

IN BLACK & WHITE

Edition 76 – April 2020



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Geoff Irvine officiates whilst on exchange in Perth

Cover Photos: Top: Lisa McCabe, Tim Donahoo and Andrew Hamilton ahead the U18 Female National Championships T20 Final at Blundstone Arena
Bottom: Graeme Glazebrook and Neil Smith with captains ahead of the Country Championships Final at Keira Oval



Chairman's Welcome



Mark Hughes

Welcome to another edition of *In Black and White*.

With the finals series in most competitions across New South Wales having ended in such an abrupt fashion, season 2019-20 has been one which will be no doubt remembered for some time to come.

In addition to our 'standard' duties, match officials have had to deal with new and emerging challenges of extreme heat, smoke haze and air quality.

Members and affiliates have also faced the devastation of bushfires, floods and now, the ever-growing threat of COVID-19, which has had, and will continue to have, a

significant impact on both the health and economy of the communities in which we live, as well as to our state and nation.

I would like to thank all of our members for the distinction in which they have represented NSWCUA throughout season 2019-20 in light of all challenges faced.

To all our members, I wish you all the very best in our extended off-season. My hopes and prayers are with you all, that you and your extended families stay safe and well over the coming weeks and months, as we look forward to better days ahead where we can once again officiate in the game we love so much.



Rodney Porter and Kedar Oza
with the captains at the toss
ahead of the AW Green Shield
Final at Waverley

COVID-19 Update

Bede Sajowitz

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and in line with government advice, the NSWCUA Board advises that a number of Association events will not proceed as scheduled in the coming months.

The 2020 Annual Dinner and Awards Night will not be taking place at Bankstown Sports Club on 18 April, with alternatives to be explored as circumstances develop.

Refunds have been processed for members and guests who had already purchased tickets to the function and for the raffle traditionally held on the night.

Two Ordinary General Meetings have been cancelled, being the April and May meetings.

The April meeting had been scheduled for Wednesday 1 April at Bankstown Oval and the May meeting for Wednesday 6 May at the Bowler's Club of NSW.

In place of these meetings, correspondence will be circulated to members to provide the information that would normally be delivered.

Further information concerning other Association events, including the Annual General Meeting and the Annual Convention will be communicated to members as the situation develops and decisions are made.

With uncertainty currently surrounding the Convention in Tamworth scheduled for 22-23 August, the Association recommends that members should not book make any

arrangements for travel or accommodation at this stage.

Members also advised that the Cricket NSW offices remain closed until further notice in response to the pandemic.

A dedicated response team is continually monitoring the situation as it develops and will determine when the offices will reopen across New South Wales.

The Match Officials team are working remotely with minimal disruption to the day-to-day operations of the Association.

Should NSWCUA members require any further information, please contact either myself or Troy.

On the next page are some tips compiled by Cricket NSW Sports Performance Dietician Erin Michael that were circulated to Cricket NSW staff last week.



COVID-19 FOOD & SHOPPING TIPS

PLAN YOUR LIST



- Aside from the basics and TP, write out a bunch of meals (don't forget lunch) that you can cook with high nutritional value. Think lots of coloured grated veggies (even if its not part of the original recipe). Eg. Spaghetti bolognese, Mexican mince, lasagna, burger patties, stir fries, curry's, soups etc. Bonus if you can freeze them too. If you have room for a second freezer its helpful for meal prep and if your cooking for elderly family/friends.
- Write a list of the ingredients you need on paper so you don't have to touch your phone at the store.
- Categorise items into groups so you don't have to backtrack through the aisles.
- Buy a few more things than you usually would (not hoarding!) Just preparing, so you don't have to visit the shops as often.
- Note: Harris Farm doesn't currently have as many restrictions on basic items as Coles & Woolies. Be reasonable, but if you need more than 2 packets of pasta or 2 frozen items, or are buying a few extra things for family/friends, this might be a good place to shop.

HOME DELIVERY FOOD

- Ordering food online via UberEats, Deliveroo, Menulog can be a safe way of getting food if companies offer contactless drop.
- Now is a good time to choose healthier options or add some extra veggies to the meal.
- Wipe takeaway containers before they come in the home and pay online vs cash.
- Microwave or heat food in oven before eating.
- Heat n' eat Meal delivery services such as Macros, My Muscle Chef, YouFoodz, Soularo (vegan) and The Dinner Ladies might suit some households.
- For those who want to cook your own, but avoid the shops, try Hello Fresh, Marley Spoon or Dinnerly and just make sure the portions are appropriate for you.
- Organic fruit & veg boxes eg. Field 2 Feast are a great option to minimise your time at the shops and the number of people potentially touching your food.
- Coles & Woolworths online ordering is currently reserved for elderly & those in isolation. Harris Farm is still an option, shop online in AM for more variety. They have set boxes available for express delivery.
- Check out Go Fetch or Airtasker apps to avoid shops.

**Wash
YOUR
Hands
BEFORE
YOU EAT**



AT THE SUPERMARKET



- If you can't get home delivery, go early or late to best practise social distancing. Most Woolies and Coles open 8am-8pm. Woolworths metro seems to be open till midnight if you just need a few things and want to avoid crowds or support your local supermarket at non-peak times. If its busy, go home and try again later.
- Try to maintain at least a 1.5m distance from others where possible. Your shopping trolley can help you do this, & waiting for others to move.
- Pay with apple pay or similar without touching the machine, if you have to use card and enter a pin use back of knuckle, then sanitise hands again.
- Now is probably not the time to use reusable bags, if you do, wash them at home after.
- Carry hand sanitiser in your pocket and use it at the start and end of shop and especially before you open your car, and once you've put your trolley away before you touch the steering wheel.
- Avoid touching your face - we all do this without even noticing.
- If you have to sneeze or cough, do so into your elbow.
- If possible one person per family should go to the shops and try to keep kids at home.



WHEN YOU GET HOME



- Take off your shoes when you go inside
- Put your groceries on the floor in kitchen or away from food preparation surfaces. e.g. kitchen bench/dinner table.
- Wipe down wallet, keys and phone with alcohol wipes or a cloth with warm soapy water.
- Wash your hands with soap & warm water for 20sec
- You could also choose to wipe down packets.
- Once you've put away groceries wash hands again.
- Wash fruit & veg with warm water & scrubbing brush if it has a rough surface before eating.
- Wash reusable kitchen cloths, handtowels and teatowel at 60 degrees & change every day minimum.
- Most importantly wash your hands right before you eat.

Executive Officer Update

Troy Penman

Dear Members and Affiliates,
Season 2019-20 will no doubt be remembered as one of the most remarkable seasons in recent times. We have had matches impacted by smoke haze, extreme heat, wet weather and COVID-19.

In times of uncertainty we need to rally together and keep an eye on our colleagues. I'd encourage all members to check in with those you've officiated with this season to see how they're doing. I would like to share a phone call I received this week from a member who was concerned about a colleague and his welfare, the member had recently undergone serious surgery and wasn't able to reach the colleague himself. I was able to contact the member and can advise that he is doing well and recovering from surgery. It is this support and mateship that will help us get through the current situation.

Cricket NSW offices across the State closed on Tuesday 17 March and all employees, including NSWCUA Management, have been working from home since that point.

NSWCUSA Management will be on leave Thursday 9 April to Friday 17 April inclusive. Staff will resume working from home on Monday 20 April.

A change of scenery doesn't mean that work stops. We're currently working on a number of projects to ensure that once things return to normal, we will be in a position to take advantage of the current issues we face. COVID-19 has forced the team to pursue online alternatives to

conduct education sessions, training courses and assessments. We will continue to work through any difficulties until we have a finalised product. Once we have a product that we're happy with we will begin rolling out to the membership.

Members are aware that Association events have been cancelled (April and May OGMs) and the Annual Dinner will not go ahead on 18 April. These decisions have been made with the best interests of all in mind. Directors and Management are investigating all possibilities moving forward to ensure that disruption to members and affiliates is kept to a minimum. Advice will be circulated in relation to the Annual General Meeting and the Annual Convention in the coming weeks.

A Working Group of Chairman (Mark Hughes), Treasurer (Laurie Borg), Administrator (Bede Sajowitz), Education Officer (Ben Treloar), Public Officer (Darren Goodger) and myself has been established to ensure that the Association continues to run smoothly and that all matters are addressed in a timely fashion. The Committee will meet via Skype every two weeks to discuss upcoming matters.

It has been a challenging season for our biggest client, the Sydney Cricket Association (SCA). We have seen the implementation of a number of policies across many competitions to deal with the ever-changing world.

A helmet policy was introduced for Sydney Cricket Association matches and Country Cricket NSW Representative fixtures. The



Air Quality Policy was introduced to manage the smoke haze and the SCA Extreme Heat Policy was well and truly tested on Saturday 1 February.

We thank the SCA Committee of Management (CoM) for their assistance across the season. Following the events of February 1, the Committee sought feedback from the Association on how they can improve their policy to ensure the wellbeing of all involved. We thank them for their consideration and look forward to the adjustments that we know will be made ahead of season 2020-21.

The Association's sponsorship deals with McDonald's and Beastwear are in the renewal process, we're working together with the Cricket NSW Commercial

Department to continue these for another two seasons. In an ideal situation we would continue both and eliminate the need to change shirt designs. The revenue that is raised by both deals allows funds to be allocated to training and development along with subsidies for Association events.

I'd like to take a moment to thank Claire, Bede, Ben and Darren for their continued efforts to ensure that the Association is functioning as best it can during these times. Working from home provides its difficulties and challenges, but all are committed to completing tasks and developing materials for the benefit of all members.

Stay safe and look after each other.



Bill Massingham and David Cullen at the SCG ahead of the Women's Regional T20 Bash Final

State Umpiring Manager Update

Darren Goodger

Greetings everyone, wishing you all the best at this time. Hope you enjoy this edition of *In Black and White*, we are fortunate to have a dedicated NSWCUA Management Team committed to resourcing our membership in the best possible manner.

Strength

There are two types of strength.

The strength of the wind that sways the mighty oak, and there is the strength of the oak that withstands the power of the wind.

There is the strength of the locomotive that pulls the heavy train across the bridge, and there is the strength of the bridge that holds up the weight of the train.

One is active strength; the other is passive strength.

One is the power to keep going, the other is the power to keep still.

One is the strength by which we overcome, the other is the strength by which we endure.

(Dr Harold Phillips)

Arthur Watson Interview

There is a great interview with Arthur Watson conducted by *Today's Tale* that can be read later in this edition of *In Black and White*, it is no surprise that Arthur's love for cricket, umpiring and teamwork shines through.

He has been genuine in mentoring new umpires in the lower grades over many years, but prior to that he had an exemplary career at first grade and

representative level, including standing in three ODIs in the 1979-80 World Series Cup and eight Sheffield Shield matches between 1979 and 1981. Arthur has umpired 792 SCA matches (the most of any umpire and with a very special milestone looming), 365 of which were in first grade.

It is a wonderful interview where Arthur's emphasis on umpiring with enjoyment and common-sense shines through - enjoy the read.

Congratulations Paul Wilson

We offer congratulations to Paul Wilson on receiving the Cricket Australia Umpire Award for 2019-20, further detail of which is provided in this edition.

Paul is a great advocate for cricket umpiring and NSWCUA. He sets an example of what it means to be a cricket umpire by way of his professionalism and commitment. He gets the job done in a no-nonsense manner without drawing attention to himself. He knows the place and role of the umpire and is highly respected by the players having built an excellent rapport with so many.

We appreciate Paul's involvement in Association activities whenever his international umpiring commitments allow. We are very proud of his many umpiring achievements and the contribution he makes to the national match officials' system. We wish him the very best with his future umpiring endeavours.

ICC Women's T20 World Cup

Congratulations to Claire Polosak, the only Australian umpire appointed to the ICC Women's T20 World Cup. Claire is a member of the Cricket Australia Supplementary Umpire Panel and the International Panel of ICC Development Umpires.

Claire had an excellent World Cup, performing strongly throughout which saw her appointed to umpire the England v India semi-final at the SCG, which unfortunately was abandoned due to wet weather without a ball being bowled.

Claire's on-field appointments in the preliminary rounds were:

- Thailand v West Indies
WACA Ground
- Pakistan v West Indies
Manuka Oval
- England v West Indies
Sydney Showground Stadium
- Pakistan v Thailand
Sydney Showground Stadium

A Message of Goodwill - focus on what you can do

Simon Taufel posted a recent blog on *Today's Tale*, typically selfless and positive as ever, he is always willing to share in order to encourage, develop and support others.

It contained some great messages and themes for us all to consider and live:

- The circumstances in front of us are uncontrollable – we should be asking ourselves what are the opportunities here, what projects can I now turn to, what can I do with the time I now have or how can I/we be sustained over the next period of time?
- Every person is going to be directly or indirectly affected by the COVID 19 pandemic – personally and

professionally. We are all in this together, and together we can get through it.

- Breakdowns lead to breakthroughs.
- Focus on and action what we can do.
- We should be changing the conversation to be what we have, what can we do and what we can build? The circumstances in front of us are uncontrollable – we should be asking ourselves what are the opportunities here, what projects can I now turn to, what can I do with the time I now have or how can I/we be sustained over the next period of time?
- The small things we do can have a big impact.
- Are we able to try to focus on what we can do in order to make the best of the current challenges in front of us?

Source: www.todaystale.com

PD Workshop – U15 Female National Championships

It was a privilege to attend the U15 Female National Championships in Canberra this season as umpire coach. The attitude of the umpires was excellent, NSWCUA being very well represented by Katie Collins, Sue Gregory and Margaret Marshall.

Part of the experience was a PD workshop for the umpires. We discussed the following key points:

- The importance of preparation, using the outstanding chapter 'The game begins before the game begins' as a resource from *Finding the Gaps* written by Simon Taufel
- Routines are the gamebreaker
- Do the basics to an excellent standard
- The best umpires fly under the radar



- Be a student of the Laws & a leader with PCs
- Park errors – perceived or actual
- Umpiring is a team game
- Perception counts
- Composure is so important
- Read widely and have a thirst for knowledge
- It's your attitude that counts for so much
- Be clear on your purpose, your motivation, your drivers

We unpacked each key point as a group in some depth, opportunity will present itself to do so with NSWCUA members in various settings, as will the opportunity to improve the quality of the content and presentation.

Members from Affiliated Associations umpiring in NSW Premier Cricket

We were very pleased to offer members from NSWCUA country affiliates the opportunity to umpire in NSW Premier Cricket. We thank the following umpires for accepting appointment in 2019-20:

- Alan Bonney (Central North)
- Ken Brooks (Riverina)
- Dennis Chaplin (Riverina)
- Gary Crombie (Central North / Newcastle)
- John De Lyall (Western)
- Steve Eccles (Central North)
- Jeff Egan (Riverina)
- Barry Ferguson (Greater Illawarra)
- Ian Furner (Central North)
- Tony Hackett (Riverina)
- Murray Le Lievre (Riverina)
- Brenton Harrison (Riverina)
- Ross McKim (Newcastle)
- Glenn Pepper (Western)
- Phil Rainger (North Coast)
- Doug Sandry (Western)
- Peter Singh (Western)

- Neil Smith (Riverina)
- Andrew Still (Greater Illawarra)
- Matt Whitty (Riverina)

Sachin Solanki (Sydney Shires CUA) also umpired a match in NSW Premier Cricket, performing very well in the round 12 first grade match at Old Kings Oval between Parramatta and Randwick Petersham.

The umpires are commended for making themselves available. It takes them out of their comfort zone, they learn and benefit from the experience, they certainly add value to Premier Cricket when they umpire in the competition, and they are able to take any lessons learned back to their local district which will benefit cricket in that competition and their umpiring colleagues will profit from the shared experience.

We warmly thank the Sydney Cricket Association for supporting this program in 2019-20, it is crucial to the ongoing development of umpires in our affiliates, particularly in the NSW country zones. NSWCUA can be proud that it is a truly State-wide Association.

NSW Umpires in Cricket Australia National Finals

We are very proud of all NSWCUA members appointed to umpire national finals in 2019-20:

Gerard Abood

One Day Domestic Cup

Queensland v Western Australia
Allan Border Field (Brisbane)

BBL

Sydney Sixers v Melbourne Stars
SCG

Vince Calabro

U15 Male

Victoria Country v Queensland
Eastern Oval (Ballarat)



Graeme Glazebrook

**Australian Country Cricket Championships
(Men's)**

Victoria v Western Australia
Heritage Oval (Toowoomba)

Andrew Hamilton

U18 Female (T20)

ACT/NSW Country v Queensland
Blundstone Arena (Hobart)

U18 Female (One Day)

ACT/NSW Country v Queensland
UTAS Stadium (Launceston)

Roberto Howard

U17 Male

New South Wales Metro v Western
Australia
Ray Mitchell Oval (Mackay)

Kumar Jeyakkumar

**Australian Country Cricket Championships
(Women's)**

East Asia Pacific v South Australia
Harristown Park (Toowoomba)

Marc Nickl

National Premier T20

Adelaide University v Sydney
Karen Rolton Oval (Adelaide)

Kedar Oza

**National Indigenous Cricket
Championships (Men's)**

New South Wales v Queensland
Traeger Park (Alice Springs)

Troy Penman

WNCL

New South Wales v Western
Australia
North Sydney Oval

Claire Polosak

WBBL

Brisbane Heat v Adelaide Strikers
Allan Border Field (Brisbane)

Bede Sajowitz

National Premier T20

Adelaide University v Sydney
Karen Rolton Oval (Adelaide)

Neil Smith

**Australian Country Cricket Championships
(Women's)**

East Asia Pacific v South Australia
Harristown Park (Toowoomba)

Ben Treloar

WBBL

Brisbane Heat v Adelaide Strikers
Allan Border Field (Brisbane)

WNCL

New South Wales v Western Australia
North Sydney Oval

Tony Wilds

Women's T20 International Series

Australia v India
CitiPower Centre (Melbourne)

Paul Wilson

BBL

Sydney Sixers v Melbourne Stars
SCG

Congratulations to all our Cricket Australia
umpires, you represent yourselves and
NSWCUSA with distinction.



Graeme Glazebrook signals six at the Australian
Country Cricket Championships

NSW Premier Cricket Finals

Congratulations to the following umpires who were appointed to NSW Premier Cricket finals in season 2019-20:

- **AW Green Shield**
Eastern Suburbs v St George
Waverley Oval
Umpires: Kedar Oza & Rodney Porter
Premiers: Eastern Suburbs
- **Poidevin-Gray Shield**
North Sydney v Fairfield-Liverpool
North Sydney Oval
Umpires: Sharad Patel & Bede Sajowitz
Premiers: Fairfield-Liverpool
- **Kingsgrove Sports T20 Cup**
Sydney v Hawkesbury
Drummoyne Oval
Umpires: Troy Penman & Ben Treloar
Premiers: Sydney
- **First Grade Limited Overs Cup**
Sydney University v Randwick Petersham
Umpires: Roberto Howard & Tony Wilds
Premiers: Sydney University



Match officials and captains at the toss of the First Grade Limited Overs Cup Final

Match referees Graham Chudleigh (Kingsgrove Sports T20 Cup Final) and Tim Donahoo (First Grade Limited Overs Cup Final) are thanked and commended for their contribution.

Cricket NSW State Challenge Finals

Congratulations to the following umpires who were appointed to Cricket NSW State Challenge finals:

- **U13 Female**
Country Thunder v Metro Sixers
Pioneer Park (Wellington)
Umpires: Peter Done & Ian James
- **U13 Male**
Country Thunder South West v Metro Sixers South East
Lady Cutler 2 (Dubbo)
Umpires: Tony Hackett & Pat Holt
- **U14 Male**
Metro Thunder Outer West v Country Sixers Northern NSW
Lady Cutler 1 (Dubbo)
Umpires: Bruce Baxter & Graham Rose

Acknowledgement of NSWCUA Observers

The team of umpire observers working on behalf of members is acknowledged with a vote of thanks. Our observers do an excellent job providing thought-provoking, individual and detailed feedback aimed at assisting umpires to achieve their goals and to aid the improvement of umpiring standards across New South Wales. Assessment drives behaviour and helps raise the bar.

Thank you to:

SCA Observers

Laurie Borg, Graham Chudleigh, Errol Cranney, Bob Davis, Rupert Mathews and Graham Reed.

Country Cricket NSW Observers

Neil Findlay, Graeme Glazebrook, Keith Griffiths and Kim Norris.

Season Review

“Preparation is strategy. It involves thinking about your game before the game begins and working out what you are going to do to get the results you desire. We all want good outcomes, but through

effective and strategic preparation along with hard work, we set ourselves up for the outcomes we deserve. Be alert, but not alarmed. Being able to remain composed and knowing how to respond when an event occurs, by being there before, through practice or scenario-based planning, to already have some option to draw upon.”

Simon Taufel - *Finding the Gaps*.

With the premature end to the season the present provides opportunity to review your season via a thorough self-review process.

Here is a possible framework for umpires to use, bearing in mind that anything other than absolute honesty is a waste of your time:

- Positives – what went well?
- Improvement areas
- Key observations / incidents
- Key lessons learned (did any of these come from mistakes you made?)
- Were your 2019-20 (process focused) goals achieved? Did you do what you committed to do?
- Were your personal (non-umpiring) areas for development met, including those relating to your health and well-being?
- Personal responsibility: What can you do in the non-playing season to aid your own development and improve your skills and knowledge in preparation for season 2020-21? Specifically, how can you captain your own ship and what support do you need? What can you do differently or start doing?
- How did you feel about your working relationships with the various teams this season? Were they much the same or improved?

- What did you do to try and strengthen relationships with match day participants during the season?

“If you always do what you’ve always done, you’ll always get what you’ve always got.” - Henry Ford

“Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.” - Albert Einstein

Recommended Reading: Chapter 2 of *Finding the Gaps* by Simon Taufel - ‘The game begins before the game begins’.

[Cricket NSW Media Release](#)

Cricket NSW to restructure Cricket Performance 6 March 2020

Cricket NSW is restructuring its Cricket Performance department as the first step towards ensuring it remains at the cutting edge of producing high quality international cricketers and winning titles. The decision comes following a comprehensive and independent review of Cricket NSW’s high performance programs and activities.

Cricket NSW CEO Lee Germon said the purpose of the review was to determine the ideal high performance strategy, programs, investment and structures to deliver Cricket NSW’s ambition to be regarded as the world’s best cricket program.

Mr Germon outlined the objectives as:

- Winning titles – sustained success of our pathway and professional teams
- Developing and producing the best players, umpires, coaches and high performance practitioners in the world; and
- Running the best cricket and sports pathway in Australia

More than 70 people were involved in the review, which lasted six months.

The restructure of the Cricket Performance department includes:

- Creating a new head of department role (“Head of Cricket”) with oversight of strategy, cohesion and system wide focus. This role will go public on Friday with Odgers Berndtson leading the recruitment search.
- Creating two new roles to lead the Female and Male Performance areas respectively.
- Current General Manager of Cricket Performance, David Moore being appointed to a new role to lead the High Performance Coach & Player Development area in what is believed to be the first role of its kind in Australian State cricket.

“This is the ideal time to have a review,” Mr Germon said. “We are operating from a position of strength.

“At Cricket NSW we consistently produce about half the players in the Men’s and Women’s National Teams and have an unparalleled level of success at domestic level in Women and Men’s cricket.

“This season the NSW Breakers, with six teenagers, played in a 24th consecutive Women’s National Cricket League Final, the Blues will play in a second successive Marsh Sheffield Shield Final and are on track to host it, and the Sydney Sixers and Thunder finished first and third respectively in the Big Bash League.

“Cricket NSW also continues to dominate underaged championships and produce some of the country’s finest umpires.

“On behalf of Cricket NSW I would like to thank David Moore for the excellent job he has done as GM of Cricket performance to ensure NSW maintained its preminent

position in Australian cricket.

“As a coach with international experience we look forward to David driving the area of high performance coach and player development with his great passion, experience and expertise.”

Thoughts

Many things, like emotions, are temporary, and as we deal with profound change, and our expectations adjust. That’s how we manage big changes. We are more than just the emotion that rides over us today – we’re the product of years of work from ourselves, parents, mentors. We’re built to survive the short-term.

Do not get your daily mood from the front page of the newspaper. The media has a job to do, but if you binge on media at this time you will only find it counter-productive to the need to maintain balance and a good outlook on life. - Jeremy Hook

Seek opportunities to show you care. The smallest gestures often make the biggest difference. - John Wooden

Now is the chance to show our friends and colleagues we care by way of a simple phone call or message just to check in. Many will appreciate the communication.

My thoughts and best wishes are with our membership. For now, stay strong and disciplined, follow the health advice seriously, focus on the controllables and the opportunities, get some daily exercise if you can, and take the best possible care of yourselves and those closest to you.

Sincere thanks to all members for your support of the Association and for what you do in serving cricket.

Darren Goodger



Education Officer Update

Ben Treloar

Captains' Reports

Captains' marks and comments have been provided to 74 umpires throughout the 2019-20 NSW Premier Cricket season. These are a valuable feedback tool which can provide an umpire with an insight to areas of strength and also those where improvement may be required. They come in the form of a PDF incorporating a numerical umpire rating tool as well as captains' comments when provided.

Observer Reports

The NSWCUA observing team continue to provide a valuable service to our members. During the 2019-20 season they have attended NSW Premier Cricket matches, undertaking 260 observations on 160 umpires. The great benefit of these observations is that they provide accurate, objective and most importantly, timely feedback to the match official. The majority of reports are then provided to umpires before they next step out onto the field of play for their next appointment allowing them to plan match goals. These reports provide targeted 'real-time' individual feedback to umpires to assist with identifying and planning their continual development goals throughout the season.

Umpire Training Course

An Umpire Training Course was held at Bankstown Sports Club during the month of February. The course took place over five nights, each session running from 6:30 – 9:30pm and taking a close look at the Laws of Cricket. The course was attended by 62 participants, with 56 of those new to umpiring.

Those in attendance were treated to the teachings of our experienced trainers, all of whom generously gave their time to help educate and decipher the little blue book. The trainers for the course were:

- Session 1
Roberto Howard and Troy Penman
- Session 2
Laurie Borg and Geoff Garland
- Session 3
Sharad Patel and Ben Treloar
- Session 4
Berend du Plessis and Ben Treloar
- Session 5
James Figallo and Ben Treloar

The assessment task was held 25 February at Bankstown Sports Club with 54 in participants in attendance. For those who passed the examination have been invited to join the Association and we look forward to welcoming some new members over the coming months. Thank you to Kevin Battishill and Sathish Kumar from the Exam Committee who supervised the assessment under exam conditions. It is greatly appreciated.

Laws of Cricket Questions

Since the last edition of *In Black and White*, the Association has seen the distribution of monthly law questions in both February and March. The questions are circulated on the Thursday following NSWCUA's monthly OGM, with the answers to follow a week later. They are provided to members as a resource for learning and are aimed at strengthening the Association's theoretical application of the Laws of Cricket. They have been well received by



members and affiliates of NSWCUA with many individuals providing positive feedback and, subsequently, follow-up questions in regard to the application of different scenarios.

Assisting members with technical questions

It has been a couple of busy months with members emailing through scenarios which have occurred during their respective matches. By sending these in, members have their questions answered. The scenarios relate to both law and playing condition interpretation and application. By sharing their experience, members are provided with assistance and

clarity. To those who send in questions, please keep sending them in as they are providing further learning opportunities to all members when we can include them in our OGM learning and development sessions. Some of the scenarios provided make the monthly Laws of Cricket questions. I encourage all members, should something unusual or different occur or maybe you have not witnessed for a while occurs during your match to please share them with me at Ben.Treloar@cricketnsw.com.au so that all members can benefit from the experience.



Scorer members Sue Woodhouse and Geoff Rogers during the NSW Premier Cricket match between Blacktown Mounties and Manly-Warringah

Paul Wilson wins CA Umpire of the Year Award

Cate Ryan

Cricket Australia

Following a stellar season, including a Test Match debut and appointment to the ICC Cricket World Cup, Paul Wilson wins the 2019-20 Cricket Australia (CA) Umpire Award for a third consecutive year.

Awarded annually, the CA Umpire Award is presented to an ICC Elite Panel or National Panel Umpire adjudged all-round most outstanding, with consideration not only to an umpire's on-field performance but also their contribution to elite umpiring in Australia by way of significant achievement or off-field work.

Wilson joined the Cricket Australia National Umpire Panel in 2010-11 and at the close of the 2019-20 Australian cricket summer season has stood in a total of:

- 2 Test Matches
(additional 2 Third Umpire Appointments)
- 30 One-Day Internationals
(additional 12 Third Umpire appointments)
- 16 T20 Internationals
(additional 7 Third Umpire appointments)
- 59 First Class Matches
(43 Sheffield Shield games)

Following his elevation to the ICC Emerging Panel of Umpires in May 2018, Wilson has stood in matches across Bangladesh, India, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, United Kingdom and the West Indies alongside his Australian domestic cricket commitments.

Wilson was appointed to the ICC Cricket World Cup in the United Kingdom throughout June/July 2019. A part of the 16-person panel, he stood in five matches and was appointed to three further matches as

Third Umpire across Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Leeds, Southampton and Taunton.

Within a couple of weeks of finishing his World Cup duties, Wilson returned to England and made his Test Third Umpire debut at Lord's. His appointment was part of the one-off Test Match between England and Ireland.

Wilson made his most significant step on his umpiring pathway in September 2019 when he made his Men's Test Match debut in the fixture between Bangladesh and Afghanistan in Chittagong. His second Test Match appointment came in late November, where he officiated in the New Zealand versus England fixture in Hamilton. As part of the same series, Wilson was also Third Umpire for the game in Maunganui.

In February 2020, Wilson travelled to Sri Lanka and officiated in the three-match One-Day International Series. There he was on-field for two matches, and the remaining in the Third Umpire box. Wilson added one further One-Day International to his tally, standing in the match between Australia and New Zealand at the SCG which turned out to be the last match of the season.

Earlier in the 2019-20 season, Wilson stood in the two T20 International Series against visitors Sri Lanka and Pakistan across Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney and Perth.



In domestic cricket, Wilson officiated in two Marsh One-Day Cup fixtures in Sydney and one Marsh Sheffield Shield match in Perth. In the shortest format he was appointed to 12 KFC BBL|09 matches, which included the rain-affected Final between the Sydney Sixers and Melbourne Stars at the SCG.

Off-field, Wilson continues to serve on the member-appointed Umpire Leadership Group (ULG), charged with being the conduits between the umpiring group and Cricket Australia.

The award, selected by the Cricket Australia Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, is based on consideration of the following criteria:

- On-field performance
- Demonstrated a high level of professionalism in their conduct throughout the year, both on and off field
- Significant development and improvement in performance on-field
- Significant achievement in umpiring throughout the year

- Contribution to the Australian umpiring community through off-field activities
- Contribution to the Australian cricket community in general
- Sets an example of what it is to be a cricket umpire to the rest of the cricket and umpiring community

Previous winners

Paul Wilson	2018-19
Paul Wilson	2017-18
Simon Fry	2016-17
Simon Fry	2015-16
Simon Fry	2014-15
Simon Fry	2013-14
Bruce Oxenford	2012-13
Simon Taufel	2011-12
Bruce Oxenford	2010-11
Steve Davis	2009-10
Paul Reiffel	2008-09
Bruce Oxenford	2007-08
Daryl Harper	2006-07
Simon Taufel	2005-06
Peter Parker	2004-05
Simon Taufel	2003-04



Paul Wilson in action at the 2019 Men's World Cup

Baggy Blues Tour Makes an Impact in Cootamundra

Pat Kerin

On Wednesday 11 March and Thursday 12 March 2020, Cootamundra hosted a Baggy Blues Cricket tour, which encompassed a dinner, a breakfast, a coaching clinic, and a T20 match.

The action-packed two days commenced on Wednesday evening with a dinner at the Cootamundra Ex-Services Club.

Following the dinner, former Test cricketer Gavin Robertson hosted a Q&A session with the cricketers. Robertson, who played with a number of the former Blues, provided good entertainment for the audience of 100 patrons.

The former Baggy Blues that were interviewed were Steve Rixon, Mark O'Neill, Richard Chee Quee, Trevor Bayliss, Rick McCosker, Steve Small, Phil Marks and former Stockinbingal cricketer, Graham Smith.

Robertson continued to show his expertise by interviewing the current Baggy Blues on the tour being: Nick Bertus, Ben Dwarshuis, Chris Green, Baxter Holt, Ben Manenti and Ajurn Nair.



Former and current Baggy Blues enjoy the dinner

Richard Chee Quee mentioned that he became the first Sheffield Shield cricketer to get out twice in a session when NSW

were thrashed by Western Australia in under three days at the WACA in 1993-94.

Rick McCosker talked about having his jaw broken in the Centenary Test against England at the Melbourne Cricket Ground in 1977. A bouncer from Bob Willis broke his jaw, with the ball then falling on the stumps. McCosker, after spending two days in hospital, returned to the Australian side with his jaw wired up and his face bandaged up.

McCosker batted at number 10 in the second innings and he and Rod Marsh put on a valuable 53 runs for the ninth wicket. With his bandaged face, he made an important 25 as Australia went on to win the match by 45 runs, the same margin as 1877.

On Thursday morning, 72 guests attended the Rural Adversity Mental Health Program (RAMHP) breakfast held at the Ex-Services Club.

Baggy Blues tour organiser Phil Marks, in his opening address, noted that every day in Australia, eight people commit suicide. RAMHP co-ordinator Faith Rogers presented on the specifics of the program for all in attendance.

In the last part of the breakfast, Gavin Robertson spoke about being selected for NSW and Australia, only to be dropped from both sides. In those days with no contracts, he found himself going to Centrelink queuing up each day looking for a job.

On Thursday afternoon, renowned cricket coach from Wagga Wagga, Warren Smith, and the touring Baggy Blues put about 50 children through their paces at a coaching clinic before the exhibition match; which was enjoyed by all.

The two Cootamundra sides, named the Murdoch XI and Bradman XI, were selected by Dean Bradley and David Garness with captains Chris Green and Nick Bertus.

The names honoured Bill Murdoch who lived in Cootamundra and played cricket at Albert Park in the 1880s and was the second Australian Test captain. Don Bradman was born in Cootamundra in 1908 and was our 21st Australian captain. Each team contained six senior cricketers, two U16 cricketers and three state players. Two U16 cricketers were also the 12th man. In all, 18 Cootamundra cricketers participated in this match.

Once the coaching class finished, Cootamundra's State MP Steph Cooke tossed the coin. Chris Green, captain of the Bradman XI, won the toss and batted.

The Bradman XI compiled a healthy score of 5/151. Ben Dwarshuis entertained the crowd with some big hitting. The strongly built all-rounder made 41 from 24 balls.



Umpire Jeff White and Bradman XI quick David Garness

The Murdoch XI innings saw some big hitting by Ben Manenti. The Sydney Sixers all-rounder blasted 57 runs, a knock that included five sixes.

Cootamundra local Nathan Corby made a breezy 25 as the Murdoch XI finished 19 runs short with 7/132.

The highest partnership of the match came from Ben Manenti and Nathan Corby, the pair adding 72 runs for the fifth wicket from just 42 balls.

The six local U16 cricketers were thrilled to play in this match, with the stand-out player being 14-year-old quick Jed Guthrie who captured 2/5 from three overs.

The match was played in fine and mild conditions, commencing at 6.10pm and with the 10-minute change over, finished at 8.50pm.

It was a highly entertaining match with 283 runs scored from the 40 overs with 13 sixes and 15 fours being struck.

The success of the Baggy Blues tour was due to a number of people who put up their hand to help.

In particular, I wish to thank a number of Committee members who have worked very hard since the committee was formed.

Peter Louttit worked in overdrive on a number of areas, especially during the final week. Other committee members were also very helpful, namely Todd Basham, Dean Guthrie and Kathryn Webb.

To Julie Bradley and Megan Sawyer for their expertise in decorating the auditorium. On entry, the red carpet with two sets of cricket stumps set the tone for a wonderful night.

Well done to our scorers Craig McTavish and Dean Guthrie and thanks to our umpires Jeff Egan and Jeff White. Both umpires got a real buzz out of the match.

We thank Kelly Meddings from Cricket Murrumbidgee for her input.

To the selectors Dean Bradley and David Garness who organised the two teams, the Bradman XI and the Murdoch XI, well done.

To the outdoor staff of the Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council who worked tirelessly in presenting Fisher Park in such pristine condition, I thank you. The 80ml of rain in the week prior to the match was perfect timing and we saw the new lights used for only the second time.

Thank you, Brooklyn Thompson and Craig McTavish at Hunt and McTavish, Cootamundra's leading accountants, for handling the bookings for the dinner. Well done on an outstanding job.

Finally, a big thank you to Stephen Howse the president of the Cootamundra Rugby League Football Club, for his help and

cooperation in conducting this match at Fisher Park.

Since the Baggy Blues visit to Cootamundra, I have run into a number of people who have all made positive comments about the dinner, the breakfast, the coaching clinic and the match.

Comments have come from spectators, adults who played in the match and the juniors who played in the match. A couple of the juniors have not stopped talking about the match, noting how welcoming and encouraging the Baggy Blues players were.

Thank you, Phil Marks for bringing the Baggy Blues tour to Cootamundra. This tour to Cootamundra was the Baggy Blues fourth and last tour for the season. The other three tours were to Inverell, Tamworth and Kempsey.

To ensure the legacy of the tour remains, Cootamundra cricketers need to ensure that our RAMHP coordinators are given the opportunity to train some of your cricket club members in mental health awareness by way of workshops.



Cricketers, children from the coaching clinic, volunteers and umpires after the match under the new Fisher Park lights

Arthur Watson: An Umpire and a Gentleman

Cricket Sydney | Today's Tale

Arthur Watson is one of life and cricket's great gentlemen.

He was a wicket keeper in his youth and for over 50 years he has been an umpire. It didn't matter if it was park cricket, kids cricket, Grade cricket, first-class cricket or a One Day International, Arthur enjoyed them all.

Let's find out a little more about the man who's become affectionately known as "Fossil".

Welcome Arthur.

What year were you born?

I was born in God's Country – Country Inverell NSW in 1940.

Where did you go the high school?

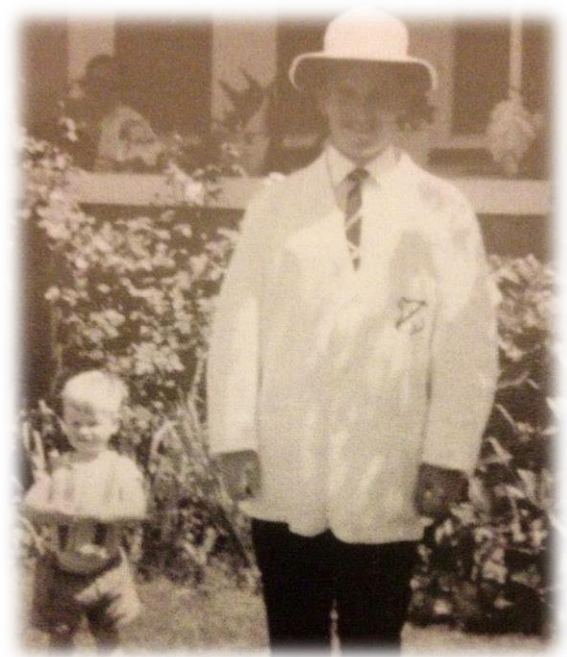
I had two years at Inverell High School and when my parents moved to Sydney in 1954. I finished my Leaving Certificate at Granville Boys High School.

Do you remember your first ever game of cricket?

My first game of cricket was at the school oval at Inverell Primary School as a nine-year old. I believe we won the match defeating one of our neighbouring schools. I remember hitting a huge six. Sometime, years later, on a return trip to Inverell I decided to visit my old school and relive my first ever six. I was horrified when I realised the boundary was only a little more than twenty yards from the concrete pitch.

At what age did you start umpiring?

I played park cricket at Guildford in the local Fairfield-Liverpool area until I changed my bat for a hat when I was about 28. During my playing days, Fairfield-Liverpool in the 1950s and 60s, was part of NSW Country Cricket. I was lucky to represent as a wicket keeper (and a very low order batsman) at Combined Western NSW level.



Arthur's first game with his 2-year-old son Graham

What was the attraction to become an umpire?

Not so much as an attraction to umpiring but a distraction of several breaking fingers that wouldn't stop breaking.

Can you remember your first game as an umpire in Sydney Grade Cricket?

Following umpiring some local district representative matches I, out of the blue,

was chosen as the country umpire in the annual Metropolitan v Country Match at the Sydney Cricket Ground. This was February 1970. My fellow umpire was Sydney based Paul Berridge who was a former Sheffield Shield umpire. Paul recommended I should come to umpire Grade cricket. This I did at the commencement of the 1970-71 season. Many of the Country players from that match came to Sydney the following season and had distinguished first grade careers among those - Steve Bernard, Barry Thebridge, Ro Shelton Tony Carroll and Bob Oakley. Metropolitan had a strong team including Ron Crippen, John Rogers, Peter Leslie and David Hourn. "Cracker" went through my country cousins and picked up a bag full of wickets.

At 29 my debut to Grade cricket was a fourth grade match at Woollahra Oval – Waverley v Balmain. My fellow umpire was Paul Hyman. Paul was the proprietor of a sex-shop at Kings Cross. Later that season I officiated with the Reverend Wallace Kirby, so we had a good mix in those days.

How long did it take to progress through to first grade?

My first grade debut match was in January 1972. St. George defeated Sutherland at Caringbah Oval (now Glenn McGrath Oval). I was fortunate to have as my fellow umpire Reg Ledwidge who was returning from first-class duties. The St. George team included Warren Saunders, Bill Watson, Brian Booth, John Rogers John Martin (not a bad line up).

Sutherland had a fair line-up as well including Bob Wade, Graham Warry, Bob Duff, Bob Bain (the older brother of Peter and John – better known as Schooners and Middies. Bob, of course, was Kegs). This was a great introduction to first grade

but back to second grade for the rest of the season. I was lucky enough to move permanently to the first grade panel the following season, 1972-73, where I spent the next thirty years.



Arthur's 750th Premier Cricket match with 54-year-old son Graham

Who were the umpires you admired most when you started as an umpire?

Ted Wykes was my early mentor and I got to do a handful of games with Ted before he retired. **Tom Brooks** was inspirational and I learnt a lot from him. I always enjoyed umpiring with **Dick French** and **Alan Marshall**.

Alan, Dick and I all joined the Umpires' Association in the same season and became great mates.

When did you make your debut as an umpire in State Cricket? How excited were you and what do you remember most about the experience?

My State debut was in November 1979, NSW v Victoria. I had officiated in a State Colts game the previous season. In the Colts game, Hilditch, Border, Perry, Bennett, Phillips were all babies, but good ones at that. A call came from John Wood from NSW Cricket Association about a week before the Victorian match, "What

are you doing during the week commencing November 3?”. At first, I thought it might have been a minor mid-week game. When told I had been chosen to do the Shield match I was surprised at first, elated of course. I had to do some re-organisation with my accounting clients, but it did not take too long to get back to John with a “Yes, I am OK”. In the game, NSW scored 272 in its first innings with Doug Walters top score with 83. Victoria responded heavily in its first innings with high 400s. NSW played out for a tame old draw. Day 4 coincided with the Melbourne Cup, so a drinks break was strategically timed.

You made your international debut as an umpire in a one day game between West Indies and England in November 1979. That must have been an incredibly exciting time. Clive Lloyd as captain of the Windies, Joel Garner, Holding, Botham. What’s it like walking to the SCG as an international umpire for the first time – can you describe the experience, the emotions?

That was a night full of excitement – everything happened that night. Throw in Greenidge, Haynes, Croft, Roberts, Randell, Gower, Brearley, Willey, Willis, Underwood into the mix of names you mentioned. My colleague was Mick Harvey from Queensland. England scored 211 from its 50 overs. During the West Indies innings, there was a rain delay which reduced England’s total to 199 and West Indies to 47 overs. No DLS in those days. Conditions were not ideal and the match went down to West Indies needing 3 runs to win off the last ball with Colin Croft (the number 11 batsman) on strike with Botham bowling the last ball of the match. Brearley was re-setting his field when keeper Bairstow suggested to him to put everyone on the boundary fence, including the keeper. No inner circles, no field restrictions, no law restricting where

the keeper can field – all these law changes and playing conditions came later. The result – Botham bowled Croft, with the ball just clipping the leg stump resulting in a win to England. You asked if it was exciting – sure was.

What was your most memorable moment as a cricket umpire?

Every match brings with it something memorable. It is exciting to do a final, but equally exciting to see a 10-year-old lad get a wicket. So many exciting moments have happened over my period of being out in the middle. As an Ambassador and frequent umpire for NSW Blind Cricketers, if you want some memorable moments, spend a day with these guys.



Arthur with NSW Blind cricketer Shaun Fitzpatrick

Most favourite ground in Sydney to umpire?

I have four, including of course the **SCG**. **Rosedale Oval** has a special place in my heart.

Don Dawson, not the best oval, but one of my favourites, as that is where I did my first match as a badged umpire in 1967. **Springfield Park**, located across the road from where I live. I see it every day.

What's the most intriguing ground you've umpired?

I have umpired at half a dozen or so grounds in New Zealand and Village Greens in England where there are trees inside the boundaries. Always intriguing to umpire. It was always intriguing to umpire at Benson's Lane to watch the fielders climbing through the fence not knowing, at first, the fence was electrified.

Who were the three batsman you admired most as an umpire in Premier Cricket?

I always enjoyed umpiring **Doug Walters**. There was always something happening when Doug was involved – either batting, bowling or fielding. His shot I liked best was when he came to attention and majestically played the ball through mid-on. I always admired **Brian Booth**. He was such a gentleman and made the game such a pleasure to umpire. Brian never sledged anyone and, quite frankly, every player respected Brian. I did not see anyone ever sledge him. **Rod Bower** was always a pleasure to umpire. He hit the ball so hard and so often. I saw many runs from Rod's bat. I wonder how far the ball might have gone if Rod was to use one of today's bats.

Who were the three bowlers you admired most as an umpire in Premier Cricket?

I guess my three are all spinners, **Greg Matthews**. I had lots of tussles with Greg. He always wanted more than the umpire was prepared to give. He was accurate and kept you on your toes all the time – loved him to bits.

Tom Shiner. A great leggie in the late 80s into the 90s who believed every time the ball hit the pad the batsman was out – a trait of all bowlers I guess, but no better than Tom. Had a good variety bag in any spell he bowled. I am surprised he never won a baggy blue. Maybe his batting let him down.

Third goes to **Bob Aitken** – father of the current Robbie Aitken. I've umpired both and believed Dad was the better. Bob was aggressive, competitive, always in trouble with someone, somewhere. Spun the ball a mile, had the knack of getting the umpire to say "yes", when maybe "no" was the correct answer, yours truly included. He had an excellent arm ball and flipper. One of Sydney's top spinners

Who were the three players you admired most over the years for their competitive spirit and the way they played the game?

John Benaud – an excellent Captain and great team player, a tactician, knew the game better than most. Definitely the best captain I umpired.

Ken Hall (the Emu Ken Hall) – Should have had a baggy blue. When a medium pacer, NSW had plenty – became a top-class spinner when NSW was flooded with those. He was an excellent allrounder with hands the size of buckets. Do not miss any in slips. Another who was a delight to umpire.

Brad McNamara – Heaps of talent, heaps of aggression, gave the umpire heaps of challenges. Also an umpire's delight. Can I throw in a fourth, **David Kelley** – one of the best readers of the game. He thought about the game like a chess player and always appeared to be one or two plays ahead of the game. And a fifth I always thought highly of was **Greg Hartshorne**. There were many others.

We can only assume there were quite a few characters in the game you had to keep an eye on in the field. Is there a particular moment or story you'd like to share about one of the characters?

Lots of those. The page is not long enough to list these. **Brian Riley** was tops.

Is there any particular game you've umpired that stands out above all others?

Sydney University v Cumberland at Sydney Uni. Cumberland scored 4 dec 364 (Doug Walters 142). J. Benaud clouted a big six over the grandstand. Uni got there in the end with 8 for 366. Memorable because both teams were happy to play on in the dark to get a result. To add interest, a light sprinkle had started. The car lights were shining brightly on Parramatta Road. The batting hero for Uni was Mick O'Sullivan who was not renowned for his batting, but he was certainly a champion this day.

Who's been the biggest influence in your involvement in cricket?

My two favourite girls – firstly my **Mum** who was a great back-stop when I first went to Grade with a young family. Secondly, my wife, **Ann** has always supported my interest in and love of cricket. Without her support, such many hours at cricket would not have been possible.

Who was the funniest umpire you've had the pleasure to umpire with?

Definitely **John D Purser**, better known as 'Catfish', was Johnny O'Keefe's drummer in the real world, but a ton of fun in the middle.

Who is your favourite all-time cricketer growing up?

As a wicket keeper I always admired **Wally Grout**.

What do you enjoy most about umpiring?

Wow!! What a question. Why have I umpired for fifty years? I enjoy the challenges, the camaraderie, mixing with people with like interests. Today I enjoy giving back to the game the enjoyment which has given me so much pleasure and a mountain of life-long friends. I enjoy umpiring the kids. I enjoy umpiring with

our new recruit umpires. It has all been great fun.

Who would you consider the top two umpires in the game today?

Simon Taufel if he was still umpiring, but as he is not, I choose Richard Kettleborough and Marais Erasmus.

If you're in the middle seat of the middle row of Qantas QF1 to London which two umpires from any level would you choose to on your left and right?

On my left Ted Wykes. On my right David Shepherd.

Did you have any superstitions?

Not so much a superstition, but I have always preferred to say to my partner as we walk onto the field, not the traditional "good luck", but "good concentration".

Technology – good or bad for cricket from an umpire's perspective?

All this technology stuff was not invented when I was on the representative scene. Now we have it, I support its use. When it is all said and done it usually shows how accurate our umpires are, except of course, for the odd howlers.

What piece of technology is most valuable to an umpire and why?

I am looking forward to the third umpire taking charge of the front foot No ball. I always found this one of the hardest calls to make – worn crease markings, bowler's back leg obscuring front foot etc.

What's the best advice you ever received?

George Borwick always said, "Know the 42 Laws – then apply Law 43 Common Sense." The advice I give to my new chums that I work with today is, "Go out there, relax and enjoy yourself."



Do you like the modern game and what can the game do to make it better for umpires?

I am comfortable with all forms of the game. They all have a place to play.

What advice would you offer a young 20-year-old who has the ambition of umpiring Test Cricket?

At 20 I would like them to still to be playing to get a better feel of the game - nothing like a playing background for an umpire to have in their kit. But if they are set on an umpiring career I would be suggesting a coachable work ethic, a learn from every game approach, gain as much information as you can from the oldies - they have been there and done that. I would be telling them to forget their mistakes - these are going to happen, forget them. But above all I would be

telling them to enjoy the ride - after all, it is the best seat in the house.

What are your hobbies?

Outside cricket, enjoying my family. I now have a great grand-daughter to keep me occupied. I do a fair bit of community work.

Are there any lessons from your time in cricket that you take into work or life in general?

I have been long retired from the workforce, but I do endeavour to treat all cricketers on and off the field and all people alike with respect. In return, I think that this respect has been returned to me twofold. Treat others as you would wish them to treat you.



Arthur at one of his favourite grounds in Sydney; Rosedale Oval

David Gilbert Makes First Class Debut as Match Referee

David Gavin

Cricket NSW Media

Four decades in cricket came full circle for David Gilbert when he debuted as a First Class Match Referee in the recent Sheffield Shield match at Bankstown Oval.

The former Cricket NSW Chief Executive, Australian and New South Wales pace bowler oversaw his first Sheffield Shield and First Class fixture as a Match Referee between New South Wales and South Australia, rounding off the journey at a ground where he occasionally played as a budding young right-arm quick.

“I was working it out the other day, I’ve been continuously involved in club and First Class cricket for the last 40 years. I made my Sydney First Grade debut back in 1980 (for the previous Sydney club) and here in 2020 match refereeing a Shield game,” said Gilbert.

“I just love the game.”

The appointment came less than two years after Gilbert was selected on the Cricket Australia Supplementary Referee Panel alongside former Australian and South African Test batsman Kepler Wessels.

During his two years on that Panel, Gilbert has overseen nine Women’s Big Bash League matches, four Women’s National Cricket League matches including last Sunday’s Final, this season’s Women’s Governor’s General XI match against India in addition to several other male and female tour matches for visiting nations.

He has also been Match Referee for numerous men’s Toyota Second XI matches between the states.

Gilbert, 59, who played nine Tests for Australia and 14 One-Day Internationals for Australia during the mid-1980s, said it is a huge honour and thrill to make his First Class debut as a Match Referee.

“I’ve really enjoyed working with the umpires for the last two years. It’s been a great thrill to get to know them and the game is very, very lucky to have people with that dedication, trying to be the best that they can be, because no umpires, no game,” said Gilbert.

“(When) the umpires come off the field, for them to be able to sit down with the match ref, and debrief the game, have that independent person that’s been able to sit there and watch their performance and give them an as honest appraisal as possible, that’s very important for an umpire’s development.”

Gilbert claimed 113 wickets in 43 First Class matches for the Blues between 1983 and 1988 before moving to Tasmania and captaining that state. He finished his career with 354 First Class wickets including for English County Gloucestershire.

He was also 12th man in the Tied Test of 1986 against India in Chennai. Gilbert retired from First Class cricket in 1992 due to a back injury.



Gilbert served as Cricket NSW CEO for 11 years between 2001 and 2013. Prior to that, he spent four years with English County Sussex, in an administrative capacity, including two as Chief Executive.

Between 1992 and 1996, Gilbert was the inaugural coach of the Queensland Academy of Sport, and their cricket program, a period during which that state won their first ever Shield title.

He was also President of the Western Suburbs Cricket Club from 2014 to 2018. Gilbert was named in their Team of the Millennium in 2006.

In 2014, Gilbert was also made a Life Member of Cricket NSW. He has been an Honorary NSWCUA Member since 2013.

“I just feel that all those experiences that you glean as a player and as an administrator, they’re always going to be

very, very helpful ... because umpires are just as dedicated and just as ambitious and just as committed as players. They want to be the best they can be,” said Gilbert.

He said that the role of match referee was always a part of the game that has really interested him.

“Although, I have done my umpiring course, and I’m a level 2 accredited umpire, I’ve never wanted to umpire in the middle.

“I enjoyed doing the course because it’s a huge assistance being a match referee (and) I just felt it was a nice way to stay involved in the game and to be able to impart my experience as a player, a coach and an administrator over 40 years.

“It’s been a nice extension of my love of the game.”



Simon Fry, Cricket NSW CEO Lee Germon, David Gilbert and Shawn Craig ahead of the NSW v SA fixture

Around the Zones – Finals Appointments

Neil Findlay

Unfortunately, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was not possible for end-of-season finals to be played in the Affiliated Associations. However, a number of Affiliates had already appointed umpires to the Finals before they were abandoned.

Accordingly, those appointments are listed below in recognition of the umpires who would have officiated in the finals had they have been played. Also listed below are the umpire appointments for some finals that were played earlier in the season.

Camden

(Abandoned)

- **1st Grade**
Camden v. Ingleburn
Peter Murray and Mark Kraljevic
- **2nd Grade**
Collegians v. Campbelltown RSL
Rob Pinney and Ian Fisher
- **3rd Grade**
Cobbitty Park v. Oran Park
Barry Thebridge and David Stewart
- **4th Grade**
Camden v. Westerners
John Hows and John Rees
- **5th Grade**
Camden v TBA
Peter Woodyatt and Brian Muir
- **6th Grade**
Cobbitty Park v. Oran Park
Tim Hand and Derek Dowle
- **7th Grade**
Ingleburn v. Magpies
Kevin Browning and Steve Boyd
- **8th Grade**
Bradberry v. Magpies
Cyrus Chowna and Ray Garnsey.

- **9th Grade**
CNCC Blue v. CNCC Yellow
Chad Smith and Ray Mosley.
- **One Day Comp**
The Oaks Burragorang v. Oran Park
Alan Bell and Erica Looyen.

Church Cricket

(Abandoned)

- **A Grade**
P. Smart and M. Siva.
- **B Grade**
D. Finlay and P. Chambers.
- **C Grade**
G. Parsons and W. Glacken.

Coffs Harbour

(Abandoned)

- **1st Grade**
Sawtell v. Coffs Diggers
Ted Bailey and Garry Campbell.
- **2nd Grade**
Sawtell White v. Sawtell Gold
Bruce Alp and Graham Doust.
- **3rd Grade**
Bellingen v. Sawtell
Kevin Walker.

Dubbo

- **1st Grade (One Day)**
Macquarie v. CYMS Cougars
John De Lyall and Phillip Leonard.
 - **Megahit (T20)**
Macquarie v. Newtown
Phillip Leonard and Keith Morton.
- #### (Abandoned)
- **Kelly Cup**
Newtown Demons v. Rugby
John De Lyall and Peter Singh.



- **Pinnington Cup**
Dubbo Rugby v. South Dubbo
Colin Harper and Mark Munro.
- **Whitney Cup**
CYMS Cougars v. RSL Colts
Nathan Astri and Angus Ridge.

Fairfield-Liverpool

(Abandoned)

Umpire panel had been selected but not allocated to matches-

Dave Brown, Anthony Ferraro, Brad Hutchins, Michael Kelleher, Yahya Khan, Brodie Kilroy, Peter Moore, Peter Roberts, Jim Sheedy and Arthur Watson.

Gilgandra

- *Biddon-Tooraweenah v. Marthaguy*
Doug Sandry.

Hornsby Ku-ring-gai and Hills District

(Abandoned)

- **A Grade**
Geoff Hasler and Jason Fletcher.
- **A2 Grade**
Simon Moore and Steve Hill.
- **B Grade**
Ian Lewis and Damien Lewis.
- **B2 Grade**
Craig Easy and Steve Redman.
- **C Grade**
Leonard Gregory and Bruce Wood.
- **C2 Grade**
Scott Reid and Raja Mohan.
- **C3 Grade**
Peter Lee and Sue Gregory.
- **D Grade**
Peter Schouten and Alf James.
- **D2 Grade**
Barry McDonald and Ayush Gupta.

Illawarra

(Abandoned)

- **1st Grade**
Northern Districts v. University
Jeff Charlesworth and Dave Cullen.

- **2nd Grade**
Keira v. University
Brian Druery and Barry Ferguson.
- **3rd Grade**
Wollongong White v. University Grey
Frank Ciocchi and Steve Saye.
- **4th Grade**
Keira Red v. Wollongong Black
Evan Lane and Brian Whitehouse.

Inner West Harbour

(Abandoned)

- **B Grade**
Ron White and Keith Shannon.
- **C Grade**
Paul Chambers and Steve Winstanley.

Lachlan Cricket Council

- **Premier League**
Glenn Pepper and Mark Ryan.

Lismore

(Abandoned)

- **1st Grade**
Goonnellabah Workers Sports v. Marist Brothers Lismore
Raymond Fraser and Stephen Czisz.
- **2nd Grade**
Marist Brothers Lismore v. Goonnellabah Workers Sports
Cecil Keep and John Rose.
- **3rd Grade**
Marist Brothers Blue v. Evans Head
Keith Bridge and Ian McLennan.
- **4th Grade**
Goonnellabah Workers Sports v. Marist Brothers Lismore
Trevor Ball.
- **T20**
Lismore Workers v. Northern Districts
Stephen Czisz and Wayne Garrad.

Lower Clarence

(Abandoned)

- **1st Grade**
MacLean United v. Iluka
Steve Cameron and Bill McCarron.



Macquarie Valley

- **Brewery Shield**
Dubbo v. Narromine
Colin Harper and Mark Munro.



Bill McCarron (Lower Clarence) and Colin Harper
(Macquarie Valley) in Dubbo

Mitchell Cricket Council

- **T20 Cup**
Bathurst v. Orange
Greg Jones and Matt Chirgwin.

Murray Border

- **District A**
Kiewa v. Yackandandah
Anthony Holmes and Brendon Wood.
- **District B**
Corowa v. Howlong
Stuart Lancaster and Nick Moore.
- **C Grade Division 1**
Lavington Teal v. St Patricks White
Bob Allan and Russell Murray.
- **C Grade Division 2**
Tallangatta v. Barnawartha / Chiltern
Tony Wood and S. McDonald.
- **C Grade Division 3**
Howlong v. Dederang
Wayne Cook and Rex Forrest.
- **Hume A**
Rand v. Walla Walla
John Boyd and Glen Stevenson.

(Abandoned)

- **Provincial A**
Wodonga v. North Albury
Ken Brooks and Neil Smith.
- **Provincial B**
St Patricks v. Lavington
Norm Maclure and Raj Kapoor

Newcastle

- **1st Grade (One Day)**
Gary Crombie and Ross McKim.
- **2nd Grade (One Day)**
Glen Benton and Graeme Bruce.
- **1st Grade (T20)**
Gary Crombie and Ross McKim.
- **Lower Grades (T20)**
Terry Collins and Stephen Wade.
- **Masters (T20)**
Glenn Benton and Geoff Scully.
- **Women (T20)**
John Canning and Bruce Muddle.
- **U21 (T20)**
Paul Olsen and Scott Thomas.

Northern Coast Cricket Council

(Abandoned)

- **Premier Grade**
Sawtell v. Harwood / Northern Districts
John Pearce and Rob Pye.

Northern Cricket Union

(Abandoned)

- **A Grade (One Day)**
Darren Waterson and Vivek Solani.
- **B Grade (One Day)**
Andrew Vasey and Tony Vasey.
- **C Grade (One Day)**
Tim Wilkinson and Sundar Varadarajan.
- **D Grade (One Day)**
Richard Christen and
Dennis Oppenheim / Glen Vance.
- **D Reserve Grade (One Day)**
Peter Stankovic and Md Rafiqul Islam.
- **1st Grade**
Steve Sharah and Rick Crocono.

- **2nd Grade**
Tim Donahoo and David Smith.
- **3rd Grade**
Ian Sinden and Greg Berriman.
- **4th Grade**
Matt Smith and Karl Wentzel.
- **5th Grade**
Homer Paxton and Nirmal De Silva.
- **6th Grade**
Andrew Maddox and Nick Brady.

Northern Inland

- **War Vets Final**
Narrabri v. Tamworth
Ian James and Wayne Solomons.
- **Connolly Cup**
Gwydir v. Moree
Al Bonney and Ray Nyland.

Parramatta

(Abandoned)

- **A Grade**
Baulkham Hills v. Hills Barbarians
K. Bakon and T. Heath.
- **A Reserve Grade**
Baulkham Hills v. AKA Crusaders
R. Dryburgh and D. Henry.
- **B1 Grade**
Wenty Leagues v. Baulkham Hills
D. Everton and G. Serrao.
- **B2 Grade**
Parramatta v. Pendle Hill Colts –
Toongabbie RSL
B. Wheatley and S. Surana.
- **B3 Grade**
Baulkham Hills v. Wenty Leagues
P. Wilson-Mosey and D. Vella.
- **B4 Grade**
Guildford Leagues v. Winston Hills
S. Gangula and S. Thuraiwarmey.
- **B5 Grade**
Winston Hills v. Cheetahs
V. Bansai and D. Trivedi.

- **B6 Grade**
Guildford Leagues v. Sydney
Supersonics
J. Ignatius and S. Swaminathan.
- **B7 Grade**
Greystanes v. Western Legends
M. Dave and J. Jaypragash.
- **B8 Grade**
Cheetahs v. Greystanes
J. Kennedy and A. Lahiri.
- **B9 Grade**
Winston Hills v. Hills Barbarians
M. Alagarraja and G. Soans.
- **B10 Grade**
Seven Hills RSL v. Kellyville
S. Amirtharaj and S. Sedhuraj.
- **B11 Grade**
Parramatta Telugu Warriors v. Wenty
Leagues
L. Costaganna and N. Narendiran.
- **B12 Grade**
Winston Hills v. Wenty Leagues
C. Pandiaraj and L. Visvanathan.
- **B13 Grade**
AKA Crusaders v. Western Legends
C. Lenard and J. Ghanasegar-Sarma.
- **B14 Grade**
Sydney Supersonics v. Cheetahs
M. Ragendram and P. Narendiran
- **B15 Grade**
Seven Hills RSL v. Winston Hills
M. Sandhu and D. Kahlon.

Shoalhaven

- **1st Grade (One Day)**
Peter Done and Cathy Russell.
- **2nd Grade (One Day)**
David Schofield and David Single.
- **3rd Grade (One Day)**
Darrell Craft and Ian Davidson.
- **4th Grade (One Day)**
Shawn Higgins and Graham Lowbridge.
- **T20 (Turf)**
Cathy Russell and David Single.
- **T20 (Astro)**
Darrell Craft and Cathy Russell.



South Coast

- **1st Grade (One Day)**
Gary Paget and Frankie Ulcigrai.
- **1st Grade (T20)**
Peter Johnson and John Oliver.
- **2nd Grade (T20)**
Jackson Surman and Frankie Ulcigrai.

Tamworth

- **1st Grade (One Day)**
North Tamworth v. Old Boys
Steve Beaton and Ian James.
- **2nd Grade (One Day)**
North Tamworth v. City United
Ian Furner and Geoff Hoy.

- **3rd Grade (One Day)**
Bective-East v. South Tamworth
Simon Hood and Mick Turner.
- **4th Grade (One Day)**
North Tamworth v. City United
Allen Herbert and Lauren McGill.

Western Zone

- **Western Zone Premier League**
Bathurst v. Dubbo
Graeme Glazebrook and John De Lyall.
- **Western Zone Colts**
Marc Munro and Glenn Pepper.



Wayne Solomons officiates during the 2019-20 season

Match Officials Acknowledge Traditional Owners

Cate Ryan *Cricket Australia*

Match Officials of the KFC BBL|09 Competition joined with the players in acknowledging the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities by wearing specially designed shirts out in the middle during the season.

The design, titled *Men's Business*, tells the story of the first Australian cricket team that represented Australia in 1868 to play in England which consisted of 13 Aboriginal men. The black and white men's symbol represents the importance of reconciliation.

The footprints signify the journey of Aboriginal people from the past, present and future, and also the running between wickets. The diamond pattern traditionally represents a place of significance for the Biripi people.

The shirts were worn across three games throughout the season with an aim of

having a full 'Reconciliation Round' in future editions of the competition.

In addition to the player and umpire shirts, Kookaburra have also acknowledged the traditional land owners by producing a specially designed cricket ball which features the Walkabout Wickets logo, and the local language name for Kookaburra replacing the 'Kookaburra' wording on the ball in each of the venues.

The three matches played with Indigenous themed shirts and balls during 2019-20 were:

- Saturday 11 January
Thunder v Hurricanes
- Monday 20 January
Scorchers v Thunder
- Tuesday 21 January
Renegades v Hurricanes



Paul Wilson, Tony Wilds and Simon Lightbody ahead of the Thunder v Hurricanes fixture

Goulburn Win the Stribley Shield

Pat Kerin

In one of the lowest scoring Stribley Shield finals, Goulburn has defeated Cootamundra by nine runs.

The first Stribley Shield final to be played at Seiffert Oval in Goulburn took place on Sunday 23 February 2020. The home side was bowled out for a well-below par score of 100. In a nail-biting finish, Cootamundra could only manage 91 in reply.

In the match dominated by the bowlers, 191 runs were scored from 84 overs at an average run rate of 2.27.

Goulburn had crashed to be 3/18 in the ninth over and then Daniel Cooper and Raheem Abdul added what was a match winning partnership of 51. Cooper made 26 while Abdul top scored with a fine knock of 33.

Gene Kessell returned his best bowling figures for Cootamundra capturing 4/23 from his ten overs. His spell included three caught and bowled off his slower ball.

Dean Bradley finished 5/16 from 6.4 overs. In Bradley's second spell of 16 balls he wrapped up the Goulburn innings capturing 4/7 which saw Goulburn lose their last five wickets for eight runs.

The Cronin brothers, Mick and Aaron, saw Cootamundra safely through to lunch at 0/12 from 12 overs.

After lunch, the brothers advanced their partnership to 39. Before a clutter of wickets fell.

Aaron Cronin departed for 19, Mick 17, then in quick succession Jack Caldwell for 1, Nick Holt run out for a duck and Matt Berkrey for 2. In this period Cootamundra lost five

wickets for nine runs. From 0/39, Cootamundra had crashed to be 5/48.

Then came a rescue mission from captain Nathan Corby and Gene Kessell. The pair added 29 runs for the sixth wicket taking the score to 77.

Corby was clean bowled from the ball of the match off their quick Raheem Abdul. The ball jagged back, hitting the top of off stump. Corby made equal top score with 19. Kessel made 13.

The Cootamundra innings folded quickly, losing their last four wickets for nine runs to be bowled out in the 46th over.

The Arthur Stacey OAM Medal for Man of the Match went to the Goulburn's 15-year-old Pakistani all-rounder Raheem Abdul. Not very often does the youngest player in the match take out the man of the match award.

Raheem opened the batting and top-scored in the match with 33. He then opened the bowling in the chase – in his spell before lunch, he delivered six overs with 5 maidens taking 0/2.

After the interval, he wrapped up the Cootamundra innings and finished with the fine figures of 9.4 overs 5 maidens 3/13.

Raheem is a slightly built lad, was born in Lahore. The young fella certainly generated plenty of pace with his run up halfway back to the bike track.

Certainly nothing wrong with the pitch, just good tight bowling by both sides with only 11 wides and one no-ball bowled in 84 overs.



Such was the domination of the bowlers, they bowled 17 maidens.

Good tough finals cricket.

The past four seasons have now seen the Stribley Shield won by four different teams; Wagga, Yass, Cootamundra and now Goulburn.

For Cootamundra, the match was the last of their representative season. In just two matches, both against Goulburn, Cootamundra failed to reach 100.

For Goulburn, they had a chance of more silverware on Sunday 1 March when they travelled to Cooma to play Far South Coast in the Burns Cup final.

In Cooma, they were soundly beaten by seven wickets, bowled out for just 124, with Far South Coast racing to victory in the 24th over finishing with 3/125.

The Burns Cup has a great history in this region having first being played for in the 1936-37 season, where the inaugural winners were Federal Capital Territory.

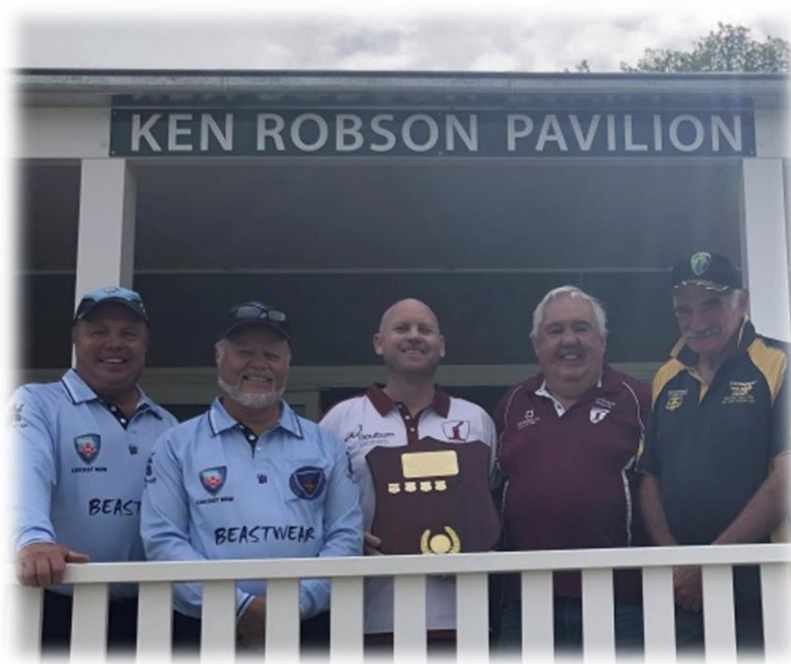
Stribley Shield – a brief history

Mr. Stribley, who owned a general store in Gundagai, presented the Stribley Shield to the Southern Tablelands Cricket Council. The Stribley Shield was initially run in two divisions, with the winner of each division playing off in the final.

When the Southern Tablelands Cricket Council was disbanded, the Stribley Shield was handed over to the Northern Riverina Cricket Council. Records indicate that matches resumed in the late 1940s with Cootamundra winning the first final in 1951-52.

Cootamundra are the most successful association in the Stribley Shield history. The town where Don Bradman was born has won 18 titles. After winning the inaugural title, their most recent premiership was in 2018-19.

Yass featured in the competition for 24 seasons from 1995-96 to 2018-19. During this period they won nine titles and were runners up twice. Their golden era came from 2006-07 to 2010-11 where they strung together five consecutive titles.



Umpires Tony Hackett, Dennis Chaplin with Goulburn captain Dane Stevenson, Bob Smith and Pat Kerin

Cricketers & COVID-19

John Gloster

The Cricketer

"Cricketers could come out of coronavirus lockdown as much stronger people"

There are certain things that we cannot control in the current climate, but there are also things that we need to control and we can do so.

We can liken this a little bit to T20 cricket in a way in that all of us now – both as clinicians and also as players – we need to be creative, we need to be smarter, we have to have proactive plans in place. But also, with a little bit of Test cricket mixed in as well – we have to be patient and in it for the long run. There's going to be an element of endurance to this as well.

How do we look at the physical environment while being in the constraints of quarantine? We're effectively all in some kind of quarantine at the moment, being in isolation. We know that exercise is one of the greatest immunity-boosters of all. How do we implement that around the constraints that we have?

This is where the creativity side of it comes in – the T20 mindset. Our body is, in fact, a gymnasium in itself. We are going back to a lot of the old bodyweight-type training, repetitive-type training. We're looking at going back to some traditional yoga practices.

Through technology, we're able to push a lot of it out to them in that form as well. I have seen some fantastic stuff coming out of Ben

Stokes' Instagram in recent days – he's been really proactive.

But as and when cricket does get back up and running, there has to be a transition period. Everyone will be on the same page, pretty much. In terms of match fitness, nobody has been playing.

Often people come to the IPL at two ends of the spectrum – they've either played too much cricket or not enough. Our job before the IPL starts tends to be spending 10 days finding out who's where and then evening them all out again.

Now, the same job will have to happen again. The difference is that everybody will be in the same place. The strategies will be very similar. It will have to be at least a couple of weeks before competition can begin. We're talking match-play, simulation. But then again, you can't throw someone straight into a match simulation



without some basic physical preparation as well.

The biggest killer for these guys is going to be the lack of high-speed running, because that's what the modern game is all about and that's where the most injuries occur – when there's a drop-off in high-speed running. The main protective mechanism for injury these days in the T20 form is high-speed running loads. The difference between T20 and Test cricket in terms of high-speed running loads is about 40 per cent.

Anybody who's coming from Test cricket to T20, we know that they're at risk of injury because they don't have the loads in their legs. The potential for them to injure is high.

It's very similar here. They'll be coming from zero and then expected to be going straight back to very high levels of high-speed running. That would be the greatest risk I can see, given the physical constraints that they have.

The other area we need to be really mindful of is the mental state side of it. We've suddenly taken these guys away from six to eight hours a day of being physically active in structured nets and physical environments to a constrained environment. There's probably as big a psychological play here as a physical play.

We need to make sure that there are resources and appropriate people available to them to access and explore this side of their game as well. We often think that the mental conditioning coach only plays a role in the tournament and in high-pressure situations of the game scenario.

In fact, this is probably a greater stress environment for them than their game environment. There's the fear of the

unknown and there's nothing worse for an athlete than a fear of the unknown.

I think this is a critical piece that we have to look at closely, because there is a fear of the unknown at the moment amongst all of us in every country – we're not isolated from that. Are they playing games at home? Are they stimulating their minds? Are they playing board games with their kids? What are the other things that they're doing that they're biding time with?

The physical stuff, I think, is very obvious and they're really good at that. They just have to be a bit smarter in terms of how they do that in the constraints of their own home – using stairs and whatever else they have around the house that they could use as a gymnasium.

My job as physio at Rajasthan Royals is also to add a bit of realism. I've had so many messages come to me. Steve Smith messaged me the day before yesterday, asking what I realistically thought was going to happen. Sanju Samson was on the phone a couple of days ago.

Some of these guys are desperate to play, which I think is amazing. But at the same time, you have to be realistic about this and say: 'Well, this is something that none of us have ever experienced before. I can't give you dates but I can ensure that when the time comes, you are both physically and mentally ready.'

I had four years with Surrey in county cricket; it's a bit like one of those rain delays, where you don't know when you're going to get back out there but you have to be ready within five minutes to be on the field. That's a mental game, but there's also a physical element to that. You have to be warmed up.

I was there in the late 1990s, so I'm saying: 'What would Martin Bicknell be doing now?' Okay, he would be thinking through

what he's going to bowl to this guy. He'd be doing his warmup in the corner like he always does.

We have to be prepared but we don't quite know when we're going to be able to utilise that preparedness. I'm using that example to a few of the guys – sitting in the dressing room on a wet day in the UK. They are learnings that a lot of these guys have already had, but in an entirely different environment.

Managing that desperation to play is paramount. This is how a lot of these guys express themselves. There are a lot of unique characters; it might hit Steve Smith harder than it might hit Cheteshwar Pujara, for example. It might hit Steve harder than Jofra Archer, who knows how to chill and to take his time out. He doesn't have to be physical all the time.



There are different characters who you can highlight among different teams around the world who are probably better suited to this situation than perhaps others are.

But that's only once you get to know their mindsets. I can guarantee you that a big part of Ben's game is physical, so he will be focused a lot on the physical aspects, which is brilliant. Steve will be trying to do something all the time to keep himself

busy, and that will most likely be physical or it will be with a bat and ball in his hands on some level. These guys itch to have a piece of wood in their hand or a bit of leather.

For some personalities, this may become a big issue, the longer we're constrained to these constricted environments. I see that as a really important part of this: the physical, they know; this is the part of their game they probably don't know as well. One of the great learnings they're going to take out of this is actually how to work, manage and control their minds a lot better.

You have to take positives out of any bad situation. If it's injury, what are you going to learn from this injury? For these guys, perhaps the messaging could be that it's a brilliant chance to work on the mental side of their game. To get through this, you're going to have to. They could come out of this as much stronger cricketers anyway, much stronger athletes, much stronger people.

I think you'll find a lot of these players will find other ways to escape. The biggest issue I've seen with the modern cricketer is that most of them don't know how to escape cricket. They don't know how to escape and properly switch off from cricket and to allow their mind to rest.

Rahul Dravid was brilliant; he would read. Others go and watch movies. Guys found ways to get away from cricket, switch off, mentally relax and be ready when they came back to the game.

One area that we can control – not only for their health but also for their performance – is the whole concept of nutrition and looking at how we manage that within these times, particularly so because we're now exercising less for a period of time.

Being a lot smarter about what we eat and when we eat, particularly in terms of immunity, there are a lot of food groups that we should be really drilling down on and focusing on and ensuring we're getting more of.

Immunity has become such an important thing. That's critical to most athletes anyway, but I believe we have to be a lot smarter and really be clued up on what food groups we should be eliminating from their diets and what should we be bolstering their diets with.

Processed foods and sugars have to go out of the window: one, to keep their weight

down; two, to keep their immunity status up and keep their inflammatory status down.

At the end of the day, there's a big issue at hand that we have to address now, but all of these are strategies that can be taken forward to improve their game when we go back to playing. I see a lot of valuable lessons and learnings that they can take from this period and take forward.

John Gloster is currently physio for the Rajasthan Royals, and has previously worked with Surrey and the Indian national side.



2020 Interstate Exchanges

Bede Sajowitz

Over the course of 2019-20, NSWCUA facilitated interstate exchanges which saw umpires moving between Adelaide, Hobart, Perth and Sydney over the back-half of the cricket season.

NSWCUSA members Berend du Plessis, Geoff Irvine and Kedar Oza were selected to travel and spend a weekend officiating interstate.

Kedar Oza travelled to Adelaide as part of the NSWCUA-SACA exchange, taking part in the first such exchange between the two states.

Whilst in Adelaide from 10-12 January, Kedar was on-field for three matches: a West End T20 match – Prospect v Sturt, a West End One-Day Cup match between Kensington and Sturt as well as a Statewide Super Women's First Grade clash between West Torrens and Kensington.

Arriving in Sydney was South Australian State Panel umpire Harsimran Singh, who was on-field for two matches over the weekend of 11-12 January: a First Grade one-day fixture between Blacktown Mounties and Manly-Warringah and an AW Green Shield match between Western Suburbs and Eastern Suburbs.

Geoff Irvine travelled to Perth as part of the NSWCUA-WACA exchange on the weekend of 11-12 January.

On the west coast, Geoff was on-field in two matches: a First Grade one-day match

– University v Perth – and a Women's A Grade one-day match between Melville and South Perth.

West Australian umpire Merv Redrum travelled to Sydney over the Australia Day long weekend and officiated a First Grade two-day match between UTS North Sydney and St George at North Sydney Oval.

The NSWCUA-TCUSA exchange took place later in the season, with State Panel umpire Berend du Plessis travelling to Hobart on the weekend of 29 February – 1 March, officiating in a Tasmania Premier Cricket two-day match between Kingborough and Glenorchy.

Former Zimbabwean International Panel umpire Jerry Matibiri, now on the Tasmanian State Panel, also officiated in Sydney on 25-26 January, standing at Waverley Oval in a First Grade two-day match between Eastern Suburbs and Mosman.



Kedar Oza takes to the field in Adelaide

Technical

Ben Treloar

Where is a fielder allowed to field?



Scenario...

As a spin bowler delivers a ball there is a stationary fielder standing just behind the wicket-keeper at first slip. However, he is situated so close to the prepared surface that he has his left foot placed on the marked return crease but behind the wicket. The bowler's end umpire sees this. What action, if any, should she take?

- a. When the bowler starts his run-up, the umpire shall call and signal No ball and immediately call and signal Dead ball. The ball does not count as one of the over.
- b. At the instant of delivery, the umpire shall call and signal Dead ball and award five penalty runs to the batting side. The ball shall not count as one of the over.
- c. At the instant of delivery, the umpire shall call and signal No ball and the ball shall remain in play. Once the ball becomes dead, issue a first and final warning to the fielder for damaging the pitch.
- d. **The umpire does nothing and allows play to proceed as the fielder is allowed to be there.**

There are a couple of things to consider here. Firstly, the time when a fielder is allowed to encroach onto the pitch and then, what defines the pitch? Law 28.5 sets the timeframe when fielders cannot have any part of their person grounded on or extended over the pitch. This is from when the ball comes into play up until the ball has made contact with the striker's bat/person or has passed the striker's bat.

Law 6 then sets the parameters of the pitch, a specific area of the ground situated on the field of play, that measures 22 yards in length and 10 feet wide. This rectangular piece of ground is to be known as the pitch and all other parts of the ground should be known as the outfield. The pitch is bound at either end by the bowling creases meaning the pitch stops here even though the prepared (cut/rolled) surface continues past the wicket at either end.

Knowing this, a fielder situated on the prepared surface but behind the bowling crease, may field there without penalty as long as they are not contravening 28.4. He/she is technically not grounded on or over 'the pitch'; they are, in fact, on the outfield. This means that you could have a fielder standing next to the keeper (e.g. 1st slip) with his/her foot grounded on the prepared surface without penalty.

However, if a fielder who is situated in front of the bowling crease and close to the pitch, and grounds or extends some part of his/her person on or over the pitch during the restricted time frame, the bowler's end umpire shall call and signal No ball with play allowed to continue.

Tournament Diary

Sue Gregory

The U15 Female National Championships were held in Canberra from 26 February to 3 March. The format of the tournament was three consecutive days of cricket with a rest day, followed by another three days. Days one and four saw two T20s on each day with the other days being 40 overs per side matches, including finals on day six.

The umpiring panel was all-female, a first for the U15s, and the second time in a CA tournament. It was a diverse group and we all got on well. NSWCUA was represented by Katie Collins, Margaret Marshall and yours truly. The Tournament Referee was Ian Thomas and Darren Goodger was the tournament's Umpire Coach.

We had new powerplay PCs for the tournament – for the 40 over games Powerplay 1 required two fielders in a stationery catching position within 12m of the batter with 12m semi circles marked and a maximum of two fielders out. During Powerplay 2, it was compulsory to have four fielders outside the 23m circle with two of those required to have one foot on the boundary at the instant of delivery. Powerplay 3 allowed for up to four fielders out.

The T20 PCs had four fielders outside the 23m circle from overs 7-20 with all four required to have one foot on the boundary at instant of delivery.

These aspects of the PCs meant the umpires spent considerable time monitoring the fielding restrictions, with countless 'friendlies' given.

On the opening day, I umpired with Katie and we had to manage a wet square and pitch due to the covers leaking from the sprinklers being on.

We decided to use the pitch that was played on the previous weekend as the PCs did not include provision for any additional time, so we were losing overs.

It was quickly prepared and as only grass clippings were available, they were used to dry and dress the mud on the square and we had a reduced match of 16 overs per side.

By the second innings we had gale force winds and had to dispense with the bails. Even the heavy bails had to be dispensed with in the second match too! A first for me on this day – no balling a bowler for changing her mode of delivery without telling me (even after asking whether she was changing her mode of delivery to a new left-handed batter!).

After play on the second day, it was a quick shower and off to Manuka to watch Australia v Bangladesh in the Women's T20 World Cup.



Lexi Muller (Qld.), Katie Collins and Margaret Marshall giving 2-to-go at Manuka Oval

All teams attended and matches started at 11am the next day to allow for a sleep in after the late night. Being studious umpires we were paying attention to the over rates on display!

On our rest day, we enjoyed a behind the scenes tour of Parliament House, being escorted by Margaret's husband Gary who works there. After that we split up and did our own thing, mostly relaxing or shopping, whilst Katie and I took in the Picasso & Matisse exhibition at the National Gallery.

A professional development session was facilitated by Darren on the Sunday night after play with pizzas in Ian's room. He took us through his top 12 tips on what makes a good umpire, which was on-point and very well received.

The 1 v 2 final was contested between NSW Metropolitan and Queensland. Play started later than in the other matches on

the last day so we could see the end of the match and attend the presentation.

NSW Metro were bowled out for the first time in the tournament (for 170), and Qld got the runs nine wickets down in the last over to win and claim the title.

It is a different experience living a parallel life for a week. We maintained a schedule of waking at 6.15am, breakfast, meet in foyer at 7.50 to travel to grounds, a safety briefing one hour before play, toss 45 min before the start, umpire the match, shower, dinner together, then back to the rooms to then submit a self-assessment, a match report, 3,2,1 points for the match, assess match goals, sleep and repeat.

It was a wonderful opportunity to represent our Association, and we are all grateful for it. From the experience, ability to review matches on AMS and the wonderful support, feedback and wisdom provided, I have returned a better umpire.



The U15 Female National Championships Umpire Panel with
Tournament Referee Ian Thomas

Three Dubbo Umpires Cover Premier Cricket Matches

Nick Guthrie

Daily Liberal

So often the strength of the Dubbo District Cricket Association (DDCA) is shown by the number of players featuring at a representative level.

Not this Australia Day weekend.

The quality in the region will be showcased by three umpires officiating in the Sydney NSW Premier Cricket competition.

The DDCA enjoyed an Australia Day weekend general bye, allowing John De Lyall, Doug Sandry, and Peter Singh to stand in the middle in Sydney.

De Lyall umpired the First Grade game between Bankstown and Hawkesbury, while Sandry covered the Parramatta-Gordon Second Grade game and Singh officiated the Third Grade contest between Eastern Suburbs and Mosman.

The weekend was the latest highlight in what quickly became one of the most successful seasons in some time for Dubbo umpires.

"John made the Country Panel, myself and Mark Munro umpired the Country Colts carnival and we've just had Pete Singh and Col Harper at the State Challenge," head of the DDCA umpires Sandry said.

"Plus we've got six new umpires ... it's fantastic. We're building numbers and really good umpires.



Peter Singh

"We've got really good new ones in Dave Low and Brett Paul, who have already done first grade games and the reports have been fantastic. They're up to it."

Having three umpires from one association work the one weekend is a sign of the quality out west, according to Sandry.

"It's exciting," Sandry, who hasn't umpired in NSW Premier Cricket before, said.

As someone who's been umping in Dubbo for a number of years now, Sandry knows people in his role are never going to please everyone.

But he said the majority of the feedback this season in relation to game management and fieldcraft has been positive.

All that has Sandry expecting a headache at finals time when he has to do the allocations for the biggest games of the season.

Learning from the Legend: Simon Taufel

Chinmay Mehta

Widely regarded as, if not the best, one of the best umpires the game of cricket has ever produced – Simon Taufel has recently launched a book, *Finding the Gaps*.

The book is lavishly praised by cricketers like Sourav Ganguly, Steve Waugh and Ravi Ashwin as well as NSWCUA's Darren Goodger. The foreword for the book is written by master-blaster Sachin Tendulkar.

The good news for Simon Taufel fans is, as a high performance consultant and mentor, Simon is currently working to help wider communities, aspiring sportspersons and so many others who are in business, and leadership to working towards being the best they can be.

There are so many match officials, coaches, administrators and support staff around but what makes Simon Taufel so special and why do people listen to his messages and advice?

Simon Taufel's fitness, match management, decision-making and other soft skills raised the bar for many match officials and aspiring umpires. For the same reasons, he is very well-respected as a person and as an umpire.

Simon Taufel's Career Highlights

- First-class Debut at age 24 in 1995
- ODI Debut in Jan 1999
 - Aus vs Sri Lanka
- Test Debut in Dec 2000
 - Boxing Day Test, Aus vs WI
- International Panel of ICC Umpires in 2002
- Cricket World Cup Debut – 2003
- Elite Panel of ICC Umpires in 2003
- Youngest person to officiate 100 ODIs
- Received the Bronze Bails Award in 2007
- Five-time ICC David Shepherd Umpire of the Year Award winner (2004-2008)
- Officiated the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup Final in 2011

Kindness is Contagious

I was quite fortunate that I did not have to stand in a big crowd or in a long queue to see my umpiring idol. It was at the NSW Cricket Umpires' and Scorers' Association AGM in 2012; as soon as I entered the meeting, a gentleman wearing a NSWCUA blazer and tie stood up from the chair and he introduced himself as Simon with a handshake.

I looked at his face as long as I could, was he really Simon Taufel?? Yes, he was.



Simon at the launch of *Finding the Gaps* in India

Simon does not need any special attention when attending the meetings of local clubs or associations. He will sit wherever he sees a vacant chair, which is touching and inspiring indeed.

In addition to the accuracy of his on-field decision-making and his attention to detail, his soft skills are one of the many reasons why Simon Taufel is a household name to many in the cricketing community.

Those who have witnessed him in action and those that know him well, admire his focus and commitment to planning, preparation, practice and other soft skills, both during his umpiring career and now as a high performance mentor and consultant.

Planning and preparation are the pillars of every successful endeavour, be it in cricket, business or even in your social life. Not everyone is talented enough to achieve cricketing success, but success can still be achieved in other fields with good planning, preparation and most importantly, practice.

In one of Simon's presentations to NSWCUA members he focused on soft skills and communication in particular.

Simon explained why it is important for a cricket umpire to inform the batsman, bowler, fielding captain, other match officials, sometimes the batting captain and other governing bodies of a number of different scenarios, such as free hits, waist height full tosses, time-wasting and more.

What if we do not?

"No one likes surprises," he said. Captains and players get frustrated and angry when match officials act without informing them. Conflict not only affects your

relationship with them, but it can also affect your performance.

Conflicts are manageable, be it in business, in sports or as a leader, with good communication skills.

"Conflict is inevitable but fighting is optional"

Simon outlines techniques throughout his book detailing how to manage the person and the issue to deal more effectively with conflict.

"World-class communication means we need to listen effectively to the other person's point of view, show empathy and then clearly communicate your own needs and wants. We also need to offer people options and outline why we need to move in a certain direction. Effective communication means being clear, concise and accurate," he writes.

The book also covers a number of other topics including: traits of the top teams, coachability, handling pressure, 'bouncebackability', trust and respect through honesty, integrity for the longevity of a successful career and more.

In the introduction to the book, Simon writes, "I wanted to share my successes, failures, and learning with a broader audience. For those whom I cannot meet in person, I'd love to have a conversation via this book. I want to share some of the highs, the lows and critical takeaways, about what it takes to get to world-class, stay there and exit on your own terms."

Copies of the book are available to purchase through the Bradman Store: <http://bit.ly/36loUuI>



SCA Milestones

Stephen Blomfield

Congratulations to the following members who have reached milestones in the back-half of the Sydney Cricket Association 2019-20 season!

- Mitchell Claydon – NSW Premier Cricket First Grade debut
- Diana Venter – NSW Premier Cricket First Grade debut
- Stuart Wood – 100 matches in Sydney Shires Cricket
- Darren Foster – 100 matches in NSW Premier Cricket First Grade
- Steve Starks – 200 matches in the Sydney Cricket Association
- Michael Wheeler – 200 matches in Sydney Shires Cricket
- John Darcy – 250 matches in the Sydney Cricket Association
- Spencer Harrison – 300 matches in Sydney Shires Cricket



Warringah and Roseville Frank Gray Shield teams acknowledge Michael Wheeler's milestone match

CRIC-O-KU Number 9

Clue: An LBW appeal from the fielder at deep square leg

	A	I		D	U			R
U			T		I	D		S
Y			B			T		
			D					A
			I		S			
I					Y			
		B			D			T
S		U	A		B			Y
D			R	S		B	U	

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 and numbers, not just 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-O-KU No 8: Solution

U	L	M	H	N	I	T	E	C
I	N	H	T	E	C	N	L	U
E	C	T	M	U	L	N	I	H
H	I	E	L	M	N	C	U	T
L	U	N	C	H	T	I	M	E
T	M	C	E	I	U	H	N	L
C	T	U	N	L	M	E	H	I
M	E	I	U	C	H	L	T	N
N	H	L	I	T	E	U	C	M

April 2020 Merchandise Winner

To claim your prize please call Bede Sajowitz on 0427 947 000.

\$100 Merchandise Voucher

11/4808-0



Association Partners

Troy Penman

The past two seasons have seen NSWCUSA involved in two sponsorship agreements; one with global fast food chain McDonald's and the other with custom made sportswear company Beastwear.

The sponsorship deal with McDonald's is in conjunction with a larger deal between Cricket NSW and McDonald's. The sponsorship saw McDonald's take over the branding on the back of the field shirts. McDonald's paid \$30,000 + GST to the Association in two \$15,000 + GST amounts, one for each season of the agreement.

Beastwear continue to manufacture the field shirts and have their logo on both the sleeves and across the front of the shirts. Beastwear will be supplying \$10,000 worth of sponsorship in the form of contra to the Association.

During the arrangements, the Association has ordered enough shirts to ensure all umpires in the Men's and Women's Premier Cricket competitions, Sydney Shires competition, and the Country Cricket NSW

representative programs to have access to at least two shirts each.

The sponsorship with Beastwear does not cover the cost to order all the shirts which means that members are required to pay \$10 per shirt.

The revenue from the sponsorship deal with McDonald's will be invested in items for members, education and development, offset costs for members and guests to attend Association events and an upgrade to Association products.

In recent years, the Association has hosted a number of events at Bankstown Sports Club. These include Annual Dinners, Annual Conventions and in recent seasons both OGMs and training courses.

On a number of occasions, by way of a grant, the club have covered the cost of the venue hire, freeing up Association funds to be available to be used for the benefit of members. We thank the Club and their Board for their continued support.



60 SECONDS WITH...

Tony Hackett



Sarah Berman



Michael Meehan

60 SECONDS WITH TONY HACKETT

Day Job?	Accounts Administrator with St Vincent de Paul in the Wagga Wagga Diocese
Officiating Debut? The first time you fired someone?	December 2002, gave my first LBW (the player didn't seem too impressed!)
Career officiating highlight (so far)?	Ten First Grade Finals in Cricket Wagga Wagga, current member of the NSW Country Umpire Representative Panel, officiated at the 2010 Australian Country Cricket Championships at Albury and nine First Grade matches in NSW Premier Cricket
Best cricketer you have officiated?	There have been many so it's hard to single one out, but the finest century I umpired was at Albert Park in Cootamundra where Parkes played Murray Border in a Country Plated game. Anthony Heraghty from Parkes hit 122 n.o. off around 60 balls and did not give a chance. Parkes were chasing 172 and got them in the 31 st over
Strangest (funniest) thing to happen whilst on a cricket field?	About five years ago, I was umpiring a game in Wagga Wagga and a new batsman came to the crease. He played and missed at least 10 times, the fielder at first slip asked him if it was a new bat and he said yes. The response came, "it's a pity the bat didn't come with instructions"
Who is your favourite official to have or still is officiating in a sport (any sport)? Why?	Luke Olsen, Australian Football Umpire with AFL Riverina. Never too scared to make a decision (never!)
Any superstitions?	Always put my right shoe on first and then always tie my left shoelace first
Any special talents?	Love to cook and my wife loves my cooking
Best piece of advice?	Call them how you see them!
What got you into umpiring?	I volunteered to umpire my son's Under 13s game and loved it so much that I knew I wanted to become a cricket umpire. I contacted Jack Mission and started the course the following week and the rest is history!
Three people you would love to have dinner with?	Paul Gallen Tony Lockett Donald Trump

60 SECONDS WITH SARAH BERMAN

Day job?	I'm a consultant working in the transport sector – I work for accounting giant EY but am not an accountant! I advise governments on funding, financing and procurement of big transport projects and specialise in financial modelling. I'm currently working on the business case for the proposed Sydney Metro rail line to Western Sydney Airport, and the competition for the first private operation of the Adelaide rail network.
Officiating Debut and the first time you recorded a smudge?	I can't remember my debut back in the UK (where I lived until 2017), but it would have been in 2001 for Brooklands CC in the Cheshire County League. My debut over here was in the first game of the 2018-19 season for UTS North Sydney against Blacktown at Joe Mac. I'd got the First Grade gig by happy accident, and when Sue Woodhouse asked me "do you have a linear sheet?" my response was "what's a linear sheet?". Sue gave me one of hers and taught me how to use it... I like to think I've come a long way in two seasons!
Career (to date) officiating highlight(s)	With a partisan Bears hat on, it has to be recording an outright win over Sydney Uni this season – first First Grade outright for the club, or win over Uni, for years. Doing a couple of games in the BBL Quad Series was also very special, and the sort of opportunity I'm keen for more of.
Best cricketer you have officiated?	Tough one, but probably David Warner for Randy Petes against the Bears last season. He smashed 15 off his first 8 balls then hit one to cover – we got off lightly. I still pinch myself when there's an international in the opposition – being involved in the game at this level is such a privilege for a cricket nuffy like me.
Strangest (funniest) thing to happen whilst on a cricket field?	In a game I played in a few years ago, the ball was being tossed around the field back to the bowler while it was still live, and our captain for a laugh caught it in her hat. The only time I've seen five penalty runs awarded! Suffice to say, she never did it again.
Who is your favourite official to have or still is officiating in a sport (any sport)? Why?	As a Pom, it's got to be Dickie Bird and David Shepherd. Can't separate them – they were both mainstays as I was growing up, always fair, and respected by players from all nations.
Any superstitions?	Not really – I mostly leave the superstition to the players - but I do sometimes lift one leg under the scorers' table when the score is a multiple of 111.
Any special talents?	I run the UTS North Sydney club social media, so have developed an ability to multi-task on a Saturday which knocks spot off anything I achieve at work during the week.



Best piece of advice?	Everyone makes mistakes, it's how you recover from them that matters. I can't remember which scorer colleague told me this, but it's so true and yet so easy to forget!
What got you into scoring?	As a kid, I went to almost every 40-over county game at Old Trafford, and the Lancashire programme in those days had a proper scorecard in the middle that you could score on. My dad taught me aged about 11 and it became a ritual. I scored fairly seriously for a couple of years before I left school, but until I left the UK most of my scoring was bits of the batting innings of games I was playing in – but I then saw the light and realised I was a much, much better scorer than player!
Three people you would love to have dinner with?	Mike Atherton (my cricketing hero... remember I grew up in England in the 90s) Nathan Leamon (England team performance analyst – I want his job!) Bill Frindall (all-time legend and former BBC scorer – I wouldn't mind that job either!).

60 SECONDS WITH MICHAEL MEEHAN

Day job?	Business Consultant with IAG (NRMA Insurance)
Officiating Debut and the first time you fired someone?	My first full season was back in 2004-05 in the Parramatta District Cricket Association and so I have no doubt that I fired somebody in Round 1 of that competition. My grade debut came two years later in 2006-07 and no doubt, I probably fired someone in round 1 of that season as well.
Career (to date) officiating highlight(s)	I have 3 major highlights to date. In no particular order: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Winning the Ray Parr Memorial Medal for Umpire of the Year in my inaugural year of umpiring full time with the Parramatta District Cricket Umpires Association in 2004-05 2. Winning the Alan Marshall Medal in my inaugural year of Grade Cricket Umpiring in 2006-07 3. Winning the Panel 4 Award in my first season back after a 10-year hiatus in 2017-18
Best cricketer you have officiated?	To date, I haven't had the privilege to umpire anybody that has played at the highest level but watch this space.... I have umpired a couple of state players in the Poidevin Gray Competition over the last couple of years and a few very fine young cricketers over the last couple of seasons that I am sure we will hear more of in years to come.
Strangest (funniest) thing to happen whilst on a cricket field?	Not so much the funniest, but probably one of the strangest... and scariest as well. Playing in a Shires match for South East Sydney (now Balmain-South Sydney) back in



	the day and we had come off the field for tea at Airey Park and we had been off for no more than 90 seconds when a lightning bolt struck a stump out on the pitch and split it in two. Needless to say, my two kids that were there watching were a tad inconsolable.
Who is your favourite official to have or still is officiating in a sport (any sport)? Why?	The two that stand out for me are Simon Taufel (Cricket) and Bill Harrigan (Rugby League) for two very different reasons. Simon was a master of his craft and very articulate in the way he went about doing his work. Bill built his respect with his no-nonsense approach and showed absolute confidence in every decision he made.
Any superstitions?	No real superstitions, however, I am a creature of habit and like to do certain routines before each match. One of those is I like to put my headphones on and go for a walk around the field before each match. I usually do this before my partner arrives at the ground and helps me get into the zone. During the match, I will perform little stretches at certain points during each innings. I will also tap my belt on the third ball of each over.
Any special talents?	No real special talents, although my love of music over the years lead me to be a Nightclub DJ for over 30 years (now retired), if you can call that a talent!!
Best piece of advice?	Preparation is the most important piece of advice I have been given and that I would pass onto any aspiring umpire. However there are a couple of other areas that I look up to. Challenge yourself to be the best that you can be. Always look at ways to improve, seek feedback from others such as peers, colleagues, mentors, observers and even players. One last bit of advice would be HAVE FUN!!
What got you into umpiring?	I knew my playing days were slowly creeping up on me and the game has given me so much enjoyment over many years and I wanted to stay in the game, I thought this was the best way I could remain actively involved in the game. I was lucky enough that I stood in a match with a young man whilst I was a Player-Umpire by the name of Laurence Borg and thoroughly enjoyed it. So you can blame him I guess and each time I have sat the course, that same man has been the facilitator as well.
Three people you would love to have dinner with?	Molly Ringwald Bono Steve Waugh

NEW MEMBERS

Name	Suburb	Name	Suburb
Donald Yager	Goonellabah	Venumadhav Gajawada	Parramatta
Brendon Lowndes	Teloepa	John Rose	Goonellabah
Krista Truman	Gledswood Hills	Warren Fisher	Hornsby Heights
Scott Burton	Toukley	Stephen Burrige	Bargo
Mohammad Hossain	Wiley Park	Sameer Jimulia	Wahroonga
Harikrishnan Murali	Pendle Hill	Julie Morris	Thornleigh
Amit Golwala	Pemulwuy	Chockalinga Pandiaraj	Westmead



Diana Venter, Graham Chudleigh and Steve Eccles ahead of the Women's Regional T20 Bash Semi-Final at the SCG

NSWCUSA COMMITTEES & REPRESENTATIVE PANELS

Elite Panel of ICC Umpires

Bruce Oxenford (Aus.)

Rodney Tucker (Aus.)

Paul Reiffel (Aus.)

International Panel of ICC Umpires

Gerard Abood (Aus.)

Shawn Craig (Aus.)

Sam Nogajski (Aus.)

Paul Wilson (Aus.)

Development Panel of ICC Umpires

Heath Kearns (Jersey)

Claire Polosak (Aus.)

Eloise Sheridan (Aus.)

CA National Umpire Panel

Gerard Abood

Shawn Craig (Vic.)

Greg Davidson

Simon Fry (SA)

Phil Gillespie (Vic.)

Mike Graham-Smith (Tas.)

Geoff Joshua (Vic.)

Donovan Koch (Qld.)

Sam Nogajski (Tas.)

John Ward (Vic.)

Tony Wilds

Paul Wilson

CA Supplementary Umpire Panel

Darren Close (Tas.)

Nathan Johnstone (WA)

Simon Lightbody

Troy Penman

Claire Polosak

Ben Treloar

CNSW State Umpire Panel

Berend du Plessis

Andrew Hamilton

Roberto Howard

Keiran Knight

Marc Nickl

Sharad Patel

Bede Sajowitz

CCNSW Country Umpire Representative Panel

Bruce Baxter

Ken Brooks

Gary Crombie

David Cullen

John De Lyaal

Graeme Glazebrook

Tony Hackett

Anthony Hobson

Ross McKim

John Pearce

Neil Smith

Examination Committee

Kevin Battishill

Andrew Coates (Chair)

Berend du Plessis

Sathish Kumar

Glen Stubbings

Geoff Garland (Ex-Officio)

Scorers' Committee

Christine Bennison

Merilyn Fowler (Chair)

Kay Wilcoxon

Sue Woodhouse

Ian Wright

Claire Polosak (Ex-Officio)

Social Committee

Bill Glacken

Michael Meehan

Kedar Oza

Sharad Patel (Chair)

Vivek Solanki

Laurie Borg (Ex-Officio)



The panel of umpires for the U15 Male National Championships in Ballarat



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