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## ANNUAL DINNER

The Association's Annual Dinner will be held at Bankstown Sports Club on April 14.

The dinner is a time to celebrate the success of members, recognise milestones and enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow umpires and scorers.

Phil Cass will provide world class entertainment and Jay Lenton will again MC the evening.

A registration form and details of the Annual Dinner Raffle can be found on pages 44-45 of this publication.

We look forward to seeing many members in attendance for what promises to be an enjoyable evening.

## Executive Officer update – Darren Goodger

Dear Members & Affiliated Associations,

We have had many highlights and much to celebrate as an Association since the last edition of *In Black and White*.

- Troy Penman umpired two U19 One Day Internationals between Australia and Pakistan at The Albert Ground in Melbourne on 27 and 29 December 2017. This being on the back of him umpiring three Futures League matches and the final of the U19 National Championships before Christmas.

- Peter Tate stood in his 150<sup>th</sup> first grade match in round 11, Northern District v Bankstown at Mark Taylor Oval. Peter has given excellent service to Sydney Cricket Association competitions and genuine support to his colleagues over many years.



Peter Tate

- Paul Wilson was appointed by the ICC to umpire at the U19 World Cup held in New Zealand. Paul obviously performed well as he was appointed to umpire the India v Pakistan semi-final at Hagley Oval (Christchurch) on January 30. He continues to be a great ambassador for NSW and Australian umpiring. Paul is currently in Zimbabwe umpiring at the World Cup Qualifiers.

- Michelle Evans and Annette MacKenzie represented the Association at the U15 Female National Championships played in Adelaide 17-23 January 2018. Michelle and Annette enjoyed their experience and learnt a lot about umpiring which will benefit their respective games. Their enthusiasm for umpiring and learning is infectious.

- Cricket Australia awarded seven national female umpiring scholarships, three of these match officials coming from NSW. Congratulations to Michelle Evans, Kirsten Funston and Annette MacKenzie on receiving the CA scholarship for season 2017-18, and to Claire Polosak (CNSW Umpire Educator/Female Engagement) for her excellent work in nominating our three members for this award. Claire provides genuine support to all our female umpires as part of her employment at Cricket NSW.

- The successful conduct of the Cricket NSW State Challenge held at Dubbo 22-25 January 2018. Congratulations are offered to the umpires appointed to the State Challenge Finals – U13 Graham Moon & Bede Sajowitz; U14 Tony Hackett & Sharad Patel. The umpires appointed to the State Challenge made an outstanding contribution to the four-day carnivals played in heatwave conditions.



Congratulations to the umpires concerned –

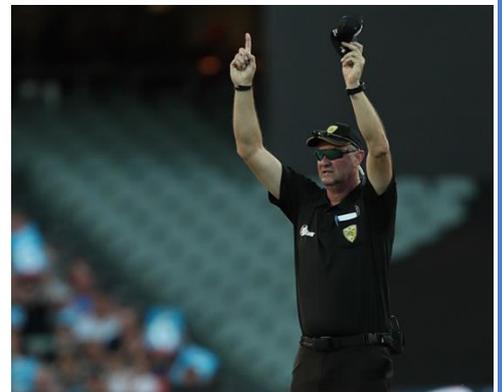
Bede Sajowitz & Graham Moon

U13 – Steve Eccles, Colin Harper, Ian Findlay, Pat Holt, Graham Moon, Peter Singh, Peter Smith, Bede Sajowitz.

U14 – John Burgoyne, Roger Burns, Dennis Chaplin, Tony Hackett, Brenton Harrison, Darrin Masters, Sharad Patel, Rob Pye.

We acknowledge and thank Gavan Twining (Coaching and Talent Manager – Metro) for his support of match officials and the opportunities provided to our umpires to officiate in representative programs.

- Ian Wright making his One Day International debut as a scorer in the Australia v England fixture at the SCG on January 21. Ian richly deserved this opportunity after years of dedicated and competent scoring for the Sydney Cricket Club and Cricket NSW.
- Stu Grocock performed very well at the National Indigenous Cricket Championships held in Alice Springs 5-12 February 2018. Congratulations are offered to Stu on being appointed to umpire the men's division final in which NSW (7-191) defeated Victoria (7-190) by three wickets. Stu umpired the final with Reuben Garlett from Western Australia.
- We welcomed two exchange umpires in NSW Premier Cricket Round 12 – Jack Paterson (WA) and Harvey Wolff (Tasmania). Jack umpired the Sydney v UNSW first grade match at Drummoyne Oval with Steve O'Shaughnessy; Harvey stood with Marc Nickl in the first grade fixture at University 1 between Sydney University and North Sydney. Both enjoyed their experience in Sydney and they were a pleasure to host. We wish them well for the future. Laurie Borg was a superb host as the Exchange Liaison Officer. Thanks are offered to Laurie for looking after our visitors so well.
- Greg Davidson being appointed to umpire the WBBL Final played at Adelaide Oval on February 4 in which the Sixers comfortably defeated the Scorchers by nine wickets.
- Gerard Abood making his T20 International debut standing in the Australia v England match in Hobart on February 7. Gerard performed with distinction. We offer our congratulations to him on making his international debut. He has made a wonderful contribution to cricket and NSWCUA.
- Berend du Plessis and Andrew Hamilton performed admirably at the SSA 15 Years and Under National Championships played on the Sunshine Coast / Brisbane 11-18 February 2018. Berend and Andrew stood together in the NSW Green v Victoria Metro semi-final. Berend went on to umpire the final won by Victoria over NSW Magenta standing with Steve Farrell (Queensland), while Andrew umpired the play off for third place won by NSW Green against South Australia standing with Mattis van Eck (Victoria). Congratulations and well done to both.



Greg Davidson

- Rod Tucker goes from strength to strength as a member of the Elite Panel of ICC Umpires. Rod is currently involved in the ODI Series between New Zealand and England being played in New Zealand. He has umpired two matches in the series and been third umpire for the remaining three.

- The annual City v Country State Challenge matches were played at Raby on February 18 –

U14: Western 8-220 defeated North Shore 113 (Umpires Roger Burns & Mark Kraljevic).

U16: Central Coast 4-163 defeated Parramatta 161 (Umpires Kedar Oza & Stephen Poidevin). We congratulate the umpires concerned on their appointment to these representative matches.



Roger Burns & Mark Kraljevic

- Ben Treloar (third umpire), Darren Mattison (scorer) and Kay Wilcoxon (scorer) on their appointment to officiate in the WNCL Final played at BISP2 on February 24 between NSW and WA. The Breakers 6-302 defeated WA 251 to win their 19<sup>th</sup> WNCL title in 22 years. Congratulations to coach Jo Broadbent, retiring skipper Alex Blackwell, and the team. To quote Cricket NSW Chief Executive, Andrew Jones, *“They are the All Blacks of cricket, feared and respected in equal measure. Well done team – we are very very proud of you.”*

- Sharad Patel represented NSWCUUSA with distinction in Hobart as the NSW exchange umpire with Cricket Tasmania. Sharad umpired the Cricket Tasmania Premier League first grade match at Lindisfarne Oval on February 25 between Lindisfarne and Kingborough standing with Muhammad Qureshi, now a member of the State Umpire Panel in Tasmania. We offer thanks to our Tasmanian Cricket Umpires’ & Scorers’ Association colleagues for hosting Sharad so well.

- Ryan Nelson making his debut as an umpire in Futures League standing in the NSW Metro v Victoria match at BISP2. Ryan stood with Queensland first-class umpire Donovan Koch. NSWCUUSA Principal Member, Tim Donahoo, was match referee while the scorers were Geoff Rogers and Ian Wright.



Ryan Nelson & Tim Donahoo

### **High Performance (Level 3) Umpiring Accreditation**

In June 2017 Cricket Australia National Umpire Coach, Ian Lock, extended an invitation to 12 umpires across Australia to participate in a High Performance (Level 3) Umpiring Accreditation course, facilitated by himself and then Cricket Australia Umpire Education Manager, Bob Parry. The purpose of the accreditation course being to prepare umpires for high performance in Australian first-class cricket. The course took place in Brisbane at the Bupa National Cricket Centre across four days. Six of the umpires invited came from NSW.

Attendance at the course was by invitation only, being viewed as an important opportunity within the pathway to focus on higher level officiating with like-minded, highly motivated individuals. The Level 3 Accreditation coursework sits between Level 2 Representative Accreditation and ICC Accreditation.



Ian Lock has advised following the completion of the Level 3 High Performance Accreditation observations

schedule that Simon Lightbody, Troy Penman, Claire Polosak, Ben Treloar and Tony Wilds have successfully completed the overall course requirements. Congratulations are offered to the umpires concerned – they are in the privileged position of being part of Cricket Australia’s initial Level 3 Accredited group. We wish them well in their ongoing endeavours.

### **Congratulations Tony Wilds**

Tony Wilds will umpire his 150th first grade match in NSW Premier Cricket Round 15. Tony’s commitment to umpiring is exceptional. He also possesses considerable ability. We all wish him well for this milestone and offer congratulations to him on an outstanding career so far.

To show the exceptional quality of Tony Wilds this Saturday’s appointment will be his 161<sup>st</sup> in Premier Cricket. Tony joined NSWCUSA in 2005. He has been a member of the NSW Country Umpire Representative Panel, NSW State Umpire Panel, Cricket Australia Development Umpire Panel, and is now a member of the Cricket Australia National Umpire Panel. He has worked his way through the umpiring pathway to the point where he is now on the NUP, having commenced umpiring Premier Cricket in season 2009-10.

Tony has achieved this while residing in Bathurst, a remarkable achievement. He has displayed true commitment to umpiring Premier Cricket, as a member of the NUP Tony will umpire Premier Cricket whenever his national commitments allow. He is always keen to make a contribution.

Tony is an outstanding person. Those who have stood with him know he is an outstanding umpire, so highly respected by his peers, captains, players and among the Premier Cricket clubs. Tony's preparation is second to none, of the highest quality, and he is one of the best match managers going around. Captains and players genuinely appreciate the manner in which Tony goes about his work. He is honest, fair, composed, strong, and possesses a genuine feel for the game. Tony always displays exceptional teamwork.

Tony has enjoyed many career highlights –

- 7 Women's One Day Internationals
- 4 Women's T20 Internationals
- T20 Tour International – Cricket Australia XI v South Africans
- 10 First-class matches
- 9 List A matches
- 4 WNCL matches (including the 2015-16 Final)
- 9 BBL matches
- 10 WBBL matches
- 6 matches – ICC Women's World T20 Qualifier (Japan, May 2017)
- 6 U19 One Day Internationals
- 2 U19 Cricket Australia National Championships
- 2 Belvidere Cup Finals (2012-13 & 2014-15)
- 2 NSW Premier Cricket Panel 1 Medals (2013-14 & 2014-15)

Away from the field Tony makes an excellent contribution. He is President of Bathurst Branch of Mitchell Cricket Umpires' Association and very active in the area of training and developing umpires in Western Zone. He has had a positive influence on so many colleagues in a mentoring capacity. Tony always offers to facilitate a session at the Annual Convention, each time it is an engaging and informative presentation. He is a gifted adult educator. Many a member of NSWCUA can say they have gained knowledge and benefitted from the input of Tony Wilds.

The Association congratulates Tony on the milestone of 150 first grade matches. He will share the occasion with his great mate and NUP colleague Greg Davidson at Old Kings Oval in the crucial Parramatta v Randwick Petersham fixture on Saturday March 10.

Tony's best umpiring years remain well and truly in front of him. We wish him well with his future endeavours as a member of the NUP as we thank him for his loyalty and service to umpiring in NSW.

#### **Congratulations Greg Davidson**

Greg Davidson was recently in New Zealand umpiring a Plunket Shield first-class match as part of the annual umpire exchange between New Zealand Cricket and Cricket Australia.

The scorecard can be viewed in this link

<https://scoring.nzc.nz/livescoring/match4954/scorecard.aspx>

The match was completed inside two days with Wellington securing a 10 wicket victory over Canterbury at Hagley Oval. Greg stood with Billy Bowden in this fixture, no doubt a wonderful experience to share a match with one who has umpired so much international cricket.



We congratulate Greg on his appointment as one of the CA exchange umpires this season. Outstanding to see him receive this opportunity and we look forward to Greg sharing his experience with us at the April OGM.

Other umpires involved in the CA exchange this season have been –

- Gerard Abood to India
- Shawn Craig to South Africa

Details of the CA umpire exchange can be found in this link

<http://community.cricket.com.au/umpire/news/davidson-and-craig-fly-australian-flag-offshore/2018-03-01>

### **Congratulations Nic Bills**

Nic claimed his 300<sup>th</sup> first grade wicket in NSW Premier Cricket Round 11 – an outstanding achievement. It is mentioned in the article in this link to the NSW Premier Cricket webpage <http://www.premier.nsw.cricket.com.au/pageitem.aspx?id=152346&id2=1&eID=4&entityID=4>

Nic is an exceptional person, cricketer and member of our staff at Cricket NSW. To achieve 300 first grade wickets by the age of 25 is a tremendous feat. We offer Nic our congratulations on this milestone and best wishes for the remainder of the season. He is a key member of the Sydney Cricket Club first grade team.

### **Congratulations Chris King**

The Association congratulates Chris King. In round 14 Chris umpired his 300<sup>th</sup> SCA fixture – an outstanding achievement providing loyal service to SCA competitions over many years. Chris resides in Orange, his commitment to umpiring in Sydney for that period of time is incredible. Chris has made an excellent contribution to the game. He has served on the executive of both Mitchell Cricket Umpires' Association and Orange District Cricket Association. He was a member of the Country Umpire Representative Panel from 1994 to 1998 officiating in NSW Country Championship matches and in the U16 Country Cup Final in 1996-97. He has since umpired 27 first grade matches in NSW Premier Cricket. Chris has been a dedicated member. He is respected by his colleagues for his knowledge of cricket, his commitment and passion for umpiring, and his sincerity.

Chris joined the Association in 1991 and in 2014 was upgraded to Principal Member recognising his exceptional service to NSWCUA and to cricket.

Chris shared his 300<sup>th</sup> match with Laurie Borg (day 1) and Ben Treloar (day 2) standing at Owen Earle Oval in the second grade fixture between Hawkesbury and Western Suburbs. A great supporter of the Association, Chris continues to be a regular attendee at Conventions and Annual Dinners. We look forward to acknowledging Chris at the Annual Dinner and Awards Presentation.

The breakdown of matches for Chris King is –

1st Grade	27
2nd Grade	89
3rd Grade	142
4th Grade	21
5th Grade	9
Shires	12
Total	300



Bob Parry & Chris King

We appreciate and commend Chris’s loyalty and service.

**Congratulations Ivan Holland – Sydney**

SSCUA member Ivan Holland recently officiated his 300<sup>th</sup> match in the Shires Competition. Ivan became only the second member in the Association's 17 year history to achieve the 300 game mark. He is also one of only a handful of members remaining who joined the SSCUA in its inaugural season of 2001-02. He has been a loyal and committed SSCUA member, always being available to umpire as well as making himself available to help out on Sundays for both the Frank Gray Shield and Masters / Classics competitions. Ivan has a high attendance rate at SSCUA meetings and is well respected among the membership. Congratulations are extended to Ivan on this wonderful achievement and milestone. He is a true gentleman and passionate the game. Ivan has made a sterling contribution.

**Shires Cricket Umpires’ Association**



Ivan Holland & Brian De Celis

**Laws of Cricket Training Course**

The latest Laws of Cricket training course has concluded with the assessment to take place on March 15 at Cricket NSW. We had 36 course participants, which included six females. Thank you to Laurie Borg (who attended every session), Geoff Garland, Troy Penman and Claire Polosak for facilitating the sessions. All did a great job in teaching the Laws and sharing their experience.



Ben Treloar & Troy Penman

### **First Grade Limited Overs Cup Final**

Sydney University (7-277) defeated Parramatta (8-222) in the FGLO Cup Final at Old Kings Oval on March 4. Tim Cummins with 121 not out off 100 balls was named the Player of the Final and received the Michael Bevan Medal. Congratulations are offered to Troy Penman and Ben Treloar who umpired the final. All feedback received has been that they performed to the highest possible standard, with their management of a tough match and tight contest being outstanding.

### **Country members officiating in NSW Premier Cricket**

We have been pleased to welcome a number of country umpires to umpire in Sydney this season. This is part of the commitment by NSWCUA to provide opportunities for country umpires to develop by umpiring NSW Premier Cricket. It benefits the country umpires, gives them valuable experience, allows them to share this experience with colleagues in the home association, plus they add value to Premier Cricket when they umpire. We wish to acknowledge those umpires who have taken up the opportunity to do so this season and thank them for the commitment to personal and professional development –

Tony Booth, Ken Brooks, Gary Crombie, Dave Cullen, Rodger Doughty, Steve Eccles, Jeff Egan, James Figallo, Graeme Glazebrook, Tim Gumbleton, Tony Hackett, Murray Li Lievre, Bill Massingham, John McCluskey, Graham Moon, Phil Morrison, John Pearce, David Single, Neil Smith.

We also welcome Al Bonney, Dennis Chaplin and Darrin Masters who will umpire NSW Premier Cricket fixtures for the first time this season in round 15.

### **Finals Series**

Best wishes to all umpires across the State as you prepare to umpire key end of season finals matches. Preparation is the key to performing at your best. Our players deserve match officials who are composed and possess impeccable knowledge of Laws and playing conditions.

The NSW Premier Cricket umpire selectors met last Friday to select the umpires for the qualifying finals. No easy task. We have some very talented umpires. Thank you to the selectors (Errol Cranney, Bob Davis and Graham Reed) for their time, commitment and contribution.

Umpires appointed to the qualifying finals are asked to attend the rules night on Tuesday March 13 in the CNSW Auditorium at 7pm. Thanks in advance to Glen Stubbings for leading this session.

### **Annual Dinner and Awards Presentation**

We look forward to the Annual Dinner and Awards Presentation –

- Saturday 14 April 2018
- 6.30pm for 7pm
- Bankstown Sports Club

Phil Cass (comedian / magician) will provide wonderful entertainment and the night gives us all a great opportunity to celebrate the season with our friends and colleagues and to recognise the many members who reached milestones and achieved excellence in 2017-18. We will be joined by special guests from Cricket NSW, Sydney Cricket Association and NSW Country Cricket Association, and look forward to their company.



### **Thank You**

Thank you to all umpires for your efforts this season. So many of you have stood up under pressure and performed with excellence. We have been tested with challenging player behaviour – your support of the Cricket NSW Code of Conduct across all competitions and formats is commended.

Thank you to our scorer members for your loyal support of your clubs, the Association and the fine job you do.

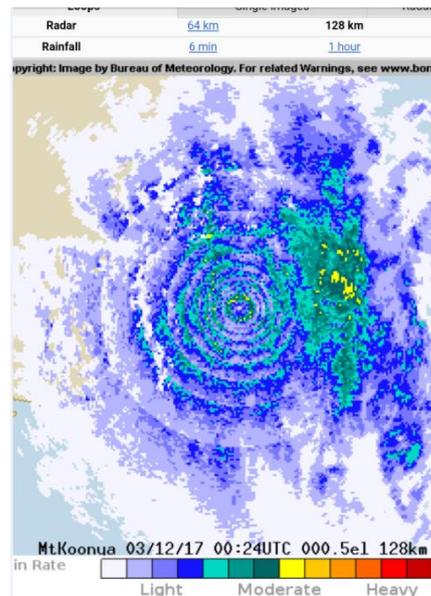
To our administration staff, Troy Penman and Nic Bills, in so many ways they do a magnificent job for NSWCUSA. I thank them for their hard work, commitment to excellence and loyalty.

### **Thought.....**

*"The best competition I have is against myself to become better."* JOHN WOODEN.

## U19 National Championship – Troy Penman

The flight to Hobart was interesting to say the least, both the NSW Metro and the ACT/NSW Country teams and support staff were on the flight plus the four NSW umpire representatives, Anthony Hobson, Claire Polosak, Glen Stubbings and myself. To top things off NSWCUA member Graham Swan was also on the flight. The weather in Hobart was diabolical and the last part of the flight into Hobart was bumpier than riding an epileptic camel. The pilot did a fantastic job and was deservedly given a round of applause when he touched down quite smoothly given the circumstances. We collected our bags and it was off to the accommodation to check in and then head to Blunstone Arena for the Pre-tournament briefing. At the briefing we were advised that due to the weather three fixtures for round 1 had already been called off due to the ground not being suitable and unlikely to be ready for play. Fortunately, my game with Anthony Hobson was still on so



we had that to look forward to. Following the meeting we headed back to the accommodation for a quick change of clothes then it was out to dinner.

The day commenced with an early breakfast, then it was back to the room to collect my gear and meet Anthony and Peter Marshall at reception to head to our game. Peter arrives with the car, we loaded our bags into the boot and buckled up, no sooner had the buckle been inserted Peter's phone rang and it was the Competition Manger Laura Piekarski advising that our ground had been closed and we were not required as no match was going to take place. This left just one out of the five fixtures on in round 1. Knowing that the others who had already been called off the night before were meeting Umpires Coach Ian Lock to do a PD session on the 3<sup>rd</sup> umpire role we contacted Ian and arranged for a time to meet up and develop our own knowledge of the 3<sup>rd</sup> umpire role. Following our session with Ian, we had a quick bite to eat then it was off to Blundstone Arena to watch Simon Lightbody and Paul Wilson officiate in the Sheffield Shield.

Finally, the next day we were off to officiate, again up early to get breakfast in and then it was off to the University of Hobart Oval where I was officiating with Glen Stubbings. Upon arrival we could see that the ground was waterlogged and the outfield was spongy. We were proactive and brought both captains and coaches together to discuss the ground, our areas of concern, what we had put in place with the grounds man to get the game started and the amount of time we had up our sleeve



before we started to lose overs. Queensland were dominant in the fixture restricting Vic Country to 159 and then chasing the total down in 32 overs. Angus Lovell was the standout with 73 not out.

The following day was a rest day whilst we travelled to Launceston to continue the tournament, an amazing race style road trip was organised by Cricket Australia Umpire Education Manager Richard Patterson which made for an enjoyable trip as teams raced to be first to particular locations which also ensured that we saw plenty of Tassie along the way. Upon arrival in Launceston we proceeded from the hotel to meet Richard and Ian Lock at the James Boags museum.



With a tour starting in 30 minutes, Anthony Hobson, Trent Steenholdt Glen Stubbings and myself, booked in. Looking dashing in our high vis vests, goggles and ear plugs we commenced the tour, we sampled a number of ingredients along the way and even had a quick glimpse of the production floor. Following the tour, we were able to sample three different types of Boags Beers, Boags Draught, Boags XXX Ale and Wizard Smith's Ale. I'm not a connoisseur of beers, but the XXX Ale was the pick with the Wizard Smith's Ale being highly potent.

Round 3, QLD v NT. Trent Steenholdt and I headed to NTCA Ground No. 1 for the match with Match Referee Steve Davis. Upon arrival we were greeted with an excellent looking ground and the David Boon stand. The ground had an amazing scoreboard which the scorers operated during the match by turning cranks that were next to their table, they had a mirror they could look at to check the figures to ensure the board was correct. The game was a tight contest the whole way with QLD only posting a modest 205 and in reply the NT number 11 hit the first ball of the 50<sup>th</sup> over for 4 to secure victory. An enjoyable contest to officiate, but personally a poor day with feedback that I had made an incorrect call on a wide and a no-ball, plus we had had a seven ball over. I was able to use the disappointment of these to update my match goals for the remainder of the tournament and make sure that I was able to show that I could bounce back in subsequent matches.

The next day I was fortunate enough to stand with James Hewitt in a day/night fixture the first of the competition at UTAS Stadium. The match was scheduled to start at 1.30pm which meant a slightly different morning routine with breakfast later and then a quick bite to eat before heading to the ground to ensure that I wasn't hungry during the first innings. Tasmania were playing Victoria Metro. Vic Metro batted first and were in serious trouble at 3/8, but they steadily built a score which was on par based on the excellent outfield and a good pitch of 8/192. Jarrod Freeman was the pick of the Tassie bowlers with 4/23 off 10 overs. Tassie started slowly, but managed the run chase to perfection and scored the winning runs in the



48<sup>th</sup> over. Following the match we headed back to the hotel then out to meet up with the other umpires for a beer as we had a rest day coming up.

The rest day allowed us to go for a group walk to check out Cataract Gorge, it was magnificent spot with a park area, plenty of room to set up a picnic, a pool and a café.



Anthony Hobson and Daryl Brigham had volunteered to cook dinner for everyone, we just needed to bring a plate along with cutlery. The rooms in Launceston were quite large and allowed for a group of 10 people to fit in the lounge room quite easily. Perfectly the WBBL had commenced that afternoon and we were able to sit back and be umpire groupies watching the umpires and not the players.

Back onto the field for round 5, Cricket Australia XI v South Australia, the match seemed like it was going to be a close affair with both teams evenly matched. SA were reduced to 8/35 in no time at all and a really early finish was on the cards, a partnership of 32 for the 9<sup>th</sup> wicket was the only resistance and SA limped to 67 all out. A quick 10 minute change over and the CA XI set about chasing the runs, at one stage the CA XI were 3/14 and it was game on, but a quality partnership between Mackenzie Harvey and Ollie Davies steadied the ship, the CA XI knocked off the runs in 12.2 overs. With a finish well before the normal lunch time of 1.30pm we were the envy of all other umpires. The day/night fixture scheduled for this day hadn't even started and we were done. Daryl and I decided that we would cook dinner for the other umpires seeing as we had the afternoon off.

Following a massage in the afternoon I headed to Coles to pick up the ingredients for our homemade pizza's. We made 10 pizza's varying from four cheeses to a meat lovers and anything and everything in between, having not worked at Domino's or Pizza Hut growing up it was all trial and error, but the feedback was good and no one picked up food poisoning.

The following day we were back on the road travelling to Hobart for the remainder of the tournament. The Tasmanian locals amongst the officials suggested we take the scenic route down the East Coast. It was a lovely



drive with plenty to see, but it added over an hour to our trip, so I can recommend the drive just give yourself enough time. Places to check out on the drive, Bicheno and Swansea. Being back in Hobart we meet up with Muhammad Qureshi for dinner at a local Thai place, but it was off to bed early as the next day was quarterfinals day.

I was fortunate enough to be appointed to the Queensland v Cricket Australia XI match at Blundstone arena, QLD had finished top of their pool with the Cricket Australia XI 4<sup>th</sup> in their pool. QLD batted first and posted a very competitive 6/289 with three batters bringing up half centuries. Ollie Davies was the best with the ball taking 1/36 off 10.

The CA XI run chase started poorly and they were 2/13 before a 100 run partnership between Mackenzie Harvey and Josh Hoffman had them ticking along nicely. Hoffman was dismissed for 61, but Harvey continued to dominate the bowling and scored an excellent run a ball hundred only being dismissed 20 runs from the target for 118. Damien Burrage produced a quality innings of 66 not out and hit the winning runs in the 46<sup>th</sup> over.

During the CA XI innings we had the stadium fire alarm go off which halted play for 5 minutes, that wouldn't be the last time I heard that alarm, but I'll come back to that later.

That evening we were informed that we would be individually speaking with a Match Referee who would inform us of our appointment for semifinal day, there were two semifinals and three matches that would determine places 5-10. I was contacted by Jamie Mitchell to meet him for a chat, following our chat around the tournament and the thoughts of the selectors he advised that I had been selected to stand in the semi-final between WA and NSW Metro at New Town Oval.



Upon arriving at the ground, it had the feel of Hurstville Oval in Sydney with the ground surrounded by a bike track. NSW Metro captain Param Uppal was the top scorer with 91 (he was dropped twice along the way), Baxter Holt and Aiden Bariol both contributed half centuries with Aiden scoring his off 44 balls. NSW Metro finished their innings at 6/288. WA always struggled in the run chase with captain Arron Hardie the only one to offer any resistance, he top scored with 77 off 76 balls. Austin Waugh (Steve's son) took 5/27 off 9.2 overs. This set up a final between NSW Metro and the Cricket Australia XI.

That night all umpires were to attend the Tasmanian Cricket Umpires' and Scorers' Association weekly meeting, it was a pleasure to be invited and to share insights and observations with the umpires and scorers. The meetings are similar to NSWCUSA Ordinary General Meetings as there is a report around what is happening with cricket in Tasmania, Richard Widows the State Umpire Coach provides an education and development session,

then there is a Q & A around the room where any issues from the weekend's matches are discussed.

Also on the agenda was a Q & A with three visiting umpires hosted by Will Braid. James Hewitt, David Taylor and myself were the "lucky" three to be selected to take part and share information about ourselves. The questions ranged from who would play you in a movie and what type of movie it would be through to the best piece of advice you've received and would you move to Tasmania to live and umpire.



Following the meeting we had pizzas with the TCUSA members and chatted about their season. It was great to be invited and I hope that all National Championship umpires enjoyed interacting with fellow umpires and scorers.

The next day was a rest day with, Trent Steenholdt, Glen Stubbings and myself driving down to Port Arthur. The historical side to Port Arthur was very interesting as we booked in for a guided tour we were provided with great detail on the history of convicts to have travelled from England to Australia.

On the way to Port Arthur I received a call from Steve Davis advising me that I had been selected to officiate the Grand Final at Blundstone Arena with Tasmanian and Development Panel Umpire David Close. It was very exciting news and it was great to share the moment with Glen and Trent.



I would encourage anyone who travels to Hobart to visit Port Arthur, it's a lovely drive down and the history of the place is quite phenomenal, the old buildings are still in their original location just missing a wall or a roof.



The monument to the victims of the Port Arthur massacre is quite fitting and very appropriate.

Following our day of travel, it was time for dinner and then to prepare for the final, the match was to be played as a day-night fixture starting at 1.30pm.

Darren and I met at reception at 8.15am so that we could wish all umpires well for the final day before heading off to breakfast. Following breakfast, it was back to the room to pack and prepare for the final along with organising my bags for the flight home as it was early the next morning.

NSW Metro batted first and set about imposing their dominance on the younger Cricket Australia XI boys. Jack Edwards was simply amazing, his innings of 147 off 125 balls including 16 4's and three 6's provided some of the cleanest hitting I have ever seen. He was ably supported by Baxter Holt who scored 44. Matt Willans was the pick of the bowlers, he is close to 7 ft tall at 16 years of age, his foot is twice the size of mine, they



look like flippers. Whilst other bowlers were being punished to all parts of the ground he bowled perfect line and length to record figures of 1/33 off 10 overs. NSW Metro finished their innings at 6/296, a tough chase was on the cards, but the CA XI boys could take heart from the fact that they chased down a similar total three days earlier at the same venue.

The CA XI made a solid start to the chase, but the wickets fell at regular intervals, seven batsmen made starts, but only Damien Burrage really kicked on scoring 42 off 32 deliveries. With the CA XI 9 wickets down the fire alarm again went off, but this time it wasn't switched off within 5 minutes it continued to ring. We radioed through to Match Referee Steve Davis seeing if he had any news and should we head off the field, Steve radioed back saying stay there as everyone in the stand was going to come out to join us in the middle! As parents and players from the other matches filtered down the stands towards the ground the alarm stopped and people could move back inside and play was able to resume.

The final wicket fell not long after and that led to joyous scenes for the NSW Metro players and coaching staff. They were the better side on the day and the best side throughout the carnival.

Following the match was the post tournament dinner where the players of the carnival were announced along with the Merit XI, it was then back to the hotel to change and head out for a drink with everyone to wind down after a very busy two weeks.

The carnival was highly enjoyable to be a part of and the standard of cricket was very impressive. The facilities were excellent with every ground having green lush outfield and grass on the wicket. Tasmania as a venue to travel to is lovely, the food was incredible

wherever we went with a huge amount of variety. I must say the fresh bakeries where you could get a roll or a sandwich then a sweet treat to wash it down were everywhere and most of the umpires made it a mission to try them all!!!

I would like to thank NSWCUSA for all its support, Darren Goodger for his assistance in preparation for the tournament and guidance throughout, Cricket Australia for organising the tournament, it was a pleasure to be involved.

Thank you to my fiancé for her continual support and understanding, without her I wouldn't be where I am today.

Finally, a big thank you to Glen Stubbings for the pictures included in this article.

All the best to everyone for the remainder of the season!





Adam Marshall, Gary Crombie, Peter Smith & Kim Norris



Country Colts umpires - Tamworth



David Rodgie & Bill Glacken



Ian James & Mike McKenzie



Chris King & Gary Crombie



Stephen Poidevin & Kedar Oza

## 2018 NICC (National Indigenous Cricket Championships) Report – Stu Grocock.

*Day 1 (4/2/2018)*

A full day of travel ahead of me after a long day in the field on Saturday (like everyone else) due to the changeable weather all day. Quick taxi ride to the airport and enough time to check my bags in and wait near the departure gate. Had a chance to have a quick chat with Josh Lalor (Assistant Manager of the Indigenous NSW Men's Team) who was looking very much the worse for wear after his recent BBL campaign. His left hand was completely bandaged from an incident earlier in the season and his right hand was almost too tender to shake hands as a result of a hot caught and bowled he had taken in the closing rounds. I reckon he was looking forward to a week of cricket without any physical participation!

There's also a chance to catch up with fellow umpire, Sean Campbell from the ACT who is joining the connecting flight. Upon arrival in Alice Springs at 11:20am, the heat on the tarmac is intense, about 39 degrees today with a bit of breeze. It will be a long week ahead with no days off from umpiring for me and the temperature expected to build to the low to mid 40s by the end of the tournament. There are 13, 50 over matches scheduled for the men (including the Grand Final) and thirty-one T20 matches for both the men and women over eight days and five evenings.

We meet up with Chris Grant from CA and Dhavall Bhatt (umpire representing South Australia) and travel to our accommodation. After meeting the rest of the umpiring group (nine umpires are attending plus Chris Grant will officiate to assist with heavily scheduled days) it dawns on us that not everyone in the group has been sent the correct/same off-field uniform. Not the biggest issue in the world but perhaps a sign of things to come. We all check-in to our rooms and get settled before the 10 minute walk to the Convention Centre for our pre-tournament briefing regarding Playing Conditions, full toss interpretations, Ground Weather and Light (GWL) scenarios and Code of Conduct requirements. We are all reminded that last year's tournament was conducted without any player reports and it is hoped that we can go another year in the same manner (more on that later!). Another interesting aspect of the Playing Conditions surrounds the minimum break for an underage bowler's spell. In NSW, and probably most states, this is 30 minutes. In the NICC, the break is equivalent to the spell bowled from that end. In other words, if your spell "limit" is 6 overs and you bowl 4 continuous overs, you must wait until 4 overs have been bowled from the end the spell finished at before you can resume with a clean slate (you are not required to resume from the same end though!).



Traditional Welcoming Ceremony with Tribal Elder in foreground

However, if you resume within that time, it is a continuation of the same spell.

After the briefing, we are ferried to Traeger Park for the traditional welcoming ceremony for teams and officials conducted by tribal elders and custodians plus the Town Mayor and a CA spokesman. From there we visit the local supermarket to purchase all of the supplies that we will all require for the week especially bottled water.

### *Day 2 (5/2)*

Umpiring a men's 50 over match at Traeger Park with John Rearden (NT) between WA and VIC, the reigning champions. Although it's a warm day, there's a reasonable breeze getting around to take the edge off slightly. It's also noticeable that the pitch is a bit different from last year. It appears to be pretty "thatchy" and a lot drier. The curator is still out on the field rolling the pitch and readying the stump holes when we approach for the toss. Nothing seems odd until we walk out to check the stumps, place the bails and await the teams. The missing X-factor? No fielding circle. Although we had noticed this earlier, the assumption had been that the curator would mark it with discs due to the heavy workload over the week. Nobody from off the field has noticed it and even the fielders seem confused when their captain says "Start on the circle". It's amazing how "lost" the fielders look without that line...

The match is a low scoring affair with WA only managing to reach 10/96 off 40.5 overs with a total of four boundaries for the innings. Good tight leg spin bowling from 17-year old, Connor Jackson (4/25 off 10) being the highlight. VIC should cruise to victory however they struggle to reach 6/97 off 27.1 overs with 7 boundaries. Most of the scoring is done by the lower order but they manage to acquire a bonus point nonetheless.

I manage to fire one of their middle order batsmen for a duck after shouldering arms to an off cutter that would have caught the bails. This results in some prolonged dissent of the decision and me and my partner producing the first Code of Conduct report for the tournament! The dissent only stopped when I requested that he cease, but the clincher was his batting partner saying "it was clearly out mate" (always good to have backing from the non-striker).

At the end of the match, the report is written and submitted to the Tournament Director (Richard Patterson). Prior to this, word had filtered down to him that he would be required to conduct the hearing. As everyone at the ground had seen the incident, it was strongly recommended to the Victorian hierarchy that the player accept the verdict without challenge as the first penalty would be a one match suspended sentence whereas a challenge would find him immediately suspended for one match. The player, his coach (Julian Weiner) and Richard came into our dressing room to read out the charges. The player couldn't have signed the form any quicker. A good result for all and a light-hearted reminder from Richard afterwards about what was said at our briefing the day before.

Estimated Gatorade Consumption: 4 litres

### *Day 3 (6/2)*

Umpiring with Steve Stimpson (QLD) today in a 50 over match between TAS and SA at Jim McConville Oval. Another stinking hot day, for a change, with TAS bowling out SA for 151 in 48.2 overs. Stars of the bowling innings were Captain Rhys Ward (5/20 off 9.2 overs) and his identical twin brother Liam Ward (2/31 off 10 overs). Very interesting project trying to tell them apart. One wears a cap. The other a floppy hat and their front feet land in slightly different positions to each other and they are about the only discernible differences. They even have the same scars on their foreheads from when they clashed heads as youngsters!

As a result of completing the overs so quickly, there's a 10-minute interval before commencing a 23-minute session until the scheduled interval. The SA coach is quite angry that we have instructed this to occur, but there were far less protests when TAS go to lunch 3 wickets down for only 12 runs! Unfortunately, SA can't maintain the pressure after the interval and TAS manage to overhaul the total in the 47<sup>th</sup> over thanks to a dogged 57 off 130 balls from Brodie Hayes and a man of the match performance of 48 off 82 balls from Rhys Ward to go with his five wickets.

Estimated Gatorade Consumption: 6 litres

### *Day 4 (7/2)*

A huge day ahead for players and officials alike. 10 matches scheduled with the earliest starting at 8:30am with the last scheduled to finish around 10:00pm. For the "lucky" two who will be onfield from 7:00pm, they are excused from the Personal Development session scheduled for this evening involving all of the umpiring team plus some regional umpires who are officiating in the Imparja Cup.

My day kicks off at 8:30 with a men's T20 between WA and TAS at Albrecht Oval with Mark Donfeld (NT). Following this match, I will hang around to assist Mark and Steve Stimpson while they officiate in the women's T20 between VIC and SA before returning to the field with Steve at 3:30 to stand in the men's T20 between QLD and NT before returning to Traeger Park for the personal development session. It's a very hot day with the breeze from earlier in the week dying right down. The decision is made to take a drinks break after each 10 overs is bowled in order to avoid having players dropping with heat exhaustion (as well as the umpires of course). Despite this, drinks are still run on every 2 overs for the batsmen and wicketkeeper.

WA win the toss and elect to bowl. TAS grind out a very modest 8/77 off their 20 overs on a pretty spin friendly pitch. The outfield is also less than helpful and although dry, is very slow to the boundary. WA reply with 1/78 off 15.1 overs to complete a very lackluster match. No real incidents of note from this match.

In the second match, even less appeared to be happening with SA limping to 8/50 off their 20 overs and VIC passing their total 1 down in the 10<sup>th</sup> over.

In the last match of my day, NT lose the toss and are asked to field first. QLD rack up a

relatively shaky 117 all out in 19.2 overs and then manage to restrict NT to 8 for 111 off their 20 overs. News filters through on some of the other matches played today. NSW 4/246 vs QLD 10/58. Nothing much too unusual about that score line other than the margin of victory until we realise that it's a Men's T20! Nathan Price stars with 128 off 61 balls (eight 4s and nine 6s) ably supported by Brendan Smith 66 off 40 (ten 4s and one 6) and Ben Patterson 31 off 13 (four 6s plus 3 wickets for 1 run off 2 overs).

That score seems amazing until we hear about the VIC win over TAS at the same ground. VIC 4/247 off 20 overs vs TAS 8/150 off 20 overs. Highlight of the VIC innings is Damon Egan's knock of 160 off 71 balls (twenty fours and seven 6s). Naturally the bowling figures weren't pretty...

Estimated Gatorade Consumption: 4 litres

With the sun close to setting, we are transported to Traeger for our development session. This consists primarily observing our colleagues in the centre who are umpiring the WA vs QLD women's T20. Our task is to observe the things that they are doing well and not so well and discussing our observations with each other. Richard Patterson conducts the education session with a few of the Imparja umpires as some of them are making their umpiring debut the following day.

At about 9:00pm, it is suggested that we all go and buy some dinner before everything shuts for the night. I elect to stay and watch my colleagues due to the choice of food being purchased isn't to my liking.

At 9:14, all hell breaks loose. All of the lights at the ground go out suddenly while the match is still in progress in the 8<sup>th</sup> over of the second innings. The only source of light from this point is in the upper grandstand where the scorers are located and a couple of phones belonging to the coaching staff of each team. It is so dark that it is virtually impossible to see the boundary line from the grandstand and a couple of the coaches have to enter the field to escort the players and umpires back to the dressing rooms.

Now it gets really interesting.....a GWL situation in the middle of Alice Springs! Who would have thought? It looks like all of the pre-tournament preparation will come in handy after all. After about 20 minutes, some of the light towers come back to life. The umpires calculate there will be a loss of six overs. The next obstacle is to locate a suitable device that can perform a DLS calculation as the scorers are not in possession of anything to assist. A mobile phone is found and used and a revised target of 100 (revised from 8/140) for WA to chase (4/44 at the time of the blackout) so it seems unlikely they will be able to reach the mark in the remaining 6 overs. It just goes to show how much it hurts a team when they lose too many resources once DLS becomes a factor.

Day 5 (8/2)

A very much lighter schedule set down for today.....a daily total of four women's T20 matches with two starting at 9:00am and two at 3:00pm. I'm fortunate enough to have only one match for the day and it's one of the afternoon matches ☺.



It's certainly drier this year! 2017(L) 2018(R)

Since I have a bit of free time, I tag along with Richard Patterson who has agreed to observe one of the Imparja Cup umpires whom he met the previous evening. This particular match is scheduled to be held at Ross Park at 9:00am. This gives us plenty of time drop a couple of the umpires off at Jim McConville Oval and make our way over to observe some cricket. When we arrive there, it is noticeable that there is no play underway and the pitch is being viewed with a great deal of consternation. A first for me!! Play has been delayed to a wet pitch.....and it's synthetic! Apparently, the sprinklers had done all the "damage" earlier in the morning and with one side needing to avoid a loss in order to progress to the next round, it's evident that the stalemate will continue for some time.

Richard and I decide to head up to Anzac Hill to get a great aerial perspective of the town and shoot some great pictures. Unfortunately, we run into a bus driver/Tour Guide/ "I've done everything"-guy called "Donk" who proceeds to tell us everything he's done in his time, how Justin Langer relies on him as a bit of a sounding board and what's wrong with the current generation of kids.

After escaping the clutches of Donk about 40 minutes later, we return to Ross Park to find that play has still not started. The temperature is already hovering around the 38-degree mark and it seems unfathomable that play has not resumed. We then hear one of the all-time great excuses as to why one team is refusing to play (the team that needs to avoid losing)....."Our opening bowler is an underwear model who gets paid \$3000 per week to

model with the Victoria's Secret models and he has a show coming up and can't miss it, so we can't risk him bowling on a slippery pitch in case he injures himself"! Time to head back to the NICC for some relative sanity.

My women's T20 in the afternoon was relatively sedate again. QLD won the toss and sent VIC in to bat. Curiously, VIC only nominated 10 players for the match, one of which went off with heat stroke in the second innings.

VIC could only manage 5/89 off their 20 overs with a nice bowling spell of 2/12 off 3 overs by Macy Hauser (a superstar of the future here). I commented to one of the fielders at square leg that Macy had a good run up and nice bowling action. I felt that she will be an excellent bowler when she grows up a bit. At this point the fielder said "Yeah, and she's only 13". I couldn't believe how young she was and, expecting the answer to be something like last July or so, queried when she had turned 13. The reply was "next month". Make a note of this player as a future WBBL star and beyond.

QLD batted second and got the runs easily without losing a wicket in 14.5 overs. In this innings, Emma Toseland was bowling her second over and had just sent down her 10<sup>th</sup> delivery of that over when she too had to go off the field for heat stroke. It was clear that she was suffering in more ways than one and was highly distressed that she couldn't bowl a valid delivery to finish the over.



Estimated Gatorade Consumption: 3 litres

Immediately after the match, we are hurried back to the Convention Centre for a group photo before having to get

showered and changed as CA were paying for our dinner at an Italian Restaurant.

This is NOT the underwear model (Water affected Synthetic Pitch Inspection – Casual attire compulsory apparently!)

*Day 6 (9/2)*

Seven matches scheduled for today culminating in a women's T20 match at 7:00pm under lights. My match is a T20 with Karunakara DT (TAS) at 3:00pm between VIC and NT. I'm asked to drive one of the team cars to drop an umpiring team and two scorers off at Albrecht oval for their 8:30 match. Once the car starts, I notice it says the temperature in the car park is 44 degrees and it's only about 7:00am!!

This hammers home to me that most matches are played with the temperature in the middle of the ground exceeding 50 degrees with ease. Still no heat policy for this Championship though, even with players dropping with monotonous regularity!

After dropping the guys off at their venue, I decide to drive the extra 16km to see Simpson's Gap. After parking near it and then walking about 300 metres, I decided that it's just too hot and abandon the idea. This photo was as close as I could bother to get to, even though some of the guys promised that there was a cool waterhole there.

NT win the toss and elect to bat. VIC finally has a full team and the match gets underway on time. NT approach the innings cautiously and are intent on just working 1s and 2s where possible as they know the outfield is slow and not worth the effort of trying to hit the ball hard. This results in a rather modest 5/83 off their allotted 20 overs. During the innings, one of the VIC players leaves the field with heat stroke but nobody thinks to inform us. Consequently, we can't understand why the Medical Officer is particularly slow to come on

the field to repair a batsman's skinned arm from a sliding run out.

When VIC commence their innings, they look to end it swiftly and race to 1/84 from 12.3 overs. A comprehensive victory for sure. The innings is punctuated by some odd occurrences.....three separate calls of no ball for a ball pitching twice before reaching the popping crease. This is a real test of teamwork in terms of relaying the information quickly enough from square leg.

Estimated Gatorade Consumption: 3 litres

Over at Traeger, there is another evening T20 for the women commencing at 7:00pm. Yet again, the lights go out at 9:14 with NSW women at 3/86 off 13.5 chasing QLD's total of 5/97 off 20 overs. The lights can't get turned back on again in time and NSW win according to DLS (but I think it's fair to say they would have won without the interruption anyway).



Simpson's Gap with waterhole (obs.)

At the end of the evening we all receive an email detailing our appointments for the Saturday matches which have three men's 50 over matches starting at 10:00am and the two women's T20 semi-finals. I'm appointed to a 50 over match with Karunakara between WA and SA.

### *Day 7 (10/2)*

Another half day to recharge with only an afternoon T20 between WA and NT on my schedule. Great chance to deal with paperwork, washing and review.....out of the sun! There's three men's 50 over matches and three women's T20 matches scheduled. Two of the men's matches are kicking off at 8:30am which will barely allow the completion of the T20 at the same ground as they commence at 4:00pm at grounds that do not have the benefit of any lighting.

At Traeger Park, the men's match will commence at 10:00am and the T20 to follow starts at 7:30pm, so the 9:14 "lottery" is definitely in play again. The funny part of all this is that one of our umpiring group actually works for NT Power and Water and he has no idea what the issue with the Traeger lights is either!

Although my T20 with Chris Grant is due to commence at 4:00pm, the temperature isn't any



cooler at that time of day so we're in position where numerous drinks stoppages are required and the sun drops over the horizon pretty rapidly around 7pm without any twilight to speak of.

NT win the toss and elect to bat to try and put something on the board that could be out of WA's reach and WA certainly do their best to assist! NT reach 2/112 having batted patiently like their match against the VICs. Again the boundary total is modest (two) with only 82 runs

Another typical day of cricket in the Alice - Hot, Dry and Cloudless

coming off the bat. WA contribute a significant two no balls and 23 wides.

In reply, WA reach 3/115 off 17.2 overs with 80 runs from the bat and a whopping 14 no balls and 18 wides among the sundries. These two teams certainly picked the wrong match to try and bowl an extra seven overs when the light is at a premium and the heat is bountiful.

Estimated Gatorade Consumption: 5 litres

At Traeger, NSW and VIC are contesting their T20 with VIC reaching 9/93 off 18 overs (short a player again due to heat exhaustion from the previous day) while NSW respond in emphatic fashion with 1/94 off 12.2 overs to beat the "9:14 curfew".

A strong rumour has started circulating that the 50 over matches scheduled for the next day are to be switched to T20s in view of the way the heat is taking its toll on the players. All of the umpires are certainly hoping they take that decision as the six days of umpiring is taking a heavy chunk out of our reserves too.

### *Day 8 (11/2)*

Happy days!! The formats have been switched with no change to the starting times. This has an unintended beneficial consequence for the women's semi-finals as the night match scheduled for 7:00pm is brought forward to 3:00pm avoiding the "curfew" and also allowing all players and officials to attend the Presentation Dinner which starts at 7:00pm. We also receive an email in the morning detailing the appointments on the final day. I'm extremely fortunate to be appointed to the men's 50 over Grand Final and be partnered with Reuben Garlett (WA).

The women's Grand Final participants are sorted in fairly emphatic fashion WA 10/36 off 20 overs being trounced by NSW 1/37 off 8.5 overs and QLD 5/92 off 16.4 overs pipping VIC 5/90 off 20 overs

In the men's competition, NSW are minor premiers and go straight to the Grand Final while their opponent is already sorted out (VIC) with the results of today's matches not affecting any positions on the table. So both Grand Finals will be a repeat of last year's matches.

In my morning match, SA win the toss and elect to bat first, compiling 8/99 off their 20 overs. The sledging, bickering and complaining from the WA players is intense but it is all directed at each other rather than their opponents. The captain, Michael Bailey bowls four overs of quality spin bowling taking 4/19 but had about three catches dropped off his bowling as well.

In response, WA reach 2/102 off 11.4 overs with Bevan Bennell providing a "welcome" cameo of 30 off 13 balls with three 4s and two 6s. Again the bickering is prevalent and only within the fielding side. Clearly the players have had just about enough cricket for the week.

Estimated Gatorade Consumption: 4 litres

At the Presentation Dinner, the best players, fairest team and Black Cap All Stars teams are announced. This is a huge honour for the players as those selected in the Black Caps team will be considered for selection in the Indigenous team to tour England this year to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Indigenous team to tour Great Britain.

The teams are;

**2018 Black Cap Honour Squad:**

This award is the creation of the best team of the championship.

**Women's:**

Emma Manix-Geeves (VIC)  
Sara Darney (NSW)  
Courtney Hagen (QLD)  
Dharmini Chauhan (NSW)  
Nicole Honeysett (NT)  
Anita Silva (SA)  
Christina Coulson (QLD)  
Kyra Black (QLD)  
Julie Muir (NSW)  
Samara Williams (WA)  
Jemma Astley (NSW)  
Hannah Darlington (NSW)

**Men's:**

Damon Egan (VIC)  
Brodie Hayes (TAS)  
Nathan Price (NSW)  
Brendan Smith (NSW)  
Bevan Bennell (WA)  
Zac Chapman (NT)  
Rhys Ward (TAS)  
Martin Jeffery (NSW)  
Brock Larance (NSW)  
Ben Patterson (NSW)  
Djali Bloomfield (NSW)  
Jack Coppins (SA)

Day 9 (12/2)

Having a late start (2:00pm) leaves plenty of time to have a slow build up to the Grand Final. After finishing my breakfast I assist with transporting the umpires and scorers to Jim McConville Oval and return to finish my preparation at the hotel. For the first time all tournament, there are some actual clouds about although nothing seems like they will produce any rain. It's already heating up though with a forecast of 42 degrees meaning that we will need all the hydration we can possibly have.

Reuben and I decide that we will get ourselves to the ground at 12:30 so that we can watch a little bit of the women's Grand Final before preparing for our own match. Unfortunately, the NSW team has proved too dominant again to win the tournament for the 11<sup>th</sup> straight

year (combined Imparja and NICC tournaments). QLD rack up a reasonably formidable 6/135 off their 20 overs but are not able to contain NSW who reach 1/136 in 12.5 overs. Roxsanne Van-Veen setting the tone with 63 off 32 balls (six 4s and four 6s) before being claimed by the impressive Macy Hauser with tournament figures of 6.5 overs 3/37. Not bad for a 12 year old in a National Open Age tournament!

In our match, VIC win the toss and elect to bat first. An eerie similarity to last year's Final but for some reason, their regular Captain is not participating in the match at all, with Damon Egan assuming the duties for the first time. It's soon evident to me why the NSW Women wrapped up their match so quickly.....the curator has ensured that the Todd River will remain dry for another 12 months by absolutely drenching the outfield. Although it isn't squelchy underfoot, the humidity while standing out there feels like it's over 100%. Thankfully we have agreed to schedule an extra drinks break in each innings so 55 minutes is the agreed period.

VIC start slowly losing Alex Kerr for 5 LBW to Sam Doggett (thankfully one of the easier decisions I've been presented with). They struggle to 3 for 48 before we take the first drinks break. After that, Nathan Gardiner and Clayton McCartney set about rebuilding the innings with some sensible batting before Marty Jeffrey manages to bowl McCartney around his legs for 36 off 42 balls. It's then left to Nick Boland to combine with Gardiner to build a reasonable total with Boland contributing a very handy 47no off 89 balls. By the end, VIC reaches 7/190 off their 50 overs and we're ahead of time remarkably despite the extra breaks.

After the welcome interval, NSW start well but patiently only losing opener Damian Duroux 10 off 26 balls and Nathan Price 16 off 12 balls prior to the first drinks break. The effects of Nick Boland having to bat for so long is certainly affecting his bowling early on as it lacks the venom he normally has. At the drinks break, we notice the build-up of some threatening dark clouds (never thought I would be saying that about Alice Springs!) and that the lights have not started to boot up yet. Sarah Harris from CA comes onto the field to say "They can't start the lights". Is there anything else that can go wrong this week?

Sarah informs us that someone from the Council is at the ground and is hoping to get them started. We inform the VIC captain and both batsmen that we will continue until the light is unreasonable and then suspend play until the lights can be started. We remind them that it is a minimum of 20 overs for a match which has not been reached and that NSW will win if a match can't be completed. This certainly spurs the VICs into action who are suddenly VERY active in getting the overs through 😊.

The light towers eventually start to kick in but only one at a time. By the time they have completed the starting procedure, we only have the 4 main towers fully operational and none of the 4 supplementary towers. This gives adequate lighting but has more of a feel of a football training session rather than a cricket match. Thankfully the extra four towers come to life but only when there is about 5 overs to go!

Bryn Richards 55 off 114 balls and Brendan Smith 52 off 49 balls combine for an 80 run partnership to put NSW firmly on top, but then an unwise call results in Smith being run out

by a great throw from the outfield and VIC are sniffing a possibility of victory even though NSW are still favourites at 3/129. However, Ben Patterson 37 off 23 balls (four 4s and three 6s) comes to the crease and carves 14 off the first three balls he faces to put NSW back in the ascendancy.

At 3/175, it looks like NSW will cruise to victory until one of the best spells of bowling I've seen coming from none other than, Nick Boland. He bowls Patterson (4/176) then has Brock Larance caught for a duck in his next over (4/178). Bryn Richards is then bowled (5/178) and the VICs are hopeful. Marty Jeffrey is then bowled (7/189) by Boland (4/26 off 10 overs with 3 maidens) however he only has one ball left in his spell.

Sam Doggett comes to the crease with the VICs hopeful they can repeat last year's result and retain the trophy. He smashes the ball in the air straight back at me! Boland gets a couple of fingers to it, can't hold the catch and the ball ends up near the boundary with the 2 runs completed for victory to reach 7/191 in 40 overs.

So NSW reclaim the trophy for their second NICC Championship in three years. The match finishes at 9:23pm so we dodge the 9:14 curse however we've had to overcome other light issues and have definitely dodge any controversy by getting a match completed without further incident.



NSW 2018 Men's Championship Squad

A few beers are finally on the cards after a "Dry" week for me. Having consumed about 30 litres of Gatorade, 10 litres of Hydralite and unmeasured quantities of water, it will be a welcome change!

A small montage of footage from the final can be found at the following hyperlink;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BNisonVxxhU&t=0s&index=1&list=PLzx2b5Q9sQVpF58k7Wdyut5EBM9cYplaj>

Day 10 (13/2)

After a short sleep, it's up to get packed, dressed and off to the airport to head back home to the welcome sounds of maximums around 29-33 degrees.

I would like to thank everyone who sent me messages and for the phone calls of support. Some of them came from sources I wasn't expecting and they were glowing and helped lift me through a difficult tournament. Thanks also to the selectors for considering me to represent the NSWCUA and to the NSWCA who continue to genuinely support our Umpires and Scorers.

A final note; Do everything you can to get there for this tournament as it's a great place to visit and a wonderful Championship to officiate in. But make sure you're fit beforehand as it takes the absolute stuffing out of you!

## Code of Conduct session with Simon Taufel – Roberto Howard

On Wednesday 28 February, Simon Taufel ran a professional development session that focused on managing player behaviour as well as the decision making process of reporting according to the Code of Conduct. The 11 attendees of the session comprised of the five members of the NSW State Umpire Panel as well as members who have attended Cricket Australia National Underage Championships.

Simon presented on how we as umpires can manage player behaviour and refreshed our understanding of important tools on the field. Some strategies that we took out of the session, that would be handy for all members, were:

1. Utilising the captain of the team – if there is an issue, ask the captain to help you.
2. Use inclusive language such as “we” when speaking to players and captains.
3. Use your presence, positioning and eye contact to discourage poor behaviour – If something is said in the slips towards a batsman, step across at the bowlers end and just pause.
4. Use empathy to show the player you understand his perspective.
5. Respect will be given, if the players are treated calmly and fairly.
6. Use the players name to establish a working relationship with them.
7. Establish a standard early in your match – is this the behaviour that you are willing to accept? If the answer is no, you need to take action.



Simon presented some examples of incidents that had happened in matches that were either reported or not reported. The group assessed the incidents and Simon would pick apart each incident and give pointers as to what we as match officials should be looking for when it comes to dissent and abuse of cricket equipment. The entire group found this quite interesting and informative as we were able to reflect on personal experiences and learn from our mistakes. The experience of the umpires in the room was valuable because the more experienced umpires were able to share their personal stories that informed us all. We as umpires can learn a lot more from our fellow colleagues, and it would be remiss of us to not utilise the key resources.

One key message and phrase that was repeated throughout the evening was “not to miss an opportunity”. To contextualise this, Simon gave the example that if you are at square leg and you are still thinking about whether to report a player’s behaviour, then you should report the player. It is essential that we are consistent in our approach and follow through with Code of Conduct. We need to take the opportunity to take a stand, rather than leave it to the umpire’s next round to clean up our mess.

Finally, a vital message that we took out of the session that should be passed onto fellow members is that when it comes to player behaviour, we should take the person out of the incident. To reference a footy cliché; *play the ball, not the man*. Focus purely on the behaviour not who the player is. Sometimes this can be difficult, however it makes the whole thought process more unbiased and impartial.



The night was capped off with a mock Code of Conduct hearing run by Cricket Australia Supplementary Panel Match Referee and NSWCUA member Neil Findlay. There was a role play of the hearing and the process that is used. This was invaluable for everyone, as most of us wouldn't have been in a hearing before. There was a debrief after the hearing about how we felt the hearing went and how it was run. Neil demonstrated excellent composure, which Darren noted is an excellent trait and quality to have as an umpire.



On behalf of the group who attended the session, a big thank you must go to Simon who gave up his time to facilitate the session. A thank you must also go to Darren for the opportunity to attend such an invaluable professional development session. The group took some insightful things away from the night that we intend to use in our development as umpires, and hopefully this article is helpful for all members in their umpiring.





## NSWCUSA Website – Troy Penman

Since the launch of the website we've seen an increase in use by the membership as the months have passed. We've had over 500 members renew their membership via the new system which streamlines the process and saves on administrative hours. Added to this we've had over 700 payments come through the system when we look at merchandise and Annual Dinner registration.

The most recent addition to the page has been laws questions, in the resource tab and under the heading Laws of Cricket questions you can now undertake an exam on Laws 1-3. We thank the Exam Committee led by Mark Hughes for their efforts here. More exams will be added to the page in the coming months as more questions relating to the 2017 Code are produced.

The website includes all SCA appointments for season 2017-18, these appointments along with Country Cricket Representative appointments will continue to be added on a regular basis.

### Items that are covered include:

- ❖ NSW CUSA News
- ❖ Galleries of various NSW CUSA functions and events
- ❖ Development resources
- ❖ Forms
- ❖ In Black & White publications
- ❖ Annual Report publications
- ❖ Laws of Cricket 2017 Code
- ❖ NSW CUSA Honour Board
- ❖ Up to date merchandise products for purchase
- ❖ Payment options for Membership and the Convention

Should members wish to make payment of their membership subscription or Annual Convention registration please head to the shop tab at the top right of the page.

Should you have any questions about the website please don't hesitate to contact Nic Bills via email at [Nic.Bills@cricketnsw.com.au](mailto:Nic.Bills@cricketnsw.com.au) or phone 0427 947 000.

The website can be found at <https://nswcusa.cricketnsw.com.au/>

Month	Week	Activity	Where	Notes
June	17-23	North Coast Regional	NSW	Central Coast Regional
	24-30	North Coast Regional	NSW	Central Coast Regional
July	1-7	Central Coast Regional	NSW	Central Coast Regional
	8-14	Central Coast Regional	NSW	Central Coast Regional
August	15-21	Central Coast Regional	NSW	Central Coast Regional
	22-28	Central Coast Regional	NSW	Central Coast Regional

- SCA Umpire Appointments
- NSWCUSA News
- Gallery
- Annual Reports
- In Black and White
- Links
- Development
- Forms

## Technical – Darren Goodger

The following questions were received from the Newcastle District Cricket Umpires' Association –

### **Question 1.**

Following the fall of the 3<sup>rd</sup> wicket at 12.59pm on day 1 Time was called, lunch (scheduled from 1pm to 1.40pm) was taken immediately for 40 minutes as per playing conditions. After lunch the not out batsman and the new batsman 'A' came to the crease to commence play. The bowler's end umpire calls Play. Before the bowler could start his over, the umpires suspended play due to impending rain that could be heard approaching the ground quickly. Play was delayed for 35 minutes. When play resumed the not out batsman returned with a different batsman 'B'.

The umpires intervened and requested batsman 'A' who came to the crease immediately after lunch resume his innings along with the not out batsman.

The batting captain objected stating that the over after lunch had not started and as such batsman 'A' had not commenced his innings.

The umpires remained firm, insisting batsman 'A' come to the crease to resume his innings.

Please confirm that the umpires were in fact correct in their assessment of the situation.

### **Response.**

The batting captain is only correct in that the over had not commenced. The umpires have applied Law 25.2 correctly in my view. The innings of any new batsman on the resumption of play after a call of Time shall commence at the call of Play. Batsman 'A' had commenced his innings so he shall resume batting following the 35 minute delay.

### **Question 2.**

During a very windy afternoon period in a T20 match a spin bowler was bowling to a striker. In delivering the 5<sup>th</sup> ball of the over – the bowler was in his delivery stride about to deliver the ball when both bails fell from the non-striker's end wicket. The bowler delivered the ball as normal and the striker struck the ball over the boundary for six (6) runs.

The fielding captain objected, arguing that the bowler's end umpire should have called Dead ball as soon as the bails were dislodged by the wind.

The umpires allowed the ball to count in the over and signalled the Boundary 6 to the scorers.

Please confirm that the umpires were in fact correct in their assessment of the situation.

### **Response.**

There is no mention in Law 20.4 that the umpires shall call and signal Dead ball if the bails fall from the non-striker's wicket. The umpires did not believe the striker has been distracted in this instance so Law 20.4.6 is not relevant and shall not apply. The umpires have acted correctly in my view. Signal Boundary 6 with the ball to count as one in the over.

## Gerard Abood makes T20 International debut in Hobart – Cate Ryan



National Umpire Panel member Gerard Abood will tonight make his men's international on-field debut in Hobart as part of the Gillette T20 INTL Series.

New South Welshmen Gerard Abood will tonight add another umpiring accolade to his already successful 2017/18 season when he takes to Blundstone Arena in the T20 INTL fixture between Australia and England. The achievement complements his recent elevation to Cricket Australia (CA) ICC's International Umpire Panel; appointment to the Women's Ashes Test match; notching up 50 First Class Matches (achieved whilst on exchange in India) and appointment to his first men's Test Match as Fourth Umpire under DRS conditions.

Throughout his umpiring career, Abood has officiated across two state Premier Cricket competitions. He commenced in the Sydney Premier Cricket competition in 2000/01 and was nominated for the CA Under 17 National Championships in 2001/02 before attending the CA Under 19 National Championships the following season. In 2003/04 Abood relocated to Melbourne for work and went on to stand in 54 Cricket Victoria Premier First Grade fixtures whilst also representing the state at the 2004/05 CA Under 19 Male National Championships. Since moving back to the harbour city in 2007/08, Abood has to this day been appointed to a total of 135 games in the Sydney Premier Cricket competition, 92 of which have been in First Grade.

Abood made his List-A debut in a Domestic One-Day Cup fixture in Wangaratta between Victoria and New South Wales in January 2006. He has stood in a total of 41 List-A Matches to date, which have also included a Tour Match between Victoria and Sri Lanka and the international 'A' Series held in the top end in 2014.

In November 2008 Abood made his First-Class debut in a New Zealand Tour Match at the SCG, and went on to stand in his first Sheffield Shield match at the same venue a week later in the fixture between New South Wales and Queensland. Abood has officiated in 51 First-Class matches, and brought up his half century in Vadodara, India, earlier this season where he was appointed to the annual Umpire exchange opportunity between CA and the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). Abood has also officiated in New Zealand in the Plunkett Shield, and in South Africa as part of the Sunfoil Series.

In the shortest format, Abood made his T20 domestic men's debut in January 2006 at the Junction Oval in the fixture between Victoria and South Australia. He was appointed on-field in 14 matches of the previously state based competition. Then since the inception of the club based Big Bash League in 2011/12, Abood has been on-field 40 times and an additional 18 times as TV Umpire. Abood stood in the KFC BBL|07 Semi Final in Perth last Thursday prior to travelling to Sydney for 3rd Umpire duties for the opening fixture of the Gillette T20 INTL Series between Australia and New Zealand last Saturday night.

Since joining the National Umpire Panel in 2009, Abood has been exposed to international cricket on numerous occasions, including appointment as Reserve Umpire to four men's Test Matches (the most recent under DRS conditions); 12 One-Day Internationals and four T20 International fixtures. In November 2017, Abood made his on-field Women's Test debut in the fixture between Australia and England at North Sydney Oval. His Women's One-Day International debut featured the same nations in February 2008 at the SCG, and has stood in a total of nine Women's One-Day Internationals, including appointment to the ICC Women's World Cup in Sydney in 2009. In the shortest format, Abood has stood in 11 T20 INTL women's matches.

Abood debuts alongside Simon Fry. New Zealand's Chris Brown (3rd); Sam Nogajski (4th) and Javagal Srinath (Match Referee) complete the Playing Control Team. CA Board Member Tony Harrison was on hand to acknowledge Abood's milestone.



## Female Umpire Engagement – Claire Polosak

Since the last edition of In Black and White, there has been three regional courses held for the Cricket Australia Community Officiating level. These courses are open to both males and females that are interested in Community Cricket. These courses have been held in Dubbo (19<sup>th</sup> December), Tamworth (20<sup>th</sup> December) and Maclean (14<sup>th</sup> February). In total there have been 32 people at these regional workshops. There have also been three metropolitan workshops, two at the SCG and one for the St George District Cricket Association. There was a total of 27 people at these workshops. I am also traveling to Goulburn on the 28<sup>th</sup> February for a workshop.

In the Sydney Cricket Association there have been 76 appointments across Men's and Women's Cricket competitions filled by female umpires. There have also been 12 appointments on the Central Coast filled by female umpires. Elisabeth Houston made her First-Grade debut on the 27<sup>th</sup> January between Warnervale and Southern Spirit. Thank you to Troy Penman, John Colwell and James Figallo for making these appointments available to the umpires. If you know of any other females umpiring in other competitions around the state, I would love to hear about them!



Participants in Maclean completing coursework



Umpires for the U15 Female National Championship

In December Annette Mackenzie and Kirsten Funston represented NSW at the U18 Female National Championships in Canberra. Both performed well for their first National Championship and developed their umpiring. In January, using the Cricket Australia Female Umpire Scholarship program, we were also able to send Michelle Evans and Annette to Adelaide for the U15 Female Championships.

This tournament provided very difficult conditions for umpires and players alike- with several days being affected with extreme heat. Michelle and Annette handled themselves with distinction.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> February at CricketNSW, a female umpire training session was held. There were eight female umpires present and the session was focused on the decision-making process. The workshop was facilitated by Darren Goodger and the participants received many strategies to improve their decision making when officiating on field. Thank you, Darren, for running the session for the participants.



Participants at an umpire training session

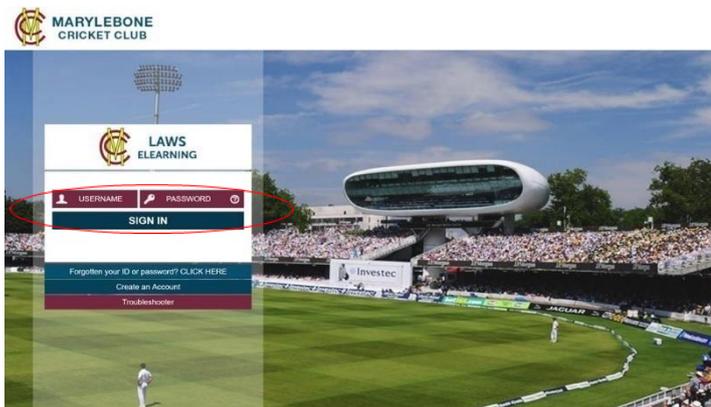
The next Cricket Australia Community Workshop to be held at CricketNSW is in April. The workshop dates are the 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of April, from 6:30 - 8:30pm, so if you know of anyone, male or female who may be interested, please feel free to point them in my direction.

# MCC Laws of Cricket | E-Learning portal – Troy Penman

The MCC have developed a useful webpage to increase and improve your knowledge of the Laws of Cricket. Please find below a link to the MCC Laws of Cricket E-Learning portal.

<https://laws.lords.org/theme/dynamic/login.php>

To begin with you will need to create an Account with a username and password, the steps are straight forward and the computer will prompt you if you have missed anything.

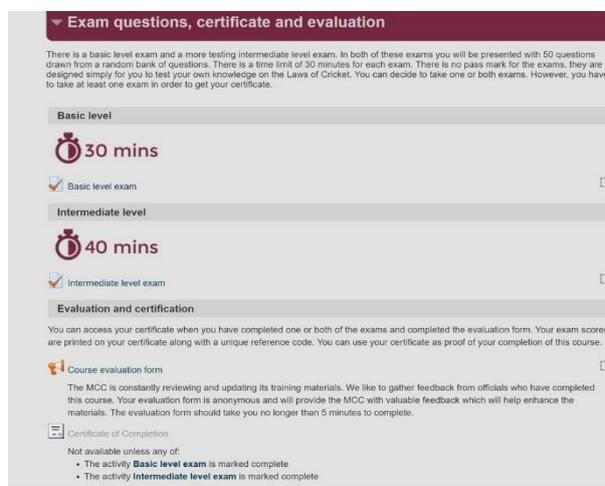
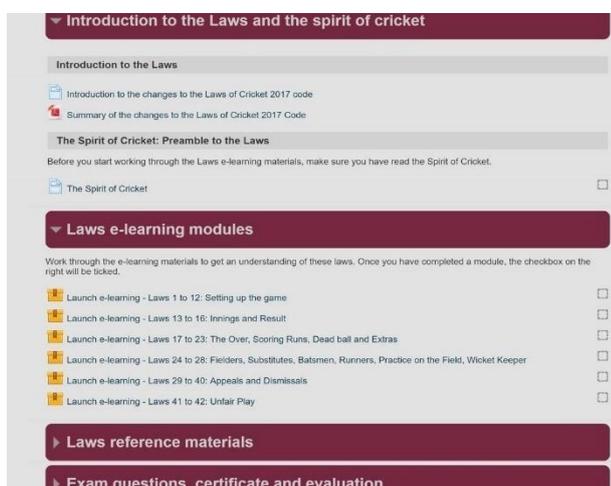


The portal provides an incredible amount of information, the first step once logged in is to listen to the introduction video which will give you an overview of the resource.

After watching the introduction video, scroll down the page to look at the resources, the resources are broken down into the following 4 categories;

- Introduction to the Laws and the spirit of cricket
- Laws e-learning modules
- Law reference materials
- Exam questions, certificate and evaluation

The exams can be undertaken at any stage with a certificate being able to be collected once you've completed an exam.



Enjoy the resource and the large amount of information that it provides.

## Around the Zones – Neil Findlay

### Reports of Affiliated Associations:



#### 1. Newcastle District CUA:

##### • Frequency and format of meetings:

Monthly meetings held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month. The Board meets monthly a week before each General Meeting. Format of monthly meetings: Formal Business followed by a Training program.

- **Number of members (active and inactive):** Total members = 70 Inactive = 9

- **Number of NSWCUA members:** 31.

- **Methods of recruiting new members:** Local Advertising plus advertising on NDCA & NDCUA Websites. In addition, use of Facebook and direct approach to NDCA District Clubs.

- **The types of training and development offered to members.**

NSWCU&SA Course & Exam – followed by: Field Craft Training and Trial match – feedback and development on the day.

Ongoing Training program – Group exercises, Q & A's, PowerPoint Presentations etc.

- **Competition(s) in which members officiate.**

- NDCA District Competition – 2 Day, 1 Day, T20 – all grades & Masters
- Local School fixtures plus Representative Schools matches
- Junior fixtures
- Local 7's fixtures
- Invitation fixtures – e.g. Rail Institute, State Over 50's
- NSW Country Cricket – Men & Women – McDonalds Championships
- Plan B Regional Bash – T20
- Kingsgrove Sports T20 Cup
- CHS & NSW School Girls Carnival

- **Individual umpiring milestones (2016-2017):**

- 300 NDCA Grade Appointments: Keith McDonald and Kim Norris.
- 150 NDCA Grade Appointments: Terry Collins.
- 100 NDCA Grade Appointments: Glen Benton, Graeme Bruce and Steve Cooper.

#### 2. Fairfield-Liverpool CUA:

- The **Fairfield Liverpool Cricket Umpires Association** was founded in 1927 under the banner of **Southern Districts Umpires League**. The Association has successfully operated continually since formation.

- The Association currently has 32 members, of whom 14 are also members of the NSWCUA.

- Whilst our membership covers mostly matches played in the FLCA Junior and Senior competitions, several members are active in the Sydney Cricket Association (SCA) Grade and Shires Competitions.

- It is pleasing to welcome FLCA President/Secretary, **Peter Moore**, back into full time umpiring for our Association. NSWCUA's loss is a plus for FLCUA. A recent recruit has been **Chris Taylor** who has swapped his bat for a hat.

- The Association has not held a formal and structured training course; however, a designated session is spent at each monthly meeting to discuss various Laws and Playing Conditions. The 2017 Code has been given much airing. Our Association's President, Darren Foster has led sessions.

- Members have visited clubs within the FLCA to discuss Laws, local Playing Conditions, and offer assistance on field-craft for those acting as Player-Umpires. Unfortunately Clubs seem reluctant to accept offers to do more in this area.
- A major highlight for the Association was the announcement of **Dougall Hamill** as the recipient of the prestigious **Doug Tyson Memorial Shield** for his outstanding contribution to Umpiring in the 2016/2017 Season. Doug Tyson will be remembered for his dedication and commitment to Umpiring, covering many seasons, in both Fairfield Liverpool area as well as the NSWCUUSA.
- Our members have achieved 100% coverage to the NSW DCA Junior Representative matches played to date. The efforts of Brent Bulliman, Thomas Daelher, Michael Bulliman, Peter Moore, Rick Crocono, Chris Taylor, Paul Marsh, Nathan Starr, Daniel Izard and Peter Roberts have made this commitment possible.
- **Rick Crocono** is applauded for his work as the Appointments Officer attending to all Junior and Senior matches as well as the NSW DCA Representative matches – thank you Rick.

### 3. Cootamundra District CUA:

- Cootamundra District Cricket Umpires Association is going from strength to strength, and is now in its 14<sup>th</sup> season
- **Number of members (active and inactive):** Total members = 13 Active = 5
- **Number of NSWCUUSA members:** 10.
- The Cootamundra District Cricket Umpires Association has a record number of 13 members, which is a huge increase on last season's membership of seven. The 13 members sees 10 who are NSWCUUSA accredited with five of those members regularly officiating in the South West Slopes Cricket League, which involves teams from Cootamundra, Temora and Young. When five umpires are available, that means all matches five matches in the competition have an umpire.
- The Cootamundra District Cricket Umpires Association hosted a Laws of Cricket 2017 Code in July, which saw 26 participants from many regions of the Riverina and the South West Slopes. Darren Goodger and Kim Norris facilitated the course, which was held in the Wattle Room of the Cootamundra Ex-Services Club. On Sunday afternoon, 20 participants sat for the assessment of the new 2017 Code, 19 passed the assessment.
- On Friday 13 October, two local members, Jeff White and Dennis Elphick, sat for their NSWCUUSA assessment on the 2017 Code under the supervision of Riverina Cricket Zone representative Pat Kerin. Jeff and Dennis were successful in passing the assessment and both umpires have made application to join NSWCUUSA Jeff is in his third season of umpiring, while Dennis who has previously played a lot of cricket in Newcastle. Jeff and Dennis have previously attended Laws of Cricket training courses in Albury.
- The only major umpiring appointment so far this season has been Pat Kerin being appointed to officiate in two matches of the Regional Plan B Big Bash at Griffith on Sunday 5 November. Pat stood with Tim Gumbleton and Ken Brooks. Pat is also nearing 500 matches as a member of NSWCUUSA. After officiating in junior zone carnival at Albury from 12-14 November, Pat has stood in 496 matches.



Graham Moon & Pat Kerin OAM

## Annual Dinner

### RAFFLE PRIZES

1<sup>st</sup> Prize – Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb for 2

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Ziegler and Brown BBQ Bundle

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – Richie Benaud Memorabilia

4<sup>th</sup> Prize – Hamper (Gourmet Basket)

5<sup>th</sup> Prize – Samsung Sound Bar and Subwoofer

6<sup>th</sup> Prize – Nutri Ninja IQ

7<sup>th</sup> Prize – Red Balloon Gift Voucher \$100

8<sup>th</sup> Prize – NSWCUA Gift Voucher \$100

Eight wonderful prizes up for grabs this year.

The raffle will be drawn at the Dinner, but it is not necessary to be in attendance, if you are a winner you will be sent the prize in the mail.

To purchase raffle tickets please fill out your details on the registration and raffle tickets form provided.

Best of luck to all who enter and thank you for supporting your Association.



## Annual Dinner and Raffle Tickets Registration Form



I wish to attend the 2018 Annual Dinner at the Bankstown Sports Club

First Name

Surname

Email Address

Contact Number

Guest(s) No:

Name(s):

The cost of the Annual Dinner is \$85 per person

I wish to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ raffle ticket(s) at \$5 per ticket (4 for \$15, 7 for \$25 or 10 for \$35)

The raffle will be drawn at the Annual Dinner. Tickets will be available for purchase up to and including 12 April 2018. It's not necessary to be in attendance, if you're a winner you will be sent the prize.

Annual Dinner payment details

Cheque or Money Order – payable to NSWCUA of amount \$.....

or

Credit Card (please tick card type and fill in details below)

VISA     MasterCard

Credit Card No.

-       -       -

Name in Full

Expiry Date

/

Signature

Amount to be charged

\$

Do you have any special dietary requirements?

Please return your Annual Dinner and Raffle Tickets Registration Form to:

The Administration Officer, NSWCUA P.O Box 230, Paddington 2021

[Nic.Bills@cricketnsw.com.au](mailto:Nic.Bills@cricketnsw.com.au)

Fax (02) 8302 6080

## CRIC-O-KU Number 2

U		S	X					
	D			A			T	
T	X					A		
A				U				I
			A	N	D			
D				O				S
		I					O	U
	U			T			X	
					U	D		N

Every row, column, and 3x3 box must contain each of the nine symbols, just like a normal Sudoku.

With *Cric-o-ku*, the symbols are letters, not numbers, and when you've worked them all out, one of the rows or columns will be a cricket term.

The answer will be in the next issue of *Black and White*.

Enjoy!

- *The Nightwatchman*

### CRIC-OKU No 1: Solution

N	S	W	U	M	P	I	R	E
P	I	M	N	R	E	U	S	W
E	R	U	W	I	S	N	M	P
S	P	E	M	N	W	R	U	I
U	M	N	I	P	R	E	W	S
I	W	R	E	S	U	P	N	M
R	U	I	P	W	M	S	E	N
M	N	S	R	E	I	W	P	U
W	E	P	S	U	N	M	I	R

### Merchandise Winner

To claim your prize please call Nic Bills on 8302 6044



## Beastwear Partnership

The Beastwear partnership is now coming to the end of its second season and we will be negotiating a new contract with Beastwear in the coming months.



The partnership has been very beneficial to both parties and we hope that it continues into the future.

Should you need any clothing manufactured, designed or distributed then we recommend choosing Beastwear, Aden Nawaz and his team provide excellent service. We thank them for their hard work and commitment to excellence.

All members will be advised prior to the start of the 2018-19 season of the partnership.



<https://www.beastwear.com.au/>

# 60 SECONDS WITH NIC BILLS

**Daniel Nichols**



**Jim Harrod**

**David Rees**



## 60 Seconds with Jim Harrod

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Alfred James (Jim) Harrod</b>
<b>Background:</b>	Commenced Umpiring in 2002 after playing the game for 36 years.
<b>Day Job?</b>	Fully retired from today (13 Feb 18) after 39.5 years in the RAN.
<b>Officiating Debut and the first time you fired someone?</b>	2002 season in Darwin, promoted to 1 <sup>st</sup> grade that year and fired both captains LBW, they both said they 'nicked it'.
<b>Career (to date) officiating highlight(s)?</b>	Appointed to my first 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Grand Final in 2007 (Darwin) Selected to Officiate National under 17's Jan 2008. Co-Ordinated the Umpires for Imparja Cup, 07 & 08.
<b>Best cricketer you have officiated?</b>	Mitchell Marsh.
<b>Strangest (funniest) thing to happen whilst on a cricket field?</b>	A second eleven player from WA, playing for Army Vs Navy, out handling the ball in the first over of the match, he was their gun player.
<b>Who is your favourite official to have or still is officiating in a sport (can be any sport)? Why?</b>	I had the opportunity to meet Simon Taufel in Darwin at Government House, he was the guest speaker for the 'Year of the Official' his speech was eloquent and inspiring and he freely gave up his time to the Darwin Umpires, a nicer man you couldn't meet.
<b>Any superstitions?</b>	No.
<b>Any special talents?</b>	None that I'll put down here.
<b>Best piece of advice?</b>	Be the best you can be.
<b>What got you into umpiring?</b>	After playing for so long, I needed something to do on Saturday afternoons, and just decided to repay the game that I love.
<b>Three people you would love to have dinner with?</b>	Nelson Mandella, Paul Hogan and Mark Taylor.

## 60 Seconds with Daniel Nichols

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Daniel Nichols</b>
<b>Background</b>	I played grade cricket at Bankstown, and was lucky enough to play with Mark Grant.
<b>Day job</b>	I have recently taken up a role at Startrack Minchinbury.
<b>Officiating Debut and the first time you fired someone</b>	Rd 1 2014/15 Fifth Grade at Balmoral Oval with Sachin Byanjankur. I gave a few lbws that day. The pitch was low and slow and batsmen kept getting their pads in the way.
<b>Career (to date) officiating highlight(s)</b>	First grade debut in Rd 13 last season at Pratten Park standing with Goodge. I managed to turn down a couple of lbw appeals from Nic Bills.
<b>Best cricketer you have officiated</b>	Pat Cummins. One of the nicest too.
<b>Strangest (funniest) thing to happen whilst on a cricket field</b>	Umpiring a match at Bon Andrews when a Buck's party from the adjacent bowling club decided to become spectators. Patty O'Neill from Campbelltown was bowling at the time and was sent to field in front of them. There were some interesting songs sung, including 'we're all going to patty's' and the song from the paddy's markets tv ad among others that probably can't be repeated.
<b>Who is your favourite official to have or still is officiating in a sport (can be any sport) Why</b>	Gerard Sutton. NRL referees cop a lot of crap and I'll never forget the Dogs v Bunnies game where James Graham broke Adam Reynolds leg with an attempted charge down. He never lost his composure and was the only person on the field who knew the correct ruling to give the penalty in front of the goals. The commentary team certainly didn't know the rule either.
<b>Any superstitions</b>	Always clean shaven to umpire a match.
<b>Any special talents</b>	I have no talent.
<b>Best piece of advice</b>	was once told that whenever you go to the next level of anything you, just do what you did to get there. Usually you are there for a good reason. The improvements you need to make will come with experience.
<b>What got you into umpiring</b>	I first started umpiring indoor cricket to make some extra cash to pay for my match fees and some food after the game and enjoyed that. The switch to premier cricket was a natural progression.
<b>Three people you would love to have dinner with</b>	Roger Federer, in my opinion, the best sportsperson of my lifetime, Steve Waugh, a childhood hero and Benji Marshall. I'm a huge Tigers fan and I'm glad he's back where he belongs.

## 60 Seconds with David Rees

<b>Name:</b>	<b>David Rees</b>
<b>Background</b>	Grew up in St George/Sutherland Shire area. Married (happily) with 2 teenage daughters. Lived in Singapore for 4 years then returned to Sydney in 2016.
<b>Day job</b>	Manage a day program in Frenchs Forest for approximately 50 adults with mild to severe intellectual disabilities.
<b>Officiating Debut and the first time you fired someone?</b>	Singapore: 2013 3rd Division at the magnificent Singapore Cricket Club. Located in the Marina Bay area, home of the Singapore Grand Prix. Sydney: 2016 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade at Beauchamp Gordon v Blacktown. Can't remember specifically however when I reached 2nd grade, I fired the first 4 captains all for 0.
<b>Career (to date) officiating highlight(s)</b>	Singapore: Had opportunities to umpire the men's and women's national teams. 1 <sup>st</sup> grade debut at Owen Earle. Hawkesbury v Penrith. Saturday Sunday Fixture in 40-degree temperatures. Match went 4 innings and play was interrupted with thunder and lightning in the last session on day 2 with Penrith requiring about 50 more runs for victory. Match had it all. Recently had an opportunity to umpire the NSW 2 <sup>nd</sup> X1 at BISP.
<b>Best cricketer you have officiated</b>	Peter Neville and Sam Billings. Both internationals and also quality individuals on the field.
<b>Strangest (funniest) thing to happen whilst on a cricket field</b>	A player dropped 2 sitters at slip so he was moved to mid-off. 15 minutes later he dropped a sitter at mid-off so he was banished to fine leg. Guess what, it happened again. The funniest part was all the players saw the humour in the situation but I have never seen the ball follow a player as it did that day.
<b>Who is your favourite official to have or still is officiating in a sport (can be any sport) Why</b>	Simon Taufel- Reasons well known. Bill Harrigan – 10 Grand Finals. 21 Origins. He had the respect of everyone in the game and just understood the feel of matches. Was as fit as any of the players and his matches were usually great to watch. His decision making was fantastic and it started with thorough preparations.
<b>Any superstitions</b>	Don't tend to be superstitious however I always wear the same belt and pair of white socks when umpiring.
<b>Any special talents</b>	Little bit musical Play saxophone, trombone but not these days.
<b>Best piece of advice</b>	Don't try and officiate like anyone else. Be yourself. Better to arrive late than dead on time. My fathers advice to me as a young driver.
<b>What got you into umpiring</b>	I stopped enjoying playing. I was so nervous preparing to bat or take the field I didn't want to play but I love the game and always have. It was the best move I made as you are in the action and allows us to meet to many players across clubs /grades etc.
<b>Three people you would love to have dinner with</b>	This coming Saturday night it would be Barnaby Joyce, his wife and his mistress. Normally though maybe Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump. That would be one interesting evening.

# NEW MEMBERS

Name	Suburb	Name	Suburb
Benjamin Beck	Cooks Hill	Joe Vitale	Beverly Hills
Bhola Kumar	Willoughby	Marc Betbeder-Matibet	Beverley Park
Chris Kuszelyk	Mayfield	Philip Gordon	Naremburn
Chris Taylor	St Johns Park	Ragul Krishnamurthy	Parramatta
David Grainger	Wyoming	Rajat Kapoor	Lavington
Gavin Newton-Smith	Scone	Raju Das	Acacia Gardens
Heath Kearns	Jersey	Stephen Wade	Charlestown
Ian Findlay	Orange	Steve Warrington	Orange
James Maquinad	Lugarno	Tim Caimakamis	Hamilton



## NSWCUSA & Cricket NSW Umpiring Staff

**Executive Officer – Darren Goodger**  
[Darren.Goodger@cricketnsw.com.au](mailto:Darren.Goodger@cricketnsw.com.au)  
 0425 275 795

**Administration Manager – Troy Penman**  
[Troy.Penman@cricketnsw.com.au](mailto:Troy.Penman@cricketnsw.com.au)  
 0425 201 835

**Administration Officer – Nic Bills**  
[Nic.Bills@cricketnsw.com.au](mailto:Nic.Bills@cricketnsw.com.au)  
 0427 947 000

**Umpire Educator/Female Umpire Engagement  
 – Claire Polosak**  
[Claire.Polosak@cricketnsw.com.au](mailto:Claire.Polosak@cricketnsw.com.au)  
 0417 074 458