure that my collar is up and the brim of my hat is down - but that's more for protection from the sun than anything else
Any special talents?	It's nothing amazing, but I never miss out on tickets to sporting events - if I want to go to an event, I always find a way to get tickets to it
Best piece of advice?	Live life with no regrets because it's always going to be better to look back and say "I can't believe I did that" rather than "I wish I did that"
What got you into umpiring?	Officiating has always been of interest to me, not only in cricket but other sports as well. I had always planned on coming into umpiring after a successful international playing career, but since that isn't happening, I thought I'd get started early.
Three people you would love to have dinner with?	1. Ed Cowan 2. Hamish Blake 3. Alisa Komarova

60 Seconds with Glen Stubbings

Full Name:	Glen Stubbings
Background:	Born and bred in Ermington
Day Job?	State Teams Manager at Hockey NSW
Officiating Debut and the first time you fired someone?	Round 1 of the 2012/13 Season - Shires 3 rd Grade: Macquarie University v Auburn at Ross Gwilliam Oval. My partner in the match was Trevor Schokman. I honestly don't remember the first decision, it could have been a snick behind (there were 39 wickets in the match so probably one or two).
Career (to date) officiating highlight(s)?	Hard to say, each day is different and enjoyable in its own way. My debut in First Grade was a proud moment and one I will always remember.
Best cricketer you have officiated?	I had the privilege of standing in the Western Suburbs match that Mitch Marsh played which was exciting.
Strangest (funniest) thing to happen whilst on a cricket field?	Playing for Pennant Hills we were defending 141 and at 3-112 Epping were naturally in control. In 12 balls we took 7 wickets for 1 run - Kish Nadesan finished with a double hatrick and we took a team triple hatrick (5 wickets consecutively).
Who is your favourite official to have or still is officiating in a sport (can be any sport)? Why?	As someone who loves cricket Simon Taufel was someone I looked up to (and still do). It was clear he had the respect of the players, always seemed in control of his own performance and managed the match well.
Any superstitions?	No, I do like a routine though.
Any special talents?	Not many. If napping was a Sport I'd Captain Australia, love a good shut eye. Don't hate a dance floor either, wouldn't call that a special talent though.
Best piece of advice?	"It's the work you are doing when nobody is watching that makes the difference".
What got you into umpiring?	I lost the passion for playing but still loved the game and wanted to be involved. The last couple of years of playing I thought more and more about umpiring and in 2012/13 decided to give it a go. I've enjoyed every minute thus far and looking forward to the future.
Three people you would love to have dinner with?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Steven Gerrard 2. Lionel Messi 3. Shane Warne

NEW MEMBERS

Surname	First Name	Suburb	Surname	First Name	Suburb
Abell	Peter	Bellingen	McGovern	Ben	Emu Plains
Bagavathipandian	Aravind	Parramatta	McLennan	Richard	South Grafton
Bansal	Vipin	Baulkham Hills	McRae	Ben	Scone
Barnes	Nathan	Lane Cove	Mullick	Imtiaz	Dolls Point
Batch	Travis	Singleton	Olsen	Jordan	Glenmore Park
Calabro	Vincent	Barooga	Ottaviano	Joe	Pagewood
Cameron	Stephen	Tyndale	Ottaviano	Nathan	Pagewood
Carr	Anthony	Hanwood	Palmer	Corey	Orange
Catanzariti	Joe	South Penrith	Parmar	Deepak Kumar	Homebush
Clifton	Sharon	South Penrith	Pass	Daniel	Lalor park
Coates	Andrew	Maroubra	Pillai	Ananthan	Strathfield
Coles	Mark	Coogee	Premaratne	Yohan	Glenmore Park
Craig	Andrew	Cobbadah	Pryde	Ian	Wattle Grove
Crowley	Denis	Manly	Pryde	Scott	Wattle Grove
Cumming	Angus	Orange	Raheja	Vir	Ropes Crossing
Dillon	Liam	Orange	Ramachandra	Arun	Blacktown
Disson	Neil	South Grafton	Rony	Shariful	Lakemba
Dixon	Kenneth	Pennant Hills	Sajowitz	Bede	Balgowlah
Dodwell	Simon	Fairlight	Scribner	David	Randwick
Dransfield	Ross	Scone	Shade	Josh	Singleton
Egan	Anthony	Singleton	Silcock	Denis	Sth. West Rocks
Egan	Myles	Singleton	Smith	Neil	Beresfield
Fraser	Michael	Port Macquarie	Sohier	Brandon	Ourimbah
Gauci	Jason	Lakemba	Srinivasan	Pawan Kumar	Homebush
Gorman	Phillip	Cranebrook	Srinivasan	Vinoth	Parramatta
Govindarajan	Balaji	Westmead	Srinivasan	Ramadurai	Neutral Bay
Greer	Charlie	Orange	Stanbridge	Philip	Adamstown
Greer	Dale	Orange	Stewart	Nigel	Willoughby
Hardisty	Adam	Baranderda (Vic)	Talluru	Sree	Blacktown
Holliday	Brett	Dee Why	Taluker	Md Fazel-A-Rabbi	Muswellbrook
Hughes	Aidan	Turramurra	Tanswell	Peter	Newington
Islam	Monoyarul	Wiley Park	Thobhani	Siddharth	Parramatta
Jaganmohanrad	Peddada	Macquarie Park	Thomson	Darren	Singleton Hts.
Jayakody	Dhanushka	Lane Cove North	Thummala	Jyothi	Ashfield
Keohane	Barry	Picton	Tuite	David	Ashtonfield
Khan	Md Zafar	Marsfield	Varadarajan	Sundararaghavan	Willoughby
Knapp	Gregory	The Junction	Verma	Raghav	Mt Annan
Knight	Luke	Singleton	Walker	Barnes	Sans Souci
Luke	William	Maroubra	Walker	Kevin	Bonville
Luland	Shane	Gulmarrad	Walters	Trent	Gorokan
Maben	Ross	Merriwa	Watkins	Andrew	Lower Bradford
Malhotra	Rasik	Pendle Hill	Wearne	Graeme	Lisarow
McCarthy	Colin	Tea Gardens	Wilson	Thomas	Scone
McCluskey	John	Sawtell	Winney	Garry	Oatley
McCosker	Brad	Parkville			