



WHAT'S IN THIS EDITION

❖ Executive Officer update	2
❖ Imparja Cup	12
❖ Merchandise voucher winner	17
❖ Abu Dhabi trip	18
❖ Technical	23
❖ Harvey Wolff TCUSA	26
❖ Service to Cricket Umpiring	29
❖ Tribute to Richie Benaud	33
❖ Hall of Fame inductee Merilyn Fowler	37
❖ 60 seconds with Ross McKim	41
❖ New Members	42

IMPORTANT NOTICE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Members are advised that the Association's Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday 1 July 2015 at 7pm at Bowlers' Club of NSW (95-99 York Street, Sydney).

All members are welcome to attend.

The meeting will see Principal Membership awarded to Christine Bennison, Don Coleman, Roger Ridgway and Norm Ryder.

"The achievements of an organisation are the results of the combined effort of each individual" – Vince Lombardi

Executive Officer update – Darren Goodger

Season 2014-15 saw a number of highlights for the Association many of which will be outlined in the NSWCUA Annual Report. This edition of In Black and White provides opportunity to mention a few of these.

Country Cricket NSW

Our members in regional New South Wales continue to perform with distinction serving cricket in the bush to the best of their ability. Many of them travel long distances to do so. The various senior Country Cricket NSW Finals were keenly contested and a summary of these is given here:

Country Championship Final

Western 4-275 (J Moran 105*, A Heraghty 98, B Warren 2-53, T Prescott 1-26) defeated Newcastle 274 (J Price 131, M Littlewood 52, C Free 3-53, B Patterson 2-30) by 6 wickets at Wade Park, Orange, on 22 February 2015. Umpires: Neil Findlay and Kim Norris. Match Referee: Keith Griffiths.

Country Colts Final

Central North 7-224 (J Psarakis 53, J Beaumont 45, S Davies 3-25, C Moulton 2-30) defeated Newcastle 223 (B McGill 50, J Van Kemenade 44, C Coulton 4-41, J Maloney 3-36) by 3 wickets at Coffs Coast Sport and Leisure Park No. 1 on 9 November 2014. Umpires: Phil Rainger and Daniel Rosolen. Match Referee: Keith Griffiths.

Country Cup Final

Merewether 7-245 (P Darwen 74, D Celep 66, S Webber 2-34, M Dries 2-55) defeated Hamilton-Wickham 235 (M Webber 56, S Webber 31, M Cameron 4-40, T O'Neill 2-31) by 10 runs at the Sydney Cricket Ground on 18 January 2015. Umpires David Went and Bruce Whiteman. Match Referee: Ian Thomas.

Brian Gainsford Country Shield Final

Clarence River 6-215 (M Pigg 72, M Kroehnert 30, N Ring 3-29, N Wright 1-13) defeated Robertson Burrawang 148 (M Wright 37, M Cuppitt 31, M Beer 31, B Pardoe 5-26, M Pigg 4-44) by 67 runs at No. 1 Oval, Tamworth, on 30 December 2014. Umpires: Jeff Hackett and Neil Smith. Match Referee: Darren Goodger.

Country Plate Final

The Rail 9-190 (R Merz 40, W Herbert 38, D Garness 3-23, J Purtell 3-30) defeated Cootamundra 88 (M Butler 18, J Mitchell 13, A Johnson 5-20, N Tyrrell 2-6) by 102 runs at No. 1 Oval, Tamworth, on 29 December 2014. Umpires: Bruce Baxter and Graham Moon. Match Referee: Darren Goodger.

We congratulate all country members on their appointments throughout a busy representative season. We also thank Country Umpire Advisor, Keith Griffiths, and his assistant, Ian Thomas, for their commitment and work throughout the season. Both are dedicated to raising umpiring standards in country cricket.

Sydney Cricket Association

A most successful season of Grade cricket concluded with Grand Final matches being contested over the Easter weekend. Manly-Warringah won two premierships, the premiership in First Grade being their first since the 1988-89 season, while the Sydney University Second Grade team won its fourth premiership in succession.

First Grade Grand Final

Manly-Warringah 8-204 (J Ritchie 87*, S O'Keefe 31, M Phelps 5-58, J Burke 1-30) defeated Bankstown 168 (J Burke 65*, D Solway 31, S O'Keefe 3-29, N Bills 3-39) at North Sydney Oval. Umpires: Greg Davidson and Anthony Wilds. Reserve Umpire: Stu Grocock

Second Grade Grand Final

Sydney University 330 (S Hobson 133, J Ryan 46, D Marshall 4-84, M Visser 3-52) defeated Manly-Warringah 117 (A Baker 31, T Beatty 23, J Toyer 5-35, B Joy 3-40) at University No. 1 Oval. Umpires: Darren Goodger and Anthony Hobson.

Third Grade Grand Final

Manly-Warringah 6-112 (J Daly 43, A Bariol 23*, J Playfair 4-43, A Palmer 2-18) defeated Eastern Suburbs 111 (B Bryant 62, H Brooks 15*, N McCallum-Toomey 5-37, L Grant 2-28) at Manly Oval. Umpires: Keiran Knight and Muhammad Qureshi.

Fourth Grade Grand Final

Penrith 5-152 (M Kimble 29, S Pradhan 27, C Booth 1-29, J Berry 1-33) defeated Sydney 151 (D Tonkin 54, J Thomas 26, J Edwards 3-30, T Finemore 3-54) at Drummoyne Oval. Umpires: David Taylor and Ben Treloar.

Fifth Grade Grand Final

Manly-Warringah 9-141 (dec) (B D'Arcy 70, J Graham 14, J Foster 2-20, D Bryant 2-26) drew with Northern District 7-121 (A Watts 35, L Thorburn 33, R Bishop-Perrett 3-22, M Burgess 1-3) at Mark Taylor Oval. Premiers: Northern District. Umpires: Gary Crombie and Glen Stubbings.

The Club Champions for season 2014-15 were Manly-Warringah.

Members making their debut in First Grade

The following umpires made their first grade debut in season 2014-15 and these umpires are accordingly acknowledged and congratulated:

- Berend du Plessis (round 15, Sutherland v North Sydney with Marty Edgell)
- Anthony Hobson (round 1, Mosman v North Sydney with Marty Edgell)
- Jon Jobson (round 15, Blacktown v Sydney with Darren Goodger)
- Bob McGregor (round 7, Blacktown v Parramatta with Ben Treloar)
- Zaheer Nazir (round 7, Hawkesbury v Penrith with Simon Lightbody)
- Troy Penman (round 10, Northern District v Blacktown with Anthony Hobson)
- Claire Polosak (round 15, Campbelltown-Camden v Gordon with Bill Hendricks)
- Glen Stubbings (round 7, Bankstown v Western Suburbs with Darren Goodger)

Umpires from affiliated associations standing in the Sydney Grade Cricket Competition

It was pleasing during the season to welcome umpires from affiliated associations who officiated in the SCA Grade competition to further their experience. We acknowledge those 28 umpires below: Wayne Allan, John Burgoyne, Mal Campbell, Chris Cassin, John Colwell, Andrew Crozier, David Cullen, John de Lyall, Paul Dille, Mark Ferris, James Figallo, Neil Findlay, Graeme Glazebrook, Tony Hackett, Geoff Hasler, Greg Jones, Pat Kerin, Darrin Masters, Gary McAulley, Kevin McFarlane, Ross McKim, Rob Pye, Daniel Rosolen, Neil Smith, Geoff Verco, David Went, Bruce Wood and Deanne Young.

NSWCUSA members are welcome to apply to the Executive Officer to officiate in the SCA Grade competition. This is a great way for members from our affiliates to experience officiating in the best Grade competition in world cricket. By doing so, you broaden your experience and add value to the Grade competition. So many who take the opportunity to do so later comment that the experience gained aids their development as an umpire.

Brian Tracey wrote about moving out of one's comfort zone, "You can only grow if you are willing to feel awkward and uncomfortable when you try something new." We cannot become what we want to be by remaining what we are.

Congratulations Jay Lenton

I offer congratulations to Jay on behalf of the Association on two fronts. Jay had an excellent season with the Manly-Warringah Club scoring 715 runs at 42.1 (highest score of 104* v Gordon) and taking 33 dismissals as wicket-keeper. A member of the premiership winning First Grade team with the Waratahs, Jay also represented the New South Wales 2nd XI side on four occasions in season 2014-15, captaining the State in the match against Tasmania 2nd XI in Hobart. In his professional life Jay has been an excellent addition to our team and he recently graduated from ACPE with a Bachelor of Sports Coaching and Administration.

National Umpire Panel

Cricket Australia has selected and announced the National Umpire Panel for season 2015-16 and three members of NSWCUSA have been included – Gerard Abood, Greg Davidson and Paul Wilson. Anthony Wilds remains a member of the Emerging Umpire Panel. The NUP is:

National Umpire Panel			
Gerard Abood	New South Wales	Mike Graham-Smith	Tasmania
Ash Barrow	Victoria	Geoff Joshua	Victoria
Shawn Craig	Victoria	Mick Martell	Western Australia
Greg Davidson	New South Wales	Sam Nogajski	Tasmania
Simon Fry	South Australia	John Ward	Victoria
Phil Gillespie	Victoria	Paul Wilson	New South Wales

Simon Fry, Mick Martell, John Ward and Paul Wilson are also members of the ICC International Umpire Panel.

Country Representative Umpire Panel and Supplementary Umpire Panel

Country Cricket NSW has selected and announced the umpire panels for season 2015-16. Congratulations and best wishes are offered to all members who have been selected.

Country Representative Umpire Panel			
Paul Dille	North Coast	Kim Norris	Newcastle
Neil Findlay	Illawarra	Phil Rainger	North Coast
Graeme Glazebrook	Western	David Went	North Coast
Greg Jones	Western	Bruce Whiteman	Southern

Supplementary Umpire Panel			
Wayne Allan	Riverina	Tony Hackett	Riverina
Bruce Baxter	North Coast	Ross McKim	Newcastle
David Cullen	Illawarra		

The umpires selected on these panels will supervise matches and carnivals listed in the Country Cricket NSW representative programs.

NSWCUSA Annual Dinner and Awards Presentation

The Annual Dinner was held at Bankstown Sports Club on 18 April 2015. Trent Copeland was a polished MC while Greg Matthews provided excellent entertainment for the 170 members and guests who attended. Greg shared some great stories from his playing days and also had a number of strong and positive messages for aspiring match officials. We thank Trent and Greg for their contribution to what was an excellent function.

Thank you to all our members who attended this year's Annual Dinner – it was an excellent roll up once again and your support of the Association is what makes it tick – our members are our heart and soul. It was heartening to see so many members in attendance, many of whom are wonderful volunteers for NSWCUSA.

The congratulations of the Association are extended to the various award winners on the night:

- **George Borwick Memorial Award** – Anthony Hobson
- **Ted Wykes Medal** (Affiliated Association Award) – Stephen Blomfield (Sydney Shires Cricket Umpires' Association)
- **Kevin Pye Medal** (Country Umpire of the Year) – David Went (North Coast)
- **1st Grade Umpire of the Year** – Anthony Wilds
- **2nd Grade Umpire of the Year** – Jon Jobson
- **3rd Grade Umpire of the Year** – Peter Moore
- **Lower Grade Umpire of the Year** – Daniel Nichols
- **Alan Marshall Medal** (Rookie Umpire of the Year) – Cameron Duff
- **Malcolm Gorham Scorers Award** – Peter Garlick (Manly-Warringah District Cricket Club)

Paul Wilson was presented with a special plaque to commemorate his One Day International Debut as an umpire and also with a New South Wales First Class Tie. Paul became the 81st member of NSWCUSA to umpire a first class match in this State when he stood in the Sheffield Shield match between New South Wales v Western Australia at No. 1 Sportsground in Newcastle on 25 February 2015. Paul has now officiated in 3 ODIs and 35 matches at first class level. The former Australian international cricketer is a wonderful advocate for umpiring.

We were pleased to welcome David Moore, General Manager Cricket Performance Cricket NSW, to the Annual Dinner and we thank him for his support of, and interest in, umpiring and NSWCUSA in season 2014-15.

NSWCUSA Hall of Fame

The highlight of the Annual Dinner was Marilyn Fowler being inducted as the 12th member of the NSWCUSA Hall of Fame following recommendation to the Board from a Sub-committee comprising Graham Chudleigh, Dick French and Geoff Garland.

Merilyn's inclusion in the Hall of Fame is richly deserved. The Board was unanimous with regards to her being included.

Her contribution to the Association since becoming a member in 1997 has been impressive and sustained. Merilyn, in the opinion of the Board, has demonstrated a level of exceptional performance, expertise, commitment to excellence and sacrifice that well justifies recognition by way of inclusion in the Hall of Fame:

- Merilyn scored 10 Test Matches (including an Ashes Test at Lord's in 2009), 28 One Day Internationals and 31 First Class matches.
- Merilyn is a fine example of working diligently over many years to perfect her craft, constantly seeking to improve, irrespective of her demonstrated skill level – she established standards of performance against which others are judged.
- Merilyn's willingness to impart to others the benefits of her knowledge and experience has been sustained since the integration of scorers into the Association. In this area, she defined the manner in which the techniques and skills of scoring are trained and developed. Merilyn was instrumental in preparing training manuals and related material and designing training courses for scoring when none of these now expected resources were available. A desire to continually revise and improve the manner in which scorers at all levels are trained has driven Merilyn to ensure that NSWCUSA remains a world leader in cricket scoring. She continues as a mentor, coach and selector despite the demands of raising a young family.
- Merilyn's contribution to the administration of the Association has been significant. As a foundation member of the Scorers' Committee and having served the Committee for 17 years and as a Board Director for three years, Merilyn has devoted countless hours to aligning the activities of the scorers with the Association's strategic objectives, representing the Association within and outside the cricket community at a distinguished level of professionalism. In many respects, she became the public face of scoring within this State and rightly earned an outstanding reputation within the media for the manner in which she carried herself in promoting the cause of scoring and its important place in our sport.

Congratulations are offered to Merilyn on her induction into the NSWCUSA Hall of Fame. Her citation was prepared and read by Tim Donahoo while Dick French presented Merilyn with her Hall of Fame plaque. She was humbled, almost speechless, on the night and has taken the opportunity to respond in writing in this edition of In Black and White.

Congratulations to Tony Wilds

Tony Wilds became the 80th member of NSWCUSA to umpire a first class match when on 25 February 2015 he stepped on to No. 1 Sportsground in Newcastle to supervise the Sheffield Shield match between New South Wales v Western Australia. Tony had an excellent debut and feedback received from Cricket Australia was that he performed strongly. We look forward to seeing him receive more opportunities at first class level in 2015-16. Tony takes preparation to a new level with his umpiring and he is highly respected by players, coaches and administrators. He makes an excellent contribution to cricket as an Accredited Umpire Trainer and he remains President of the Bathurst Branch of Mitchell Cricket Umpires Association.

Troy Penman, Jay Lenton and I travelled to Newcastle to see the first session of Tony's debut match – it was a proud moment for Tony, his family and NSWCUSA. We were delighted for Tony and to see him do so well.

Congratulations and best wishes to Glen Stubbings

Glen has been selected as the New South Wales Umpire to attend the National 15 and Under Championship being held in Darwin 14-19 June 2015. Details of Glen's appointments can be found on the NSWCUSA web page www.nswcusa.nsw.cricket.com.au

This is Glen's first appointment to a Cricket Australia National Youth Championship and we wish him the very best for an enjoyable and successful experience in Darwin.

Milestone Matches

Congratulations to those umpires who achieved milestones in the SCA competitions this season:

SCA Match Milestones		
500 matches	150 matches	100 matches
Greg Lill	Geoff Taylor	Bill Ashe
		Gary Crombie
400 matches	200 matches	Trevor Parker
Laurie Borg	John Darcy	Derek Ponsford
	Spencer Harrison	Bob Shield
350 matches		Patrick Smellie
John Evans	250 matches	Tony Vasey
Stephen McAppion	Nick Carson	Geoff Verco
	Chris King	Geoff Wheeler
300 matches		Bruce Whitehouse
Brian Ferguson		

Annual General Meeting

The AGM of NSWCUSA will be held at Bowlers' Club of NSW (95-99 York Street, Sydney) on Wednesday 1 July 2015 at 7pm. During the evening we will honour four members with Principal Membership of the Association – Christine Bennison, Don Coleman (Griffith), Roger Ridgway and Norm Ryder (Far North Coast).

Annual Convention

We look forward to the Annual Convention being held at Bradman International Cricket Hall of Fame in Bowral on the weekend of 22-23 August 2015. It is an outstanding venue and we look forward to an educational and entertaining weekend at what many see as the home of country cricket in this State. A registration form for the Convention will be forwarded to members in July.

Visits to AGMs of Affiliated Associations

A member of the NSWCUSA Board, where possible, will attend each AGM of affiliated umpire associations held throughout New South Wales. Liaison Officer, Neil Findlay, coordinates this process and the allocation of Directors to attend meetings. Secretaries are invited, and encouraged, to advise Neil the details of their Association AGM so a NSWCUSA representative can attend if available. Neil can be contacted on nwfindlay@hotmail.com

AGM – Far North Coast Cricket Umpires’ and Scorers’ Association

I was pleased to attend the AGM of Far North Coast Cricket Umpires’ and Scorers’ Association at South Lismore Bowling Club on 31 May 2015. The work of Mark Templeman, Pat Holt and Bruce Johnstone is commended – they do an excellent job managing and administering a fine association. Congratulations are offered to Mark Templeman who was the recipient of the Ray Neilson Memorial Award for Far North Coast Umpire of the Year.

AGM – Cootamundra District Cricket Umpires’ Association

Life Member and Board Director Graham Chudleigh attended the AGM of Cootamundra District Cricket Umpires’ Association at The Coota Club on 5 June 2015. Without doubt our smallest affiliate with just 8 members, the CDCUA does an outstanding job servicing cricket matches in the northern riverina region. We extend sincere congratulations to four members who all received Life Membership of the CDCUA this year at the AGM – Ric Becquet, Chris Cassin, Pat Kerin OAM and Graham Moon. Between them the four umpires have stood in 1,279 matches giving excellent service to their local association and beyond.

Training courses on the Laws of Cricket for prospective umpires

NSWCUSA trainers will be facilitating training courses in the coming months. These courses are free of charge for members to attend, but you are asked to register please.

Dates for the training courses are:

Karuah – 20 & 21 June

Key contact – Gary Crombie gary_crombie@hotmail.com

Scone – 27 & 28 June

Key contact – Gary Crombie gary_crombie@hotmail.com

Coffs Harbour – 18 & 19 July

Key contact – Ken Robinson umpire51@bigpond.com

Albury – 25 & 26 July

Key contact – Ken Brooks kenbrooks@netspace.net.au

Newcastle – 25 & 26 July

Key contact – Kim Norris kimnorris@bigpond.com

Cowra – 29 & 30 August

Key contact – Greg Nicholls gnicholls7@bigpond.com

Armidale – 12 & 13 September

Key contact – Alan Hollebrandse hollies3@bigpond.com

Narromine – 19 & 20 September

Key contact – Dwayne Kent dwayne.kent@landmark.com.au

The training course at Cricket NSW will be held in the Auditorium at the Moore Park office at 6.30pm on each the following dates – 28 & 30 July, 4, 6 & 11 August. Please register through the NSWCUSA Administration Officer, Jay Lenton, whose contact details are 0427 947 000 and Jay.Lenton@cricketnsw.com.au

Vale Lance Manning

It is with sadness and regret that the passing of Lance Manning is advised. Mr Manning was a life member of the affiliated Newcastle District Cricket Umpires' Association. A highly respected figure in Newcastle Cricket, Mr Manning was the recipient of the Warren Tennant Medal for contribution to the game in 2011. The President of the NDCUA, former NSWCUA member Royce McCormack, has publicly acknowledged Mr Manning's contribution to the game through the Newcastle Herald.

<http://www.theherald.com.au/story/3133424/obituary-lance-manning-cricket-umpiring-stalwart/>

Mr Manning was a former President of the NDCUA, an active member of the Association for 51 years, and in 1967-68 stood in the Tour Match between Northern NSW and India at No. 1 Sportsground in Newcastle.

Mr Manning is survived by his children Nick and Louise.

The deepest sympathy of NSWCUA is extended to the family and friends of Mr Manning, along with his NDCUA colleagues who are grieving at this time.

May Lance Manning rest in peace.

Vote of thanks

I wish to offer a vote of thanks to Troy Penman (Administration Manager) and Jay Lenton (Administration Officer). They work hard, they are loyal, and they are committed to administering and managing NSWCUA to the highest possible standard. Their work ethic and contribution to NSWCUA is outstanding, we are blessed to have them on our team. I commend them, their performance and their attitude to all members and affiliates.

I also offer thanks to all members for being the true heart and soul of NSWCUA. Your commitment to the Association, to cricket, and to umpiring or scoring is what makes us tick. NSWCUA provides great service to cricket in this State and it is our members who are responsible for this. We all make mistakes – so do the players – Albert Einstein wrote that a person who never made a mistake never tried anything new.

Finally, I thank the Board of Directors, all office bearers, committee members, zone umpire representatives, coaches, mentors and volunteers for your contribution to cricket and NSWCUA. The support provided to NSWCUA staff is appreciated.

"I am a big believer in being your own person, being yourself and playing how you've played all the way through.

When you talk to guys who've been around the game for a long time, the big thing they say is to be yourself, and play your own game." – Phillip Hughes

To be the best

I thought I would conclude by sharing these few paragraphs from Stanley Marcus with you:

I've watched many people in various lines of endeavour striving to attain the best and I have tried to determine what qualities they had in common.

Whether they were baseball pitchers trying for a no-hit game, sprinters attempting to break a world record, or grape growers intent on producing the finest wine in the world, they all had complete dedication to their goals.

They displayed greater knowledge than their competitors; they were willing to put in the extra effort necessary to approach perfection; they never settled for second best.

They exerted themselves.

Excellence is not being the best, it is giving your best and nobody whoever gave his or her best regretted it.

Darren Goodger.
Executive Officer, NSWCUSA.

EIGHT RULES FOR SUCCESS

Bill Snyder

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



Greg Matthews & Aaron Vella



Brian & Judy Booth



Brian Freedman OAM & Alan Davidson AM MBE



Merilyn Fowler & Christine Bennison



Dick French OAM & John H. Williams



Paul & Sally Wilson

Imparja Cup – Glen Stubbings

To the Members who are reading this, I hope this finds you well. Prior to attending the Imparja Cup I was asked whether I would keep a diary of my time in Alice Springs and share my experiences in an article for the Black and White. I hope you enjoy the read.

Sunday 8th February

Travel day. This morning I met up with the NSW Imparja Cup Team at Sydney Airport for our trip to Alice Springs. A few familiar faces from the Grade scene (including our very own Scorer Member, Chris McLeod) and a few people I met for the first time. The flight was a mixture of reviewing notes on Playing Conditions and sleep. On landing Chris and I made our way to our Accommodation and then headed off to meet the Scorer and Umpire teams respectively. Each State and Territory had an Umpire representing (with the exception of the ACT) as well as an Umpire representing Papua New Guinea. A meeting followed where the expectations of the week were set and umpire appointments clarified. Later that evening I was to umpire the evening match between the Australian Cricketers Association and a Representative Imparja Cup team (Black Caps) from the 2014 tournament.



Steve Farrell (QLD) & Glen Stubbings

Prior to the evening match we attended a Welcome Ceremony held at the Council Chambers hosted by the Mayor of Alice Springs who spoke proudly of his home and welcomed all to Alice Springs. The Ceremony was also an opportunity to hear how Cricket Australia has invested, and plan on investing, in Indigenous Cricket from the grassroots and listen to people who spoke of the importance of Cricket to the communities in Alice Springs and abroad.

From the Welcome Ceremony we left for the evening match. This match was a great chance to get into some routines and the swing of T20 Cricket as well as experience umpiring under lights for the first time. The match included players such as Lee Carseldine, Brett Geeves, Brendon Drew, Joe Dawes and Phil Emery. My partner for the match was Steve Farrell (QLD) who I would umpire a further two matches with tomorrow.

Monday 9th February

A late start meant for a relaxing morning ahead with two matches this afternoon and evening. A sleep in, big breakfast and plenty of fluids was the order of the morning before heading into town to pick up some shopping for the week.





Albrecht

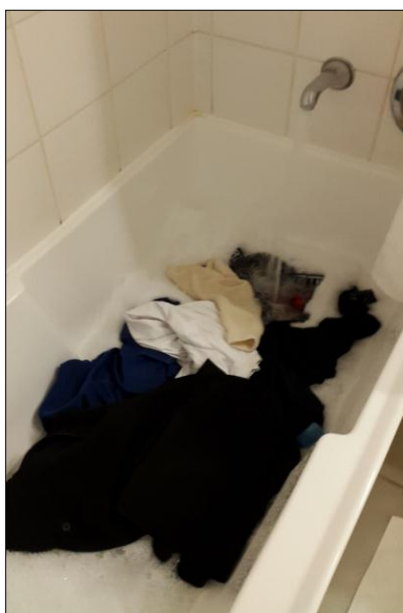
After that we were on our way to our first match of the Imparja Cup at Albrecht between South Australia and Northern Territory with Steve. Wickets fell regularly as South Australia made 64. In reply South Australia bowled Northern Territory out for 36.

Steve and I headed back to our accommodation to freshen up, have a rest and an early dinner before our next match in the evening.

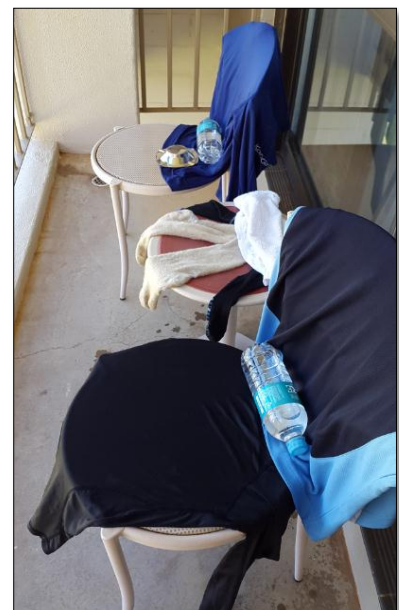
Our second match of the day was the match between South Australia and Victoria at Traeger Park. Victoria batted first making 5/124 and in reply South Australia was bowled out for 108. One incident out of tonight that was interesting to note was a situation where Steve and I agreed that if a catch was put down in the outfield that, on appeal, the batsman would have been out Obstructing the field (by word). The catch was taken.

Tuesday 10th February

A quiet morning as my only match of the day was a midday start. A late breakfast combined with some washing before the match between South Australia and Western Australia at Larapinta. This was the third consecutive match I was umpiring South Australia.



**Bathtub = washing machine.
At 42 degrees they didn't
take long to dry.**





My partner today was Jason Whalley from Victoria. South Australia batted first and was bowled out for 59 with Western Australia chasing the runs in the 9th over, 2 wickets down.

An afternoon without cricket gave Jason and I a chance to head into town and have a look around. We visited the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) which has undergone refurbishment in the last couple of years which was worthwhile and highly recommended if you are visiting the Alice.

We walked back to Traeger Park in the early evening and watched the NSW v Queensland match which was a nice change to umpiring and a chance to tone down over some dinner as well as catch up with Chris. Queensland won a tight match.

Jason Whalley (VIC) & Glen Stubbings

Wednesday 11th February

An early start for Day 3. Today I umpired two Women's matches. The first match was Victoria and Northern Territory at Albrecht with Western Australian umpire Jamal Principe. Northern Territory was bowled out for 88 (the number three batsman scored 61 not out) and in reply Victoria won in the 14th over for the loss of a single wicket.

A bite to lunch on the way to the second match, standing with Fred Bau from Papua New Guinea at Larapinta for Victoria v Western Australia. Batting first Victoria posted 2/134 off their 20 overs and in reply Western Australia made 9/76.



Traeger Park – NSW v QLD

Another night off meant a chance to be a spectator once again. This evening was the feature match of the tournament between Tasmania and Northern Territory at Traeger Park. In 2002 Tasmania and Northern Territory played the inaugural States and Territories match with Northern Territory winning and thus this fixture holds a special place in the hearts of the locals and the players alike. A lot of the locals come down to Traeger for this match and support their local NT team. It was a good experience to watch this match and see what the match and the Imparja Cup meant to the players and supporters.

Thursday 12th February

My only match today was a night match at Traeger with my South Australian colleague, Millind Gawde. This meant that today was a fairly relaxing day and a great opportunity to recharge the batteries for the end of the tournament. The way I like to relax is by doing very little so I spent today sitting by the pool listening to some music followed by a nap in the afternoon. By this stage of the week I was comfortable in my preparation for each match and the routine of meeting my partner and being transported to the game. It seemed we had a good formula going.



Fred Bau (PNG), Glen Stubbings & Mill Gawde (SA)

Our match this evening was my third of the week under lights, between Northern Territory and Western Australia. It would turn out to be the most intense match I have umpired to date and one that presented us with a number of challenges. Northern Territory made 7/78 off their 20 overs and in reply Western Australia, with the scores level on the final ball, scored a single to win the match by two wickets. A close match that kept Milly and I busy until the end and beyond (we had a Code of Conduct breach which resulted in submitting a report before retiring for the night). Irrespective of that, it was an enjoyable night.

Friday 13th February

An early start today after backing up from last night with the last of the round matches to be completed. This morning I was standing with Jamal (WA) at Larapinta in the match between South Australia and Tasmania, both of whom were out of finals contention. Tasmania made 4/94 off their 20 overs and in reply South Australia passed their total two down in the 16th over.



Glen Stubbings & Chris McLeod

A couple of hours break (watching NSW v Northern Territory) before I headed to Traeger to umpire the first Semi-Final between Victoria (1st) and Queensland (4th). My partner was Scott Pearce from Tasmania. Playing for a spot in the Grand Final, Queensland batted first scoring 8/111 off their 20 overs. In reply Victoria was bowled out for 72. This would turn out to be the final match I would officiate in the Alice.

The second Semi-Final between Western Australia (2nd) and NSW (3rd) was held immediately after the first so Scott and I joined the other umpires who were not officiating and watched some good quality cricket (matched by some equally good scoring!).

Saturday 14th February

Today was spent as a spectator. A few of the umpires had decided to use the time to take in some scenery so we hired a car and headed off to Simpson's Gap for some sightseeing. We returned to watch NSW comfortably win the Women's Final (an 8th straight!) over Victoria by 75 runs. The Men's Final was much closer with Western Australia beating Queensland by 3 runs in a low scoring match.

This evening was the Imparja Cup Dinner held at Lassiter's Casino. This was an opportunity to celebrate the tournament, recognise the players who had achieved over the last few days as well as be entertained by local and traditional performances of song and dance.



Jamal Principe (WA), Glen Stubbings, Jason Whalley (VIC) & Mill Gawde (SA)

Sunday 15th February

Travel day. After an enjoyable week in the Alice it was time to say goodbye to friends made and head back to our respective states.

I was honoured and humbled to be selected as the NSW Umpire for the Imparja Cup in 2015. I would like to thank a few people, in no particular order:

- The coaching team for nominating me for this tournament.
- All the NSWCUA Members who offered me support and congratulations.
- Troy Penman and Jay Lenton in the office for their ongoing efforts on our behalf.
- State Director of Umpiring, Darren Goodger for his coaching.
- The umpires and scorers I officiated matches with at the Imparja Cup, and
- Finally to my fiancée, Simone, for supporting me each and every day.

All the best,
Glen

Merchandise Winner



\$100 Merchandise voucher

Winning number 09/4553-UF

Abu Dhabi – Darren Foster

At the December 2014 Ordinary Meeting I was approached by Neville Kent from the UK with an offer to umpire cricket matches in the UAE over ten days in March. After some thought I decided to take up the offer and contacted Neville to arrange the trip. The following is a day to day account of my experience umpiring in the UAE with matches in Abu Dhabi at the Zayed Stadium Nursery grounds and at The Emirates T20 tournament in Dubai held at The Sevens in Dubai.

Monday 16th March 2015

A nervous day for me as I am excited to head to Abu Dhabi for the Emirates T20 tournament and county cricket pre season matches. Boarding the flight for the 14 hr journey to Abu Dhabi I did not know what to expect as a long haul flight was a new experience for me. The flight was long as I watched five in flight movies.

I arrived in Abu Dhabi at 05:20am Tuesday 17th March 2015. I was greeted by my driver at the airport who proceeded to take my bags for me to the taxi. No Fords or Holden's here. It was a Mercedes Benz. After checking in at 7am I went to my room and was greeted by my roommate and fellow umpire Mansour Qureshi fast asleep. Not to wake him I went to have breakfast as I was quite hungry. After finishing a large breakfast (lunch Sydney time, the 7 hr time difference will be different) I took a walk up to Yas Marina F1 Circuit for a sticky beak. I am surprised at how clean and tidy the country is and after walking about 4km I thought it best to go back and unpack as Mansour might be up and about. Time now to catch up on some lost sleep during the flight then off to the Centro to have dinner then the bar to meet my fellow umpiring colleagues.

Wednesday 18th March 2015

Having the early night was beneficial giving me the opportunity to sleep well. Waking at 5am I lay in bed for a while and replied to a few emails, did my exercise routine and then started to watch the South Africa v Sri Lanka World Cup QF match. I then headed down for breakfast with Neville, Mansour and Mark. After breakfast it was time to prepare for today's match. A T20 fixture which saw Middlesex play the MCC Universities at 2:30pm. Mansour and I caught the officials bus at 12pm to the Zayed Cricket Stadium nursery grounds in Abu Dhabi. It was amazing to see this great cricket facility sitting in the middle of the desert surrounded by 6 other concrete pitches with sand outfields.

On arrival the driver Mark, from Sports Arabia, showed us around the pavilion and guided us to our change room. Pre match we were provided with lunch with the players and introduced to the coach's and captains of both teams. Once lunch was over Mansour and I headed out for the toss which Middlesex won and chose to bat hitting 167. MCC Universities were never in the hunt and were 127 at the close of the innings. After the match we headed back to the hotel for dinner and a few beers to discuss the day's proceedings.

Thursday 19th March 2015

Waking at 5am again I lay in bed before getting up and having an early breakfast. After breakfast I hit the pool for a few laps. Then back to the room to pack and prepare for today's T20 fixture between UAE U19's and the MCC Universities with my partner today being Mark Gumbly. Mark and myself caught the officials bus at 12pm in front of the Crowne Plaza hotel and headed off to the Zayed Cricket Stadium. There were three matches being played with the first starting at 10am and two more at 2:30pm. At 1:30pm there was no sight of the UAE players and some frantic phone calls were being made. At 2pm the UAE players started to dribble in and we managed to start the game at 3pm. MCC Universities made short work of the UAE U19's during the match.

Friday 20th March 2015

An early start to the day saw us meet the Yorkshire player's bus at the Vice Roy Hotel at 7am for the 90 minute journey to The Sevens in Dubai. The roads in the UAE are very good and it is amazing how vast and empty the desert landscape is when you start travelling. Arriving at The sevens and receiving our accreditation it was time to go to work and inspect the playing surface for the 10am fixture between Yorkshire and Lancashire to be umpired by Martin Bodenham and myself. The surface was excellent and is a credit to the ground staff in that being able to produce such quality pitches in a desert environment is quite remarkable. The weather was hot and Lancashire won the toss and decided to bowl. The pitch played well allowing the batsmen to score freely and Yorkshire headed through to the final in convincing fashion with a 21-run win.

Johnny Bairstow (54) hit a 30-ball fifty and Adam Lyth along with Alex Lees also pitching in with useful contributions of 36 and 24 respectively as Yorkshire posted a 159-run target. Lancashire never got going in response, losing wickets at regular intervals as they stumbled to 138-7 from their 20 over's. Martin is a very experienced official being an ex EPL football referee and 100 First Class cricket matches to his name. He was good to work with and his common sense approach to umpiring and explanations were good to learn from. Gina Kearns scored four T20 matches both on the book and TCS throughout the day which was a tremendous effort considering the pressure and tight schedule she had.

My second match of the day saw Lancashire play Durham in a T20 fixture at 1:30pm and my colleague for the match was Heath Kearns from Jersey. Heath is a character and enjoys his cricket having fun on the field while performing his role as an official. Lancashire chased down 170 with 4 balls to spare. Durham had some big names playing in this match with Mark Wood, Paul Collingwood and Ben Stokes in the line-up. The cricket was fast paced with a high level of intensity and was a joy to umpire and test my skills. During the match I was working on my player communication and asking the players their first names. When the second wicket fell I asked the non striker his first name and he looked at me funny and said "Ben". It was then I realised I was talking to Ben Stokes, and to put it mildly I was a little embarrassed.

The Final was good to watch with Martin Bodenham and Peter Hartley officiating from the ECB Panel of officials. Sussex who had beaten a star studded MCC team in the Semi Final were beaten by a quality Yorkshire line-up.

The match report can be seen at <http://yorkshireccc.com/news/view/3490/the-vikings-are-empirates-airlines-t20-champions>. It was great to watch Martin and Peter work together out in the middle as they went about their business effectively and efficiently. It was also great to share a beer after the match before heading back to the hotel at 1am. All in all a long day but an outstanding experience to be involved in such a professional event.

Saturday 21st March 2015

A day of rest so I took the chance to see some sights in Abu Dhabi.

Ferrari World was the first stop followed by Yas Mall. Ferrari World is home to the fastest roller coaster in the world and it is most certainly an exhilarating experience. Check out this Youtube video of Fernando Alonso and Felipe Massa from Ferrari's F1 team riding the coaster and you will get an idea of how quick it actually is.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ijuQwnfBBZw>

Sunday 22nd March 2015

Neville and myself in preparation for today's match met for breakfast at 7am at the hotel and went through playing conditions for the 50 over match between Sussex & Durham.

Sussex were beaten by 23 runs. After Sussex won the toss and elected to field first, Durham made 249 all out from their 50 overs. The left-arm pace of Tymal Mills was the pick of the bowling, as he claimed 3 for 34 from his seven overs, whilst Ajmal Shahzad (2 for 37) and Matthew Hobden (2 for 36) also picked up a couple of wickets each. Tymal bowls at around the 150-155 km/h mark and was a great challenge to umpire.

Steffan Piolet, who played for Eastern Suburbs this season, Ashar Zaidi and Chris Nash all took one wicket each whilst Gordon Muchall (63) top-scored for Durham. Phil Mustard also hit a half-century and Keaton Jennings made 42.

In reply, the Sussex Sharks were indebted to Ben Brown who made 84 from 87 balls whilst Luke Wells (30) and Michael Yardy (20) also contributed in the top-order. Piolet's 33 from 35 balls was the highlight of the lower order as Sussex couldn't quite get over the line, losing by 23 runs in the 48th over. Ryan Pringle was the pick of the Durham bowlers, taking 3 for 40.

SUSSEX v DURHAM

Pre-Season Match - Tour of UAE - Sunday 22nd March 2015

Durham		Runs	BF	
1	Mark Stoneman	ct Brown b Shahzad	4	4
2	Phil Mustard	ct Jackson b Zaidi	50	83
3	Michael Richardson	ct Brown b Mills	0	2
4	Paul Collingwood	b Mills	0	1
5	Gordon Muchall	b Nash	63	86
6	Ben Stokes	b Hobden	33	26
7	Keaton Jennings	not out	42	43
8	Scott Borthwick	b Hobden	1	4
9	Ryan Pringle	ct Brown b Piolet	21	17
10	Usman Arshad	ct Finch b Mills	4	10
11	Barry McCarthy	b Shahzad	0	7
b 0 lb 4 wd 17 nb 10			31	
Overs		50	Provisional Total	249
Pens		0	Wkts	10
			Total	249

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Shahzad	8	0	37	2
Mills	7	0	34	3
Piolet	9	0	42	1
Hobden	6	1	36	2
Zaidi	9	0	40	1
Nash	8	0	56	1

Fall of wickets				
1-4	2-7	3-10	4-123	5-141
6-190	7-196	8-231	9-244	10-249

Sussex		Runs	BF	
1	Chris Nash	b Wood	6	19
2	Luke Wells	b Borthwick	30	55
3	Michael Yardy	ct & b Borthwick	20	24
4	Ben Brown	ct Stoneman b Pringle	84	87
5	Harry Finch	b Stokes	7	8
6	Ashar Zaidi	lbw b Pringle	12	29
7	Callum Jackson	ct Mustard b Wood	2	7
8	Ajmal Shahzad	st Mustard b Pringle	8	10
9	Steffan Piolet	not out	33	35
10	Will Beer	ct Stoneman b Stokes	3	10
11	Tymal Mills	run out (Arshad)	0	1
b 1 lb 1 wd 5 nb 14			21	
Overs		47.3	Provisional Total	226
Pens		0	Wkts	10
			Total	226

Bowling	O	M	R	W
Arshad	6	1	36	0
Wood	10	0	32	2
Stokes	7.3	1	31	2
Pringle	10	1	40	3
Borthwick	9	0	57	2
McCarthy	5	0	28	0

Fall of wickets				
1-29	2-63	3-64	4-80	5-121
6-125	7-144	8-211	9-220	10-226

Umpires - Neville Kent and Darren Foster

Scorer - Imran Ahmed

Toss won by - Sussex

Result - Durham win by 23 runs

Neville Kent & Darren Foster – umpiring together in the UAE

Monday 23rd & Tuesday 24th March 2015

On Monday it was agreed that both teams would bat during the day and the Sussex XI batted first to make 228 for 4 in 50 overs. Harry Finch scored an unbeaten 77 whilst Ashar Zaidi made 68 not out. Michael Yardy, opening the batting scored 48.

The Combined Yorkshire/Sussex XI then batted for 30 overs to make 128 for 3. Ben Brown top-scored with 74 as he and Steffan Piolet (35) put on 90 for the third wicket. Steve Magoffin was the pick of the bowlers for Sussex with 2 for 31 whilst Zaidi picked up the other scalp.

On the second day the Sussex XI then took to the crease again for 30 overs, scoring 105 for 4. Ajmal Shahzad (33) and Luke Wright (27) were the top-scorers as they set a target for the Combined XI of 206 in 50 overs.

The Combined XI reached 192 for 7 in their 50 overs which saw the match drawn. Will Beer (60) and Piolet (53) both made half-centuries whilst for the Sussex XI there were two wickets apiece for Shahzad, Tymal Mills and Chris Nash.

Sussex play their final warm-up match of the tour on Thursday when they take on a MCC Young Cricketers XI in the Zayed Main Stadium in a 50-over floodlit match.

Sussex XI 228 for 4 and 105 for 4 drew with Combined Yorkshire/Sussex XI 128 for 3 and 192 for 7

Wednesday the 25th March 2015

Wednesday saw me with another day off and I decided to head into central Abu Dhabi to see the sights and do some shopping. It was an interesting experience catching a taxi into the city with the first stop being the Etihad towers to go up to the 75th floor Observation Deck.

The view was breathtaking of the surrounding city. It was then a short cab ride to the Madinat Zayed Shopping and Gold Centre to do some shopping before heading back to the hotel to pack before dinner with Heath and Gina Kearns before they head off back to Jersey.



Emirates Palace, Abu Dhabi.



View of the Marina Mall & Abu Dhabi city.

Thursday 26th March 2015

After an early breakfast it was time to say goodbye to Neville and Mansour before heading to the airport for the long flight home at 10:10am. The trip has been a great learning experience for me with new pitches, conditions, players and colleagues to get to know. The coaching I have received from NSWCUA has helped me get through this trip without any issues and I am ever grateful of the opportunity to be able to share my experiences and what I have learned with my fellow umpires on the trip and on my return to Australia.

I have met some great people and had experiences I will never forget in a country that I possibly would have never thought of visiting prior to this event. It has opened my eyes to how much effort goes into the administration and organisation of sporting tour events and the importance of quality managers at such events. I wish Neville, Mansour, Mark, Heath, Gina, Martin and Peter all the very best for their future umpiring and scoring endeavours.

Convention – Bradman Museum



The registration form for the Annual Convention will be sent to all members in early July.

Technical – Darren Goodger

In the last edition of In Black and White we posed 10 questions for your consideration, the answers to which appear below:

1. (Law 39) The bowler delivers a fair ball which pitches and is missed by the batter. The ball goes through to the wicket-keeper (who is standing up to the stumps), it strikes the wicket-keeper's helmet and then drops down onto her body before going onto to hit the striker's end wicket and dislodging a bail with the striker out of her ground, not attempting a run. There is an appeal. How should it be answered? Explain your answer.

Answer: The striker's end umpire shall give the striker out Run out. If the ball touches a protective helmet worn by the wicket-keeper, the ball is still in play but the striker shall not be out Stumped. She will, however, be liable to be Run out in these circumstances if there is subsequent contact between the ball and any fielder. The definition of a fielder in Appendix D includes the wicket-keeper.

2. (Law 28) A fielder uses his elbow to completely dislodge a bail. What is necessary for this to mean that the wicket has been fairly put down?

Answer: He must have had the ball in the hand of that arm at the time.

3. (Law 24 and Law 38) The bowler has not entered his delivery stride and throws the ball towards the striker's wicket. The ball hits the wicket direct, putting the wicket down, with the striker out of his ground, not attempting a run. There is an appeal. What should happen now?

Answer: Either umpire shall call and signal No ball. It should be noted that the procedure of caution, informing, final warning, action against the bowler shall not apply. In this instance the ball is in play, the striker is out of his ground and the wicket is fairly put down by the action of a fielder so the striker's end umpire shall give the striker out Run out.

4. (Law 23) In which of the following situations is the umpire required to call and signal Dead ball:

- i) The batsmen deliberately run short
- ii) The ball comes to rest before reaching the striker
- iii) The bowler drops the ball accidentally before delivery
- iv) The ball lodges in the clothing of an umpire
- v) Attempted leg byes are to be disallowed
- vi) Lost ball is called

Answer: The umpire is required to call and signal Dead ball when the ball comes to rest before reaching the striker; when the bowler drops the ball accidentally before delivery; when attempted leg byes are disallowed.

5. (Law 38) A ball is struck directly on to a helmet worn by a fielder. It rebounds, hits the striker and ricochets on to the wicket, dislodging a bail. If the striker is out of his ground, is he out Run out?

Answer: No. After striking the helmet worn by the fielder there needs to be further contact between the ball and either the fielder himself, or any other fielder, before the ball touches the wicket causing the bail to be dislodged.

6. (Law 34) When is it legitimate for the striker to hit the ball a second time? (Law 34)

Answer: When it is in defence of his wicket.

7. (Law 15 and Law 16) The scheduled time for the tea interval is 3:10pm. It has been agreed before the toss that the tea interval will be 30 minutes duration. At 3:08pm Team A is 8 wickets down when a batsman retires. Three valid balls have been bowled in the over in progress. What should the umpires decide?

Answer: The umpire at the bowler's end shall call Time. The tea interval shall commence. Play shall resume at 3.38pm. The over left uncompleted shall be completed on resumption of play. For the purposes of the law relating to *Tea interval – 9 wickets down* the retirement of a batsman is not considered equivalent to the fall of a wicket. When less than two minutes remain before the time agreed for the next interval, the interval will be taken immediately if either a batsman is dismissed or retires or the players have occasion to leave the field, whether this occurs during an over or at the end of an over.

8. (Law 24 and Law 41) The batter attempts to hit a No ball, misses it and the ball strikes her on the pad. Both batters run. They have crossed on the first run, but have not completed it, when the ball strikes a helmet correctly placed on the ground behind the wicket-keeper. The ball then crosses the boundary. How many runs are recorded? How are the runs recorded? What should the umpire signal (in correct order) to the scorers? (Law 41)

Answer: 7 runs are recorded. 2 runs are recorded as No balls and there shall be 5 penalty runs awarded to the batting side. It should be noted that under the Laws that when a No ball is called and signalled any runs completed by the batsmen or any boundary allowance shall be credited to the striker if the ball has been struck by the bat; otherwise they shall be scored as No ball extras. The ball becomes dead when it strikes the helmet. The bowler's end umpire shall, when the ball becomes dead, signal to the scorers in the following order:

- 5 penalty runs to the batting side
- No ball
- Leg bye

The Leg bye signal is used to indicate the ball did not hit the striker's bat, but the two runs are recorded as No balls, not as Leg byes.

9. (Law 42) The bowler, lawfully, runs out the non-striker before entering his delivery stride. Does this count as a valid ball in the over?

Answer: Whether the attempt is successful or not, the ball shall not count as one of the over.

10. (Law 13) Play takes place on the first day of a two day match. The batting side scores 280. How many runs must the side batting second score in order not to be required to follow-on?

Answer: 181

Here are 6 more questions for you to work on between now and the next edition.....

1. Play starts at 1030 and a fielder (who is late) comes onto the field at 1045. At what time can she bowl? (Law 2.5)
2. The striker moves out of her ground and hits the ball, which has been called a No ball, into the air. The ball is subsequently taken on the full by a close-in fielder, who throws the ball at the striker's wicket, breaking it with the striker out of her ground whilst not attempting a run. Upon appeal, what decision shall be made?
3. List the ways a batter can be out from a No ball.
4. List the ways a batter can be out from a Wide ball.
5. The striker plays the ball and it drops in front of him. He immediately picks it up and throws the ball to a close fielder. No fielder has communicated with the batsman. How does the umpire answer an appeal?
6. The striker hits the ball a second time in safeguarding his wicket and it goes towards square leg. The batsmen run. A fielder picks up and throws the ball, which hits the helmet of the fielder left on the ground behind the wicket-keeper. It hits the helmet before the batsmen have completed the first run. What should you as bowler's end umpire do?

Answers to appear in the next edition of In Black and White.

Keep those law books open in the winter and spring months – the new season will be here before we know it!

“The will to succeed is important, but what’s more important is the will to prepare.” – Bobby Knight

Umpire Exchange – Harvey Wolff TCUSA

Having flown out of Hobart at 10:00am on Friday shivering from the wind, rain and a 14 degree day, I was collected from Sydney Airport by Laurie Borg, with a slightly better temperature around 25 degrees and sunny.

Laurie took me to the NSWCUA headquarters beside the SCG where we met up with Darren Goodger and Troy Penman enjoying lunch together in a cafeteria outside of HQ along with a few of the sights.

After lunch Darren took me to the SCG umpires' room for a look and a picture in front of the Members Stand which was fantastic.

I had been outside the ground in 1990, when my wife Donna and I were on our honeymoon, so to be given the opportunity to walk quickly onto the ground is something that I will always remember.

I had a quick looksee at the members' area and also the umpires' room.

After the tour Laurie took me to my accommodation at Metro X, Ryde.

Later that evening my partner for the weekend, Muhammad Qureshi, took me to one of Darren's local haunts for dinner, where we met up with the man himself.

A nice evening meal was had by all and Muhammad dropped me back to my accommodation for a good night's sleep. Saturday morning saw me picked up at 08:30am and taken the half hour trip by car and foot to North Sydney Oval, where I would umpire North Sydney (Captained by Scott Rodgie) v Northern District (Captained by Chris Green) with a 10.30am start.



Harvey Wolff & Muhammad Qureshi

Muhammad took me to the umpires' room to settle in before taking a walk around the ground, scoring area and meeting up with the groundsman. The ground staff actually put the stumps in for us, so we only had to deliver them from our room to the square.

I umpired from the Wolff Sydney Harbour Bridge End of the ground in the first innings of the two day match and then from the Qureshi Northern End of North Sydney Oval in the second dig.

I had a number of memorable moments during the match.

I was lucky enough to be observed by former first class cricket umpire Graham Reed; witnessed a six which landed on the roof of one of the large grandstands which were removed and re-erected on-site from the SCG; met up with an old cricket mate from my hometown of Bundaberg (Sean Appoo) whom I had not seen for about 27 years or more. Little did I know that Sean had played nine seasons of Grade cricket for North Sydney. I also had the pleasure of meeting two lovely scorers both named Robin (sitting in Robin's Nest) and enjoying the canteen that made the best chicken burgers I had ever tasted.

At the completion of day one, I caught up with Simon Lightbody, Greg Davidson, Billy Hendricks and a number of other NSW cricket umpires for a lovely dinner at Ryde X. It was a perfect opportunity to debrief and enjoy the company each other.



Harvey Wolf at North Sydney Oval

The statement of the night belonged to Billy who said, "Everyone knows that the best umpires going around come from New South Wales." (Bombs away, 15:0 and nice try fella!)

Sunday saw Northern District chasing down the North Sydney score of 197 runs having been all out for 242 with a late collapse chasing quick runs before having a second go at North Sydney. Of note was Nathan Lyon holing out first ball to my new mate Glenn Aitken.

North Sydney batted again finishing 1 for 113 when both Captains agreed to end play at tea on day two.

Also of note was the water melon supplied at tea, it was the best I had eaten in years, crunchy, juicy and sweet, what more would you want. (Reminded me of growing up in Bundy when you could buy watermelons on the side of the road for 30 to 50 cents each)

I did catch up with one of the scorers from Robin's Nest, who said, "You know Harv, there are a couple of things that the NSW umpires could learn from you, for one thing you always try to get into position so we (the scorers) can actually see what you are signalling to us, and secondly you acknowledge our light signal with a nod of your head."

The only reason I mentioned this is because I had to put a couple of shots across Billy's bow from what he had said on Saturday night. (30:15 Billy)

Challenges for me included having to deal with a new ground, unknown players which was just like starting First Grade all over again, different Playing Conditions and Match Reports, finding the scorers box which took some finding initially. There were all positives for me to be able to deal with during the match!

The exchange program between our two States is alive and well. I believe it will make me become a better umpire for the experience and I hope that this can continue to be a part of proceedings for many years to come. Umpire learning, development and comradeship are paramount both on and off the field, with the exchange program enabling all this to happen at a much higher level.

This was definitely one of the best experiences I have had in my short career as a Tasmanian CUSA member.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable two days of cricket to umpire, and a huge thank you to the following people:

Muhammad Qureshi – My partner in crime and a very nice bloke, who transported me nearly everywhere.

Laurie Borg – For picking me up from the airport and delivering me safely to my accommodation.

Darren Goodger and NSWCUSA – Big thank you for their hospitality and entrusting me to umpire in First Grade in their SCA competition.

Richard Widows, Roy Loh, Cricket Tasmania and TCUSA – Thanks for their support and for selecting me to represent Tasmania.



Ben Treloar, Yvonne Treloar, Claire Polosak, Evan Darmanin & Brian Ferguson

Service to Cricket Umpiring recognised

Friday 13 June 2015 was a most significant occasion for four active members of the Cootamundra District Cricket Umpires' Association. Graham Moon, Ric Becquet, Pat Kerin, and Chris Cassin were all honoured with Life Membership of the Association.

All four recipients were foundation members of the local Umpires' Association when the Association was formed in 2004.



Graham Moon, Ric Becquet, Graham Chudleigh & Pat Kerin OAM

Sadly, Chris Cassin was unable to attend due to the very recent passing of his mother.

To show their dedication to umpiring, during their time as local members, Graham, Ric, Pat, and Chris have stood in 1,279 matches.

At the completion of each citation, Graham Chudleigh from the NSWUCSA Board presented the life membership badges to Ric, Pat, and Graham. In doing so Mr. Chudleigh congratulated Ric, Chris, Pat, and Graham on receiving Life Membership stating their work for cricket in the region is well understood by the Board of NSWUCSA.

A citation on the career of each umpire follows.

Ric Becquet, Chris Cassin, Pat Kerin, and Graham Moon passed their NSWUCSA Accreditation in 2003 and became members of NSWUCSA in 2003-04. Chris, Pat and Graham became full members in 2004 while Ric became a full member in 2005. Chris Cassin attained his Cricket Australia Level 2 Accreditation in 2005, while Ric Becquet, Pat Kerin, and Graham Moon attained their Level 2 Accreditation at Temora in 2010.

Ric Becquet: became a member of the Association in the 2004-05 season and commenced umpiring the JDI Cup, a new competition involving teams from Cootamundra and Young Associations.

Over the past eleven seasons, Ric has given sterling service to umpiring in Cootamundra. Apart from umpiring virtually every Saturday of the local Merrin Cup competition, Ric has stood in Stribley Shield and Country Plate competitions as well as a number of Northern Riverina Cricket Council junior matches and finals.

Umpiring has taken Ric out of Cootamundra, which includes standing in the Tumbarumba Grand Final at Jingellic and Grand Finals at Temora and Leeton. Also in Young, Ric has officiated in the Lachlan Cricket Council matches as well as two Grinsted Cup matches.

In the 2008-09 season, Ric shared the Umpire of the Year Award with Pat Kerin.

Over the past six seasons, Ric has umpired and presented the award for the best player in the Under 12 Final.

In 2009 Ric stood in the Country Challenge match at Fisher Park with Chris Cassin. The match involved six State players, Peter Nevill, Steve O'Keefe, Steve Smith, Scott Coyte, Ben Roher and Aaron Bird.

During the 2011-12 season, Ric raised \$2250 for breast cancer awareness.

At the 2012-13 Cootamundra District Cricket Association Annual presentation night, Ric was awarded the prestigious Frank Smith Award for Services to Cricket.

Ric's contribution to Cootamundra cricket was again rewarded in the 2014-15 season, when he was awarded Frank Smith Award for Services to Cricket. Ric capped off a fine season by being awarded the Eric Thorburn OAM Umpire of the Year.

To show Ric's dedication to umpiring, at the end of the 2014-15 season he had stood in 308 matches, an average of 28 matches per season.

Chris Cassin: Commenced umpiring in the Cootamundra competition in the 2003-04 season and was a member of this Association for eight seasons between 2004-05 to 2011-12. As a member of the CDCUA, Chris stood in 260 matches.

At the commencement of the 2012-13 season, Chris moved to Canberra for better employment opportunities and to umpire at a higher level in the Cricket ACT competition.

During Chris's period as a member of the CDCUA, he rose up the country umpiring ladder to the Country Panel where he was a member for two seasons, 2010-11 and 2011-12. He has stood in four Stribley Shield finals from 2008-09 to 2011-12.

In 2009 Chris stood in the Country Challenge match at Fisher Park with Ric Becquet.

Locally, Chris was a highly respected umpire in both the JDI Cup and Merrin Cup competitions. In 2005-06, the second season of the JDI Cup, Chris was voted Umpire of the Year, while in the Merrin Cup, he was Umpire of the Year for three consecutive seasons, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12.

Chris also enjoyed umpiring other Riverina finals, which included the quartet of the Tumbarumba, Temora, Leeton, and Young Grand Finals.

Chris enjoyed umpiring in the SCA competition and while he was a member of our Association, he stood in eight First Grade matches and one Sydney Shires First Grade match.

The absolute highlight of Chris's career was officiating on the SCG in the State Challenge Under 14 Twenty/20 match between Hornsby and Illawarra in February 2012.

This season, Chris received his highest appointment to date when he officiated in the Prime Ministers XI match at Manuka Oval in January with ICC Elite Panel Umpire Bruce Oxenford. England defeated The PM's XI by 60 runs.

Chris has gone on to officiate in the Cricket Australia Futures League competition. He has enjoyed the experience of umpiring four-day cricket.

Pat Kerin: After Pat was not selected for Big O's Sparre Cup side for the opening match of the 2003-04 season, the Big O captain Gerard Piffero had done Pat a favour, and he immediately retired from cricket and commenced umpiring.

In his first season, Pat who was still a member of the work force officiated in 15 matches. In retirement, Pat has been able to stand in many matches throughout NSW.

During the past twelve seasons in the middle, Pat has made a committed effort to be available nearly every weekend of the cricket season. He has shown genuine commitment to local club and representative cricket.

Pat has stood in the Country Plate Carnivals at Wellington 2004-05, Forbes 2005-06 and Gunnedah 2006-07. In the 2010-11 and 2012-13 seasons, Pat has stood in the Country Plate semi-finals at Yass.

Over the past six seasons, Pat has umpired in the Sydney Cricket Association competition; standing in six second grade matches as well as one AW Green Shield match and two Poidevin Gray Shield matches.

In 2005, Pat took on the role as the Riverina Cricket Zone Umpire Representative. This has enabled Pat to officiate at Riverina Zone Carnivals, but also observe umpires at these carnivals.

In 2007, Pat was awarded the prestigious Association Medal, the NSWCUA award which recognises the commitment of an umpire to an affiliated association.

Since the reformation of the Cootamundra District Cricket Umpires' Association in 2004, Pat has been Secretary/Treasurer and Appointments Officer.

In the 2008-09 season, Pat shared the Umpire of the Year with Ric Becquet.

In the 2013-14 season, Pat won the Eric Thorburn OAM Umpire of the Year Award.

At the conclusion of the 2014-15 season, Pat had stood in 431 matches.

Graham Moon: Graham Moon first commenced umpiring in Cootamundra in the late 1990's. He left the area, but returned in 2000 and recommenced umpiring towards the end of the 2001-02 season.

Graham has been President of our Association since it was reformed in 2004.

Graham has been available to umpire nearly every Saturday in our local Merrin and Sparre Cup competition. Graham was the inaugural JDI Cup Umpire of the Year in 2004-05. In 2006-07, 2007-08 and again in 2012-13, Graham was judged as the Eric Thorburn OAM Merrin Cup Umpire of the Year.

However, Graham's greatest accolade came at the conclusion of the 2009-10 season when he was awarded the Ted Wykes Medal from NSWCUSA recognising his dedication to umpiring on and off the field, and his ability.

He has also officiated regularly in all our regional representative competitions, which was highlighted by standing in five of the Country Plate Finals at Cootamundra in 2008, Temora 2009, Yass in 2012 and 2013, and Tamworth 2014.

When our local competition concluded, Graham has officiated at the Tumbarumba, Temora, Leeton, and Young Grand Finals on request from those Associations.

Always impeccably dressed, Graham Moon is a credit to our Association and the NSWCUSA.

At the Cootamundra District Cricket Association Annual Presentation night held on Saturday 29 March 2014, Graham was awarded the prestigious Frank Smith Award for Services to Cricket, which recognised Graham's commitment to umpiring in Cootamundra for well over a decade.

Before Christmas 2014, Graham Moon moved to The Rock to live and umpired in the Wagga Wagga DCA competitions for the second part of the 2014-15 season.

During Graham's time as member of the CDCUA, he stood in 280 matches.

EO Note: On behalf of management and members the congratulations of the Association are offered to Ric Becquet, Chris Cassin, Pat Kerin and Graham Moon.

They have made a remarkable contribution to cricket in the Northern Riverina of the State.



Ian Bowman, Andrew Hamilton, Rick Crocono, Aaron Vella & Glen Stubbings

Tribute to Richie Benaud – Graham Chudleigh

The passing of Richie Benaud sparked such a spontaneous outpouring of affection and memories from all walks of life across so many countries that I am moved to offer this piece to our Black & White publication from someone who had a privileged set of experiences, not only with Richie, but the three Benauds. I played with father Lou, Richie and Brother John.

It was indeed fate that allowed me to attend Parramatta High where these three gentlemen had their schooling. Richie left the school a year or two before I arrived and John arrived the year I left.

Needless to say I was also, along with both of them, Captain of the first grade side at the School and was able to join the Central Cumberland club in 1954-55 in their Green Shield side (along with another friend of our umpiring association, Trevor Wholohan).

My first experience was with Lou in his last year as a player in third grade. Lou was the ultimate gentleman, superb leg spin bowler and the elder statesman of this side. It was clear where Richie got the characteristics that endeared him to all who came in contact with him.

It was widely thought that Lou would have played at the national level if it had not been the aftermath of the Great Depression and World War II which limited his opportunities.

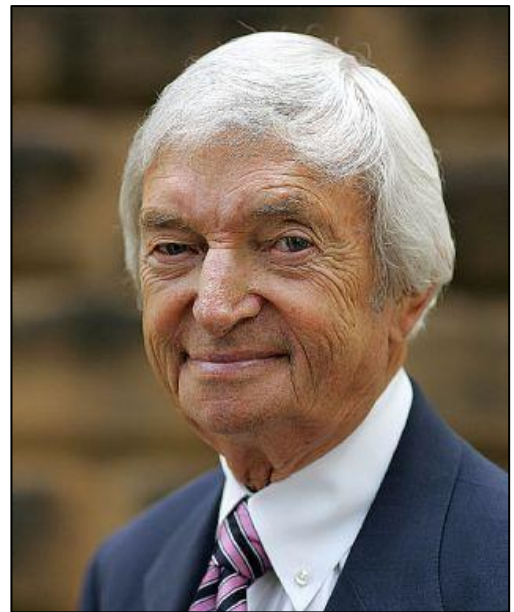
By the 1956-57 season I was a young leg spinner myself and elevated to play in first grade where, when Richie was available, I was privileged to play several games with him as Captain.

My first experience occurred in my initial first grade game between Cumberland and Wests at Pratten Park when both Richie and Alan Davidson played. Briefly we batted first, in trouble at 5 for not many when I walked out to face Davo. Three balls later, following two in swinging yorkers I survived and then an in swinger cutting away and an edge to slips and “see you later young fella”.

As I sat in the dressing room forlornly unbuckling my pads Richie came in, put his arm around my shoulder and simply said “Son, some of the world’s best batsmen have got out to Davo like that.” Typical of Richie, very supportive, an economy of words and then move on.

My first memory of Richie’s skill as a Captain was in a game against Petersham at Merrylands Oval in a 60 over one day match. Petersham’s Max Benjamin (the Geoff Boycott of Sydney Grade at that time) was batting and inching ever so slowly to his century with his Captain imploring him to hit out or get out. Richie would have none of it and instructed us to drop catches bowl wide of the stumps and keep him in at all costs. This we did dropping at least 5-7 catches while his Captain tore his hair out in frustration.

Max got his century, but Petersham’s score of around 220 was an easy target for us and we won comfortably.



My favourite playing recollection was a first grade game at Cumberland Oval between Cumberland (now Parramatta) and North Sydney in the 1956-57 season where he took 9 wickets.

His ability to plot the demise of each batter employing his famous finger point to alert fielders to be ready for a catch was typical.

I think it was his fourth wicket which caused me to be involved in his web. He was enticing cover drives with well flighted deliveries to a left hander and I was regularly fielding these in the covers when I got the signal and sure enough, instead of a drive along the ground the ball was lifted a few inches at speed and I was able to catch it millimetres above the turf.

On another occasion when our game against Waverley was decided on the first innings we fielded for a period at the end of day two. Richie threw the ball to me (as a rookie leggie in his first season) placed himself at first slip and orchestrated me in getting 3 for 7 in the next period

A wonderful introduction and education in the art of leg spin from The Master.

When batting for Cumberland under Richie one had to realise that any bat/pad fielders had to be scattered within two or three overs. Any longer and you received no sympathy if you got a dodgy bat/pad decision from an umpire.



On the matter of umpires – if any player even thought of questioning a decision or speaking to an umpire in an unacceptable manner he would be missing from the team next game.

Within 12 months he was made Captain of Australia and our first grade team celebrated with a BBQ at his home. He explained his approach to his challenge and ventured to us his two most valuable assets in the Australian team selected for that series namely Davo (Alan Davidson) and Ken (Slasher) Mackay from Queensland. Hopefully one or two of you may know of him.

Richie's command of the English language and the skill to use it to reduce the most complex cricket scenarios into a few words was legendary and this skill contributed greatly to his legend status as a commentator.

I was also privileged to play with his younger brother when he started his career. John did not follow Richie as an all-rounder but played Test Cricket as a batsman and was an Australian selector for a period.

I count myself so fortunate to be able to play with these three gentlemen of cricket in the Gentleman's game (in that period of history) and to experience first-hand all of those characteristics that are being celebrated in the tributes flowing for Richie at this time.

Rest in Peace Richie

CRICKET NSW PAYS TRIBUTE TO RICHIE BENAUD – Malcolm Conn

10 April 2015

Cricket NSW has paid tribute to former NSW and Australian captain Richie Benaud, who died today aged 84.

CNSW chairman John Warn described Mr Benaud as the face and voice of cricket for generations who never saw him play.

“Richie was a charismatic player who combined skilful leg-spin bowling with attacking batting, sharp fielding and decisive leadership to become a record-breaking all-rounder and captain.

“Yet for all his success on the field his greatest influence over the game he loved came later in life.

“He was a revolutionary with his involvement in World Series Cricket during 1977 and more recently embraced the Twenty20 game.

“As head of the Channel Nine commentary team for decades Richie was clear, crisp, dry and understated, with his astute observations often capturing an undercurrent of humour.

“Richie is an enormous loss to the cricket community the world over, especially in NSW, Australia, and England, where he was warmly embraced as a BBC commentator for decades.

“All involved with Cricket NSW extend our deepest sympathies to Richie’s wife Daphne, brother John and the entire Benaud family at this sad time.”

CNSW chief executive Andrew Jones described Richie Benaud as the doyen of cricket in NSW and Australia for half a century.

“Richie’s extra-ordinary cricketing life took the same journey as so many other NSW and Australian greats,” Mr Jones said.

“He was 16 when he joined his father Lou, a leg-spinner and stalwart of Cumberland, now Parramatta, in first grade before going on to play for NSW aged just 18 and Australia at 21.

“It took Richie six years to flourish at international level before becoming a dynamic all-rounder and attacking captain who revived Test cricket with the iconic 1960-61 series against the West Indies.

“In all he captained Australia 28 times for 12 wins, four losses, one tie, and 11 draws, including three Ashes triumphs.

“He also captained NSW 32 times from 1955-56 to 1963-64 for 19 wins, 5 losses and 8 draws.

“Richie became the first player from any country to score 2000 runs and take 200 wickets in Test matches.

“He held the Australian record for most wickets, 248, from 1962-3, when he passed Ray Lindwall, until overtaken by Dennis Lillee in 1980-81.

“For those who knew him personally Richie will be remembered for his charm and good nature. He will be sadly missed.”

Benaud was made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in 1961 for services to cricket and was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1985. A Cricket NSW Hall of Fame member, he was inducted into the Australian Cricket Hall of Fame in 2007 and two years later into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame.

RICHIE BENAUD FACT FILE COMPILED BY CNSW HISTORIAN DR COLIN CLOWES

Batting and fielding averages

	Mat	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	ct
Tests	63	2201	122	24.45	3	9	65
First-class	259	11,719	187	36.50	23	61	254
NSW Shield	73	3749	158	39.05	9	22	92
First Grade	137	5721	160*	40.57	12	31	n/a

Bowling averages

	Mat	Wkts	BBI	BBM	Ave	5w	10
Tests	63	248	7/72	11/105	27.03	16	1
First-class	259	945	7/18	13/134	24.73	56	9
NSW Shield	73	266	7/32	12/148	26.96	10	3
First Grade	137	366	8/36	n/a	18.68	22	n/a

Test debut	Australia v West Indies at Sydney, Jan 25-29, 1952
Last Test	Australia v South Africa at Sydney, Feb 7-12, 1964
First-class career	1948/49 - 1963/64

PERFORMANCES

*His name appears in the Central Cumberland (now Parramatta) Annual Report for the first time in 1943-44. Playing in second grade, he was credited with 18 runs in two innings. He did not bowl.

*The first of his three test centuries was his 121 vs. West Indies in the 5th Test in the West Indies in June 1955. He reached his fifty in 38 minutes and his century in 78 minutes, the third fastest (in time). He batted in all for 96 minutes, hitting 2 sixes and 18 fours as Australia, with five players scoring centuries, amassed 8-758 before it closed its innings. He hit five fours off the first five balls Tom Dewdney delivered with the fourth new ball.

*On five occasions he has scored a century and taken five wickets in an innings in a match:

- 5/87 + 167* - Australian XI vs. Combined Tasmania 1952-53
- 5/88 + 158 - NSW vs. Queensland 1953-54
- 117* + 6/93 - Australian XI vs. Rhodesia 1957-1958
- 187 + 5/71 - Australian XI vs. Natal 1957-58
- 100 + 5/84 - Australia vs. South Africa, 4th Test, 1957-58.

*In the last first-class match of the 1953 Australian Tour of England, he scored 135 in the second innings against T.N. Pearce XI. He scored his runs in 110 minutes, hit 11 sixes and 9 fours. It remained the record for most sixes in a first-class innings by an Australian until Dean Jones hit 12 in scoring 248 for the touring Australian against Warwickshire in 1989.

In his last Sheffield Shield match, and his last match for NSW, he scored 76 and 120 and took 3/77 and 2/32 against South Australia in 1963-64. The match ended on 4th February 1964. He added 221 with Brian Booth (162*) in an unfinished 6th wicket partnership. It was his 20th century partnership for New South Wales. The highest of these was the 264 he added with Arthur Morris (171) for the 5th wicket against Queensland in 1953-54. In that innings he scored 158.

Hall of Fame inductee – Marilyn Fowler

Below is the citation as read out by Principal Member Tim Donahoo at the Annual Dinner on 18 April 2015.

In August 2013 the Association inducted 11 members into its inaugural Hall of Fame at the Centenary Dinner held at Dockside.

Tonight we will be privileged to see an addition to that Hall of Fame with inductee number 12.

The next inductee into the New South Wales Cricket Umpires and Scorers Association Hall of Fame has been unanimously determined by the Board on the recommendation of a sub-committee comprising Graham Chudleigh, Geoff Garland and Dick French.



Dick French OAM & Marilyn Fowler

The inductee is to be Principal Member Marilyn Fowler.

Merilyn joined the Association in 1997 and in the opinion of the Board has demonstrated a level of sustained performance, expertise, commitment to excellence and sacrifice that well justifies recognition by way of inclusion in the Hall of Fame.

Merilyn's record as a representative level scorer is so impressive – 10 Test Matches (including an Ashes Test at Lord's in 2009), 28 One Day Internationals and 31 First Class matches. This record has few equals in the history of NSW Cricket.

Merilyn is a fine example of working diligently over many years to perfect her craft, constantly seeking to improve, irrespective of her demonstrated skill level. She established standards of performance against which others are judged.

Merilyn's willingness to impart to others the benefits of her knowledge and experience has been sustained since the integration of scorers into the Association.

In this area, she defined the manner in which the techniques and skills of scoring are trained and developed. Merilyn was instrumental in preparing training manuals and related material and designing training courses for scoring when none of these now expected resources were available. A desire to continually revise and improve the manner in which scorers at all levels are trained has driven Merilyn to ensure that NSWCUA remains a world leader in cricket scoring. She continues as a mentor, coach and selector despite the demands of raising a young family.

Merilyn's contribution to the administration of the Association has been significant.

As a foundation member of the Scorers' Committee and having served the Committee for 17 years and as a Board Director for three years, Marilyn has devoted countless hours to aligning the activities of the scorers with the Association's strategic objectives, representing the Association within and outside the cricket community at a distinguished level of professionalism.

In many respects, she became the public face of scoring within this State and rightly earned an outstanding reputation within the media for the manner in which she carried herself in promoting the cause of scoring and its important place in our sport.

Given that scorers have been an integral and equal part of the Association since 1997, the Board believes it is well justified in recognising the status of scorers within NSWCUSA by acknowledging Marilyn for what she has given back to the game and the Association.

Marilyn Fowler is truly deserving of being inducted as the 12th member of the New South Wales Cricket Umpires and Scorers Association Hall of Fame.

Merilyn Fowler on becoming the 12th member of the NSWCUSA Hall of Fame

My night didn't start well as I had a wardrobe malfunction as we arrived at the dinner when my shoe broke ... not badly enough to have to ditch them for the night but enough to be uncomfortable and to have to walk warily in case I did any more damage and be left shoeless.

To say the night improved would be an understatement ... I truly don't know who was more shocked – me (as I didn't have a clue it was happening) or anyone who knows me who saw me rendered just about speechless for the first time in years! I describe it as being like a bunny caught in the headlights. I vaguely recall thanking my husband Nick for his support over the years for which he later jokingly chastised me saying that it just made it official that he was in fact my handbag! A friend commented after the presentation how proud my Dad would be which left me a tearful mess for the next 15 minutes and everything else is pretty much a blur.

It is truly humbling to have received such an honour from our Association and one which I don't take lightly. To have my name added to the honour roll that was announced at our Centenary celebrations 18 months ago is quite overwhelming and I sincerely thank the Board for their endorsement for me to take up the position as the 12th member of the Hall of Fame.

People always say "it's an honour and privilege" and it sounds so clichéd but that's exactly how I see being part of our Association and doing what I do. I always say that cricket has been good to me – I have made many close friends and even 'scored' myself a husband out of it and, sure, scoring for Australia was a personal goal and one I worked hard to achieve (especially being a young woman at the time in a man's domain I can assure you it brought with it some extra challenges and road blocks!) but my Dad taught me that rank has its privileges and also its responsibilities. As such, I also became a part of the team that took on the role of training and developing other scorers through development of resources, training programs and the sharing of knowledge. Even though I have since retired from putting the dots in the scorebook, I still have a passion for developing scoring which means I'm constantly striving to improve our materials and presentations. You don't do these things for the recognition and I've always only ever done what's best for the scorer members of our Association but it is nice that all the hard work doesn't go unnoticed!

Back to my Dad ... even when I showed my Mum the plaque and shared my news with her the morning after the presentation dinner, after “Wow, congratulations” her next tearful words were “Your Dad would be so proud of you”. Dad was my biggest supporter of my cricket ‘career’.

It was him to taught me how to score properly (not just the backyard version my brother and his mate talked me into doing so they didn’t have to stop playing!) and then after I started scoring Grade cricket at age 15 he drove me to every representative game, meeting and Convention, and that continued for many years. He was always there with encouragement, support and a kind word when I needed it ... he was just always ‘there’.

We spent lots of hours talking about cricket and life in general (given a match at the SCG was about a 5 hour round trip for us in those early days before the motorways) and he was always positive and knew the right thing to say if I’d had a bad day or when that mountain to a Test Match seemed insurmountable.

We lost Dad nearly 11 years ago now but his legacy continues while ever I can emulate that encouragement and support to other scorers and I dedicate my induction to the NSWCUA Hall of Fame to him as without him I would never have begun on this journey. And, yes, I know he would be so proud.

So in closing I do have some people to thank, in no particular order:

- My Mum, Brother and my dearest friends for their never ending encouragement and support;
- Nick for his unfaltering patience and support;
- The many scorers and umpires I have worked with over the years both in officiating roles and on Committees. Scorers ... it might be my name on the plaque but this is recognition for all of us!
- The Executive Officers, Board and Staff (Troy Penman, Sharad Patel and Jay Lenton) who have assisted and enabled me to do the job I’ve done, especially Peter Hughes for initially bringing the scorers into the Association, and in more recent years Darren Goodger for his amazing support of both me and the scorers generally.

As for the wardrobe malfunction ... the shoes ended up in the bin - but I decided to keep the handbag!!

Sincere thanks from the official 12th ‘man’!
Merilyn

“Spectacular achievements are always preceded by unspectacular preparation.” – Roger Staubach

“If the love of what you’re doing exceeds the labour of doing – success is inevitable.” – Bob Beers



David Wiseman, Chris McLeod & Ian Wright



Anthony Hobson, Greg Matthews,
Jay Lenton & David Went



Jon & Karen Jobson



David Cullen & Neil Findlay



Bidhan Chakraborty, Sathishkumar Kandhaswami, Bill Howard, Ray Marshall,
Kevin Battishill, Roberto Howard & Paul Farrell

60 Seconds with Ross McKim

Full Name:

Ross McKim.

Background:

Newcastle born, bred and have resided here apart from two years of living on the Central Coast where I first started work.

Day job?

Credit Manager at the Newcastle Permanent Building Society.

Officiating debut and the first time you fired someone?

I began umpiring Sunday's in 2006 whilst I was still playing; I began full time committed umpiring in 2009. I can't specifically recall the first time I fired someone but I have no doubt that he didn't agree with me.



Career officiating highlight?

I have umpired First Grade in Newcastle since 2009 and been appointed to officiate First Grade semi-finals for the past six years.

Highlight was my appointment to my initial First Grade game with SCA in 2012, having Darren Goodger as a partner at North Sydney Oval between Randwick Petersham and North Sydney. A highlight of the day was seeing Simon Katich score 100 as well as umpiring two players from Randy Petes that I had captained in Newcastle early in their careers.

Umpiring four T20 rounds in SCA last season at Village Green and Hurstville.

Other major highlight was my appointment last season to the Country Supplementary Panel, a great honour.

Best cricketer you have officiated?

Apart from Jay Lenton at the Village Green last season it would undoubtedly be Simon Katich. In the Newcastle competition it would be Simon Moore or Mark Cameron.

Strangest (funniest) thing to happen whilst on a cricket field?

Umpiring at Newcastle University Oval in the first game of my second season on the day there was a very large party at one of the campus houses. Just after tea the field was invaded by 20-30 naked lads, encouraged by fully clothed ladies, they pinched the stumps and ran off the other side of the field and threw the stumps in the bush.

All were recovered and finally the game recommenced.

Who is your favourite official to have or still is officiating in a sport (can be any sport)? Why?

As a player my favourite umpire was a local Newcastle legend, Lance Manning, who recently brought up 50 years of officiating. Lance had an infectious passion for the game and whilst some decisions may not always have been precise he was a genuine umpire and always had the respect of the players. In later years I really enjoyed umpiring with Lance, a rough diamond but a good bloke.

Any superstitions?

None.

Any special talents?

What from my perspective or others? In my own mind I can sing like a bird, but that opinion is not shared at all by others.

Best piece of advice?

Passion – Persistence – Practice – Patience.

Always be true to yourself (my Dad told me that years ago and I have tried to do just that).

What got you into umpiring?

Easy question. I have had a passion for the game since I was 11, played till I was 56 and could never see myself not involved. I did it for many years as a player umpire in lower grades and loved it, it was just a natural progression for me.

Three people you would love to have dinner with?

Sir DG Bradman (legend) – Oh wait I already did that, dinner at Melbourne Cricket Ground (26 August 1973) his final official public appearance before he retired.

S K Warne – Just Wow.

Greg Norman – My second love is golf, to feed off his personal drive.

NEW MEMBERS

Surname	First Name	Suburb	Surname	First Name	Suburb
Arok	Stephen	Chippendale	McKewin	Ray	Lurnea
Coco	Michael	Glenmore Park	Miles	Russell	Claremont Meadows
Ehrke	Bradley	Goulburn	Naidu	Veena	Seven Hills
Finnemore	Clay	Erskineville	Parkhill	Dennis	Cranebrook
Honeywill	Paul	Wattle Grove	Roeder	Gary	Pitt Town
Hutchinson	David	Ballina	Peter	Smith	Hazelbrook
Johnston	Lachlan	Eschol Park	Smith	Ronald	Luddenham
Jurgeit	Chris	Padstow	Stubbs	Phillip	Oakhill
Kalpesh	Purohit	Wentworthville	Yarad	Andrew	Kingsgrove