

# IN BLACK & WHITE

Edition 75 – December 2019



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### ANNUAL DINNER 2020

The Association's Annual Dinner will be held at the Bankstown Sports Club on April 18, 2020.

We look forward to seeing many members and guests in attendance to celebrate the season that was!



Dave Cullen officiates in the Illawarra Cricket Association

Cover Photos: Top: Gerard Abood and Shawn Craig enter the field for the Marsh One-Day Cup Final  
 Bottom Left: Graeme Glazebrook and Neil Smith at Keira Oval before the Country Championships Final  
 Bottom Right: Ken Buckland with Parramatta's CS Watson Shield winning captain





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## Chairman's Welcome

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**Mark Hughes**

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

It's hard to believe we are at the halfway point of the 2019-20 season. I have been greatly encouraged by the significant number of new members who have joined our Association in the last year.

I have had the privilege to share the experience of some of our new members' first matches in NSW Men's Premier Cricket in recent months and have been encouraged by their enthusiasm, knowledge and passion for the game and officiating as they have commenced their umpiring careers on the field of play.

Our trainers, educators and observers have done a great job in bringing on so many members, preparing them for their exams and before they step out on to the field in for the first time. I wish to publicly thank them for their recent and continued efforts and for all of those who give so much to our Association to make it such a pleasure to be a part of.

Whether you have started out in your umpiring in season 2019-20 or have been part of our Association for some time, I wish all members the very best for the festive season and for the new year ahead.

Regards,  
Mark



Kim Norris presents at a recent training course in Bankstown

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## *Executive Officer Update*

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### **Troy Penman**

Dear Members and Affiliates,

2019 has been a year of change for the Association and there are many who need to be thanked for their contribution.

I'd like to thank Chairman Mark Hughes and the NSWCUSA Board for their commitment to the Association and ensuring that the best interests of the Association are always at the forefront of their thinking. The Board Directors are:

- Laurie Borg
- Graham Chudleigh
- Andrew Coates
- Neil Findlay
- Geoff Garland
- Darren Goodger
- Mark Hughes
- Claire Polosak
- Ben Treloar

The members of the Examination, Scorers', Social and Technical Committees are thanked for their efforts across the year. These members volunteer their time for the benefit of the whole Association. Without their efforts, the Association wouldn't be running as it is.

John Evans works incredibly hard for the Association; merchandise orders are placed daily and John is always available to ensure that the items are collated and distributed in the quickest time possible. We thank John for not only this year, but for his dedication to the role of Merchandise Officer over many years.

I'd like to thank Marilyn Fowler and Narelle Johnstone for their efforts on the Scorers' Selection Committee, across the season there are an incredible amount of appointments that need to be filled and both Marilyn and Narelle complete these in a timely manner.

Our NSW Men's Premier Cricket observers do an outstanding job each weekend to assist with the development of our members. The current team of Laurie Borg, Graham Chudleigh, Errol Cranney, Bob Davis, Rupert Mathews and Graham Reed are observing 14 umpires most Saturdays. Their feedback to umpires is invaluable and provides great clarity for the umpire as to what they're doing well and what areas they need to work on. The efforts of these observers are appreciated.

Ian Wright in his role as Social Appointments Officer (Umpire) and Marilyn Fowler in her role as Social Appointments Officer (Scorer) are thanked for taking care of officials for a large number of social matches across the year.

The Association's Zone Representatives are thanked for their hard work and efforts throughout 2019. The current zone representatives David Grainger (Central Coast), Gary Crombie (Central North), Neil Findlay (Greater Illawarra), Kim Norris (Newcastle), Paul Dilley (North Coastal), Pat Kerin (Riverina) and Graeme Glazebrook (Western) are our main contacts for organising training courses and professional development sessions. We look forward to working with them to conduct training sessions in 2020.



Our Patrons Brian Booth MBE, Alan Davidson AM MBE, Dick French OAM and Graham Reed are thanked for their continuing support of the Association. We're lucky to have these fine men as patrons of our Association.

This season saw the implementation of the Cricket NSW Youth Championships. The Championships were implemented with Cricket NSW taking over the running of the competitions from the District Cricket Association (DCA). These matches provided extra opportunities for NSWCUA members to officiate representative matches on turf pitches.

Stephen Blomfield is thanked for his efforts in coordinating the umpire appointments for the Championships. Weekly over 120 umpires were required to officiate all matches.

Roy Formica and Bruce Whitehouse are thanked for their assistance across 2019. Both are members of NSWCUA and show great support to the officials across their competitions.

The Sydney Cricket Association and Country Cricket NSW are our two biggest clients and to have the support of Roy and Bruce is greatly appreciated by all.

#### *NSWCUSA/Cricket NSW Staff*

Claire Polosak in her role as Umpire Educator / Female Engagement has done an outstanding job in facilitating 21 Level 1 courses across the state, presenting to a total of 300 people, with 154 in regional areas and 146 people across metropolitan Sydney. These courses provide the basic umpiring information to prospective members and the flow-on effect to the NSWCUA Level 2 course is substantial.

People attend the Level 2 course with a considerable level of knowledge which holds them in good stead for the more advanced course. This is transitioning into more and more members for NSWCUA. The Level 1 course isn't just for females; it is a great way for parents, coaches and managers to improve their knowledge.

Through Claire's excellent work we currently have nine female umpires officiating in NSW Men's Premier Cricket on a regular basis.

Ben Treloar commenced with the Association on November 22 and has hit the ground running. So far, Ben has facilitated two sessions on instances from the Laws. The first session was to new umpires on November 26 and then to the Central Coast Cricket Umpire Association on December 10.

Both sessions were well received by attendees and we'll look to provide further sessions to members and affiliates in the new year. Ben's focus is purely on member education and he has already arranged a training course to take place in February for prospective members.

Ben will also now distribute the monthly Laws questions. This initiative commenced in October as a result of the excellent work that the Exam Committee were doing for each Ordinary General Meeting and a desire to provide further education to all members. These questions are to help members and affiliates with their own development.

Bede Sajowitz was promoted to the role of Administrator on October 19, this was recognition for his hard work, conscientiousness and dedication to the Association. The new role will see him

move into managing some of the Association's big-ticket items.

Bede has had an outstanding year, having worked tirelessly to promote the Association through social media channels and provide an exceptional service to the membership.

#### *Highlights 2019*

- Annual Dinner attended by 209 members and guests
- Annual Convention attended by 200 members and guests
- McDonald's sponsorship agreement worth \$33,000 (\$16,500 in both 18-19 and 19-20)
- Sponsorship agreement with Beastwear
- 100% coverage of all SCA competition matches with two appointed umpires.
- 100% coverage of all Country Cricket NSW representative fixtures with two appointed umpires.
- Appointment of umpires to Cricket Australia National Carnivals.

#### *Christmas Movements for NSWCUSA & Cricket NSW Match Official Staff*

As we enter the festive period the following is advised to provide members and affiliates with clarification as to whom is available should they have any issues or questions-

##### **Darren Goodger**

returns to work on January 6

##### **Troy Penman**

returns to work on January 6  
(still the contact AW Green Shield issues rounds 3 and 4)

##### **Claire Polosak**

returns to work on January 8

##### **Bede Sajowitz**

returns to work on December 30

##### **Ben Treloar**

returns to work on December 30

I wish all members and affiliates a safe and enjoyable festive season, thank you for your support throughout 2019 and I look forward to seeing you all in 2020.



Julian Humphrey and Keith Shannon at David Phillips North



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## State Umpiring Manager Update

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### Darren Goodger

Dear Members of NSWCUSA & Affiliated Associations,

The Christmas edition of *In Black and White* provides opportunity to say thank you to all members for what you do for cricket. You provide wonderful service to the game by way of your commitment, involvement and performance, I know it is appreciated by Cricket NSW.

It has been a challenging start to the season with the catastrophic bushfires having a severe impact on so many people. No doubt, members of our cricket community have been affected. Our thoughts are with all those who have suffered as a result of this devastation. Similarly, we think of and thank all the firefighters for their tireless and determined efforts across such an extended period.

Cricket has been affected with play in matches suspended and matches abandoned due to hazardous smoke causing very poor air quality and unsafe conditions. These are unprecedented times that place cricket in perspective.

We saw the BBL match in Canberra between Sydney Thunder and Adelaide Strikers abandoned due to dangerous and unreasonable conditions from the bushfires. A most sensible move by umpires Sam Nogajski and Paul Wilson to initially suspend play, and then abandon the fixture. I commend the umpires for their decision and for placing the health and well-being of people first and foremost. They responded to rapidly deteriorating conditions with decisiveness

and leadership when strength and direction was needed.

Sydney Thunder coach, Shane Bond, placed things in perspective when interviewed by Louis Cameron, he stressed the result of the match mattered little when compared to the ongoing bushfire emergency in Australia:

- “The air quality was poor, clearly. People went down ill in the stands.”
- “The umpires made their decision and we respect that.”
- “Some people are doing it tough.”
- “We’re pleased we put on a good show for the people in our region and we hope they’re doing okay.”
- “There’s some people in the wider area going through some horrific times. Obviously dropping a point isn’t anything compared to what other people are going through.”

Shane Bond’s respect for the actions of the match officials is heartening. As Alan Mantle has so often reminded us over the years, “Cricket is a game.”

We think also of the many farmers across New South Wales who are struggling through severe drought. We pray for plentiful soaking rain in the parts of the state and country that need it most. The impact on their lives, the lives of their families and their work is real.

As I read recently in an exceptional piece written by Marc Chernoff which appears in this edition of *In Black and White*, “Never underestimate a person’s



challenges. Everyone is struggling. Some are just better at hiding it than others.”

The McDonald's Country Championships have concluded with congratulations offered to Newcastle on winning the title, defeating Greater Illawarra in the final at Keira Oval on November 17.



Graeme Glazebrook and Neil Smith with the captains and the Country Championships trophy

#### **Match scores:**

Newcastle 4/223 (Nathan Price 113\*, Jed Dickson 42\*, Aaron Wivell 33, Dale Scifleet 2/37, James Fleming 1/29, Mitchell Hearn 1/32) defeated Greater Illawarra 221 (Adam Berwick 105, Mitchell Hearn 51, Nicholas Foster 5/40, Joshua Geary 2/43, Aaron Bills 2/44) by six wickets.

#### **Mark Curry Medal (Player of the Final):**

Nathan Price (Newcastle)

#### **Umpires:**

Graeme Glazebrook and Neil Smith

#### **Scorers:**

Margaret Pemberton and David Redden

#### **Match Referee:**

Kim Norris

Congratulations to the match officials who did an excellent job in the final.

There is a significant amount of representative cricket being played in the coming months. Here are the umpires appointed to various upcoming cricket programs:

#### *Cricket Australia National Championships*

##### **Australian Country Cricket Championships – Toowoomba, 3-11 January**

Graeme Glazebrook  
Neil Smith

##### **U18 Female National Championships – Hobart / Launceston, 13-23 January**

Andrew Hamilton  
Daniel Moran

##### **National Indigenous Cricket Championships – Alice Springs, 27 January-3 February**

James Figallo  
Kedar Oza

##### **U15 Male National Championships – Ballarat, 20-27 February**

Mitchell Claydon  
Bede Sajowitz

##### **U15 Female National Championships – Canberra, 26 February-3 March**

Katie Collins  
Sue Gregory  
Margaret Marshall

#### *Cricket NSW Representative Programs*

##### **State Challenge U13 Female – Wellington, 20-21 January**

Peter Done  
Geoff Hoy  
Ian James  
Glenn Pepper



**State Challenge U13 Male – Dubbo, 20-23 January**

Keith Davies  
Tony Hackett  
Colin Harper  
Pat Holt  
Peter Kent  
Bill McCarron  
Robert Ryan  
Peter Singh

**State Challenge U14 Male – Dubbo, 20-23 January**

Bob Allan  
Bruce Baxter  
Dennis Chaplin  
Pat Kerin  
Rob Pye  
Graham Moon  
Graham Rose  
Peter Smith

**Women's Regional T20 Bash Finals – SCG, 21 January**

Semi Final 1 – Sue Gregory & Margaret Marshall  
Semi Final 2 – Steve Eccles & Diana Venter  
Final – Dave Cullen & Bill Massingham

**Plan B Regional T20 Bash Finals – SCG, 26 January**

Sixers Conference Final – Graham Moon & Neil Smith  
Thunder Conference Final – Gary Crombie & Phil Rainger  
Final – Bruce Baxter & Graeme Glazebrook

**State Challenge U16 Male – BISP, 26-28 January**

Day 1 – Sathish Kumar, Russell Miles, Arthur Watson, Andrew Yarad  
Day 2 – Tony Carr, Geoff Garland, Sathish Kumar, Daniel Nichols  
Day 3 – Geoff Garland, Russell Miles, Daniel Nichols, Arthur Watson

*Country Cricket NSW Representative Programs*

**Kookaburra Cup – Albury / Wodonga, 7-10 January**

Bob Allan  
Roger Burns  
Dennis Chaplin  
Peter Done  
Pat Kerin  
Murray Le Lievre  
Bill Massingham  
Anthony McGettigan

**Bradman Cup – Albury / Wodonga, 7-10 January**

Ken Brooks  
Dave Cullen  
John De Lyall  
Barry Ferguson  
Brenton Harrison  
Graham Moon  
Stephen Poidevin  
Robert Ryan

There have never been more opportunities for umpires to be involved in representative cricket across New South Wales. Congratulations and best wishes are extended to all members who have been appointed.

Congratulations to Adrian Tham who made his first-class debut as a scorer in the Sheffield Shield match at the SCG between New South Wales and Western Australia in November. He is a humble person and dedicated, proficient scorer; it was pleasing to see Adrian make the step up to first-class level.

The finalists have been determined in the Kingsgrove Sports T20 Cup with Sydney to play Hawkesbury on Sunday 12 January 2020 at Drummoyne Oval. Congratulations and best wishes are offered to Troy



Penman and Ben Treloar who have been appointed to umpire the final.

Sydney and Hawkesbury will now represent NSW Men's Premier Cricket at the National Premier T20 Championships to be held in Adelaide 3-5 March 2020. Two NSW umpires will also travel to Adelaide for this tournament in what will be a fantastic experience for them.

Simon Taufel has written a book which has been published and just released for sale. It is titled *Finding the Gaps – Transferable Skills to Be the Best You Can Be*. It is a highly recommended and fascinating read. It is endorsed by people of the calibre of Sachin Tendulkar and Steve Waugh.

Sachin Tendulkar – “aspiring managers, sportspersons and those who are making a crucial career choice, will benefit hugely from the book.”

Steve Waugh – “a roadmap for all of us to help unlock our full potential and make the most of our talent.”

It is an outstanding resource, written succinctly, professionally and passionately, with the aim to assist people in their personal and professional development. The book is not for or about Simon, he has written it for others. One of the highlights of the book's layout is the use of chapter summaries to highlight key points and lessons.

The chapter titles give an outline of the book's contents:

- The Hardest Call I've Had to Make
- The Game Begins Before the Game Begins
- Results Through Routines
- Adapt to Advance
- Attitude Determines your Altitude

- Coachability
- We Cannot be Perfect
- Seven Traits of a Top Team
- Leading with Integrity and Values
- The 'C' word
- Pressure can Create a Diamond or Burst a Pipe
- Managing Conflict
- Why Focus Beats Concentration
- Bouncebackability
- Discipline is the Difference
- Use by Date
- Enjoy the Journey

Simon is one who has never forgotten where he has come from, he has always been a humble person, match official and leader. Typical of Simon, he has donated 100 books to NSWCUSA to sell to members, the funds accumulated from which will be used in the area of education and development. Simon has always expressed his appreciation and gratitude to NSWCUSA for the opportunities for growth it provided him. He has often referred to it as his second family.

We thank Simon for his generosity, along with his continued support of and interest in the Association.

*Finding the Gaps* can also be purchased through the Bradman Centre - <http://bit.ly/36loUul>

I wish to commend to all the excellent work of Stephen Blomfield who has been employed this year by Cricket NSW in the Competitions Team to manage the umpire appointments to the new Youth Championships. Stephen has done a phenomenal job, making 1,056 umpire appointments to Metropolitan Youth Championships matches. To all members who were involved in the various competitions (metropolitan and country) – thank you, we are very grateful for your

support and the quality of service provided to this new arrangement of junior representative cricket. It has been a great success, with the positive contribution of all match officials being a highlight.

Opportunity is taken here to acknowledge the NSWCUA staff for their hard work, exceptional dedication, loyalty and commitment to quality outcomes for members and affiliates. Thank you to:

- Troy Penman – Executive Officer
- Bede Sajowitz – Administrator
- Ben Treloar – Education Officer

Also, to Claire Polosak whose support of the team and work as Umpire Educator-Female Engagement has been outstanding.

Congratulations and well done to all.

To all members – you are the heart and soul of NSWCUA. Thank you for what you do. It was heartening to see the spirit of good will and friendship that existed at the Annual Convention and at the December Ordinary General Meeting where we took the time to celebrate Christmas together. The spirit in the Association is high, may we all continue to enjoy our involvement and the company of each other as we serve cricket to the best of our ability.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas, may it be a time for renewal, relaxation, giving and spending time with the important people in your lives – family and friends. To those travelling, please go safely. All the very best for 2020. I hope it is your best year yet.

Darren Goodger  
State Umpiring Manager



Umpires in Raymond Terrace for the Women's Country Championships



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## *Five NSWCUA Members Appointed to WBBL Finals*

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### **Bede Sajowitz**

Five NSWCUA members were appointed to officiate during the WBBL|05 Finals Series, taking place on 7-8 December at Allan Border Field.

Neil Findlay, Simon Lightbody, Troy Penman, Claire Polosak and Ben Treloar traveled to Brisbane for the weekend, which saw both the both semi-finals played on Saturday and the final on Sunday.

The morning semi-final was between the Adelaide Strikers and Perth Scorchers with NSWCUA members Simon Lightbody and Troy Penman involved as match officials.

Simon was on-field with Tasmanian Darren Close whilst Troy officiated as the Third Umpire. For both, it will be their first involvement in a WBBL semi-final.

Simon had previously stood in 12 WBBL matches since the competition commenced in 2015-16, including three this season, in addition to two matches in the 2019-20 Marsh One-Day Cup and the Sheffield Shield fixture between New South Wales and Western Australia.

Troy made his first appearance umpiring during WBBL|02 and has officiated 17 matches prior to the semi-final, including four in 2019-20. Troy was also on-field for the Prime Minister's XI match against Sri Lanka at Manuka Oval in October.

Claire Polosak and Ben Treloar were appointed on-field as the Brisbane Heat

hosted the Melbourne Renegades in the Saturday afternoon semi-final.

It was Treloar's first WBBL semi-final and Polosak's second, having been on-field in last season's semi-final between the Sydney Thunder and the eventual champions, the Brisbane Heat, at Drummoyne Oval.

Debuting on-field in the inaugural WBBL, Treloar has officiated in 20 WBBL matches including three fixtures so far in WBBL|05.

Also first appearing in WBBL|01, Polosak has been on-field in 16 previous WBBL matches, including four fixtures so far in 2019-20.

Both Claire and Ben were involved on-field in the recently completed Marsh One-Day Cup, doing one match each in the round-robin stage of the tournament.

The second semi-final was overseen by Match Referee Neil Findlay. Neil is a NSWCUA Life Member and was officiating his seventh match in this season's WBBL.

After the semi-finals it was advised that Claire and Ben were appointed on field for Sunday's final between the Brisbane Heat and the Adelaide Strikers.

For both, it was their first WBBL Final, coming in Claire's 18th WBBL match and Ben's 21<sup>st</sup>, including the semi-final they had officiated the day prior.



Ben debuted at a List A level this summer, on-field as South Australia played Tasmania in Adelaide in the Marsh One-Day Cup.

Claire was also heavily involved in the recent Women's International One-Day and T20 Series against Sri Lanka, on-field in two matches in each. of the three-match series.

Both Claire and Ben are members of the Cricket Australia Supplementary Umpire Panel, Claire having been elevated ahead of the 2015-16 season and Ben now in his third season since joining the panel in 2017-18.

Full match official appointments for the weekend were as follows-

### **Semi-Final 1**

#### **Adelaide Strikers v Perth Scorchers**

Umpires: Darren Close & Simon Lightbody

Third Umpire: Troy Penman

Match Referee: David Johnston

Scorers: Gail Cartwright & Phil Higgins

### **Semi-Final 2**

#### **Brisbane Heat v Melbourne Renegades**

Umpires: Claire Polosak & Ben Treloar

Third Umpire: Nathan Johnstone

Match Referee: Neil Findlay

Scorers: Gail Cartwright & Phil Higgins

### **WBBL|05 Final**

#### **Brisbane Heat v Adelaide Strikers**

Umpires: Claire Polosak & Ben Treloar

Third Umpire: Darren Close

Match Referee: David Johnston

Scorers: Gail Cartwright & Ted Williams



Ben Treloar and Claire Polosak enter the field for the WBBL Final on 8 December

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## *Gerard Abood Raises Bat with 50 List A Matches in the Middle*

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### **Cate Ryan Cricket Australia**

Congratulations to Gerard Abood who stood in his 50th List A match when he took to the field in the Marsh One-Day Cup Final between Queensland and Western Australia at Allan Border Field.

Abood made his List A debut in a Domestic One-Day Cup fixture in Wangaratta between Victoria and New South Wales in January 2006. Since then, he's stood in 44 matches on-field across six different sponsor iterations of the Australia One-Day Domestic competition. He has been appointed to a further 23 matches as TV Umpire.

His most significant List A appointment came at the Adelaide Oval on Friday 9 November 2018, where he made his Men's One-Day International debut in the match between Australia and South Africa.

Within his List A matches includes four touring matches which hold List A status, including the Quadrangular Series between Australia 'A', India 'A', South Africa 'A' and the Australian National Performance Squad in 2014.

During his career, Abood has been appointed in a List A Quarter; Elimination and Semi Final on-field and was selected as Third Umpire for the Final in 2017-18 and again last year at Junction Oval.

Abood's umpiring career spans two states having officiated in both New South Wales and Victorian Men's Premier Cricket

competitions. Shortly after making his Sydney First Grade debut, Abood was nominated for the CA Under 17 National Championships in 2001-02 before attending the CA Under 19 National Championships the following season.



Gerard Abood, Michael Kasprovicz and Earl Eddings

In 2003-04, Abood relocated to Melbourne for work and went on to stand in 54 Cricket Victoria Premier First-Grade fixtures whilst also representing the state at the 2004-05 CA Under 19 Male National Championships.

Abood returned to Sydney for the 2007-08 season and has since been appointed to a total of 137 games in the Sydney Premier Cricket competition, 94 of which have been in First-Grade.

Abood's appointment in the middle for his first One-Day Cup final also completes his treble of on-field domestic men's finals, having stood in the 2017-18 Sheffield Shield and 2018-19 KFC BBL finals.



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## *Adrian Tham Makes First Class Debut*

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### **Bede Sajowitz**

NSWCUSA member Adrian Tham made his First Class scoring debut in the Round 4 Sheffield Shield fixture between New South Wales and Western Australia, played at the SCG from 11 November.

Now in his thirteenth season at his NSW Men's Premier Cricket club, Eastern Suburbs, Adrian has been a regular fixture as a club scorer since the beginning of the 2007-08 season.

Tham joined the Association midway through his first season of scoring and became a Full Member at last year's AGM, paving the way for his representative career to begin.

Last season saw Adrian make his Women's National Cricket League, Women's Big Bash League and Second XI National Championship debuts.

He officiated his first WNCL match in the match between New South Wales and Victoria on 11 November 2018 at Blacktown International Sportspark.

It was at the same venue where he scored his first Second XI match between New South Wales Metropolitan and Tasmania from 15-18 October.

After recording his first WBBL fixture as the Sydney Sixers hosted the Perth Scorchers at North Sydney on 7 December, Tham went on to score two more WBBL matches in 2018-19.

Additionally, in the inaugural season of Second XI T20 in 2018-19, Adrian was involved in three fixtures over 30-31 January at Blacktown International Sportspark.

He scored a further five WBBL fixtures in 2019-20 including a fixture between the Sydney Sixers and Brisbane Heat on the weekend prior to his First Class debut.

Adrian is a well-respected and dedicated member of the Association, not only a regular feature at Annual Conventions but also always happy to assist with minor representative fixtures.



Kay Wilcoxon and Adrian Tham at the SCG prior to play

Tham's partner for the match was Fairfield-Liverpool Cricket Club scorer Kay Wilcoxon, with the pair receiving signals from NSWCUSA pair Greg Davidson and Simon Lightbody.

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## Conflict Management

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### Claire Polosak

There will always be conflict in sport. Officials who can identify potential areas of conflict, prevent these potential conflicts from happening and reacting appropriately, will not only perform better, they will also enjoy their officiating more.

Sources of conflict in sport can come from many different sources:

- Perceived bias from the official towards, or against a team
- Disagreement with decisions that are made by the officials
- Disappointment and frustration at the player's own performance
- Sportsmanship and relationships between players

The ability to be able to identify when and where the conflict is likely to occur is important in preventing possible conflict scenarios. Prevention is always better than a cure.

Strategies that may assist with preventing conflict on the cricket field include:

- **Use your two more powerful senses to take the game in.**

Hearing and eyesight. Use your ears to listen to the words that are being used and the tone from the players and use your eyes to watch the body language of the participants as well as the proximity the players are to each other. 90% of conflict on a sporting field occurs not because of

what has been said, but the way in which the message has been given.

- **When speaking to players offer options rather than threats.**

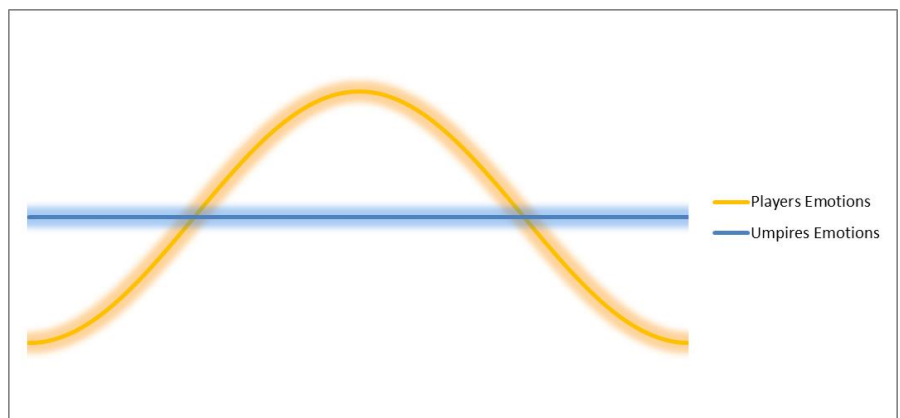
By providing options, this puts the choice in to the players' hands. Always have the positive option as the last one you mention to the players.

- **Address the behaviour not the person.**

By dealing with the facts and evidence officials are more likely to be perceived as making a fair decision. Remain objective regardless of prior knowledge you may have of a player. Having said that though, people don't generally respond well to being treated like an object- acknowledge them with eye contact and use their name if possible. Recognise that they would like to say something and don't necessarily dismiss them too quickly.

- **Always remain calm.**

When players emotions are fluctuating, it is so important for officials to remain calm and in control. I think of it like the graph below:



Sport can be emotional, and emotions tend to aggravate situations. There will be times when conflict cannot be managed or prevented. Some strategies that may assist in resolving conflict are:

- **Being professional.**  
Speak with confidence, keep your body language and tone of voice neutral when speaking to players and use objective, neutral language.
- **Where necessary, involve the captain.**  
Cricket is a unique sport. Under the Laws of the Game, the captain should be your advocate to assist you with managing their players. They are responsible for the behaviour of their players and ensuring the Spirit and Laws are upheld.
- **Remain calm.**  
See the graph above. When players are emotional, umpires are best to remain cool, calm and collected. This will assist the situation by minimising the chance of the situations being escalated due to the actions of the umpire.
- **Be confident and transparent.**  
Provide explanations when appropriate, however, be mindful of being defensive, justifying your actions, or entering into protracted discussions.

In addition to the strategies that are above, being aware of the physiological response that is happening to you when there is the potential for conflict is important.

I am far from a neuroscientist, and have only a basic understanding how our brains work, but what I can gather is this; our brains have been evolved to protect us from threats and/or harm.

In the early days of human life, these threats could very much mean the difference between life or death. In modern times, these threats are far less

serious with regard to any possible consequences, however our brains have not yet worked out the difference between a real or perceived threat, and at any point when we are threatened our primitive brain is called to action.

How does this translate to a cricket game?

When an angry fast bowler is questioning a decision that we have made (threat to ourselves), or when players' behaviour starts to reach the line of being unacceptable (threat to our control of the game), then our 'Flight or Fight' survival mode kicks in.

Our awareness and our reaction to this physiological response will greatly impact the effectiveness of our match awareness and match control.

How can you be aware that your body has enacted the 'Flight or Fight' response?

Symptoms include, but are not limited to:

- **Increased heart rate and breathing.**  
The body increases the heart rate and breathing so that the body has more energy available to respond to the danger (such as running away).
- **Pale or flushed skin.**  
As the body prepares for 'battle', it sends blood to areas that are going to be required- legs, arms and brain, for example.
- **Dilated Pupils.**  
This means that more light can be allowed into the eyes to improve vision of the surroundings.
- **Shaking**  
As your muscles prepare for a fight, they become tense, and this may mean you are now physically trembling. (*American Institute of Stress*).





If you are experiencing a response that is similar to the above, it is important to be able to recognise this and have a plan of attack of what to do:

- **Breathe**  
This brings oxygen in to your brain and may assist with your body slowing down.
- **Acknowledge the emotions you are feeling.**  
This allows the more modern parts of the brain, the 'thinking' parts of the brain to attempt to maintain control over the response of the primitive brain.
- **Count to six.**  
It takes six seconds for the stress hormones released to diffuse through your body.
- **Notice the environment.** Looking outside your body, will assist it with being distracted from what is occurring within.

Conflict is inevitable in sport. Being able to identify, prevent and control behaviour in a positive, professional manner is a

necessary skill for officials and separates the good officials from the great officials.

#### **Resources:**

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<[https://www.sportaus.gov.au/coaches\\_and\\_officials/officials/communication#managing\\_conflict](https://www.sportaus.gov.au/coaches_and_officials/officials/communication#managing_conflict)>



Christine Bennison and Sarah Berman scoring for their clubs at Old Kings

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## *U19 National Championships Umpires Confirmed*

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### **Bede Sajowitz**

The 2019-20 U19 Male National Championships were held in Perth from December 2-12, with ten umpires appointed to the tournament.

Amongst the panel of ten were NSWCUA members Drew Crozier, Berend du Plessis, Sharad Patel and Muhammad Qureshi.

Sharad attended the U19 Championships for the first time, having attended both the U17 and U15 Male National Championships on the Sunshine Coast and in Mackay earlier this calendar year.

Strong performances at October's U17 Male National Championships saw him appointed to the semi-final between New South Wales Metropolitan and Victoria Metropolitan.

After being elevated to the NSW State Umpire Panel ahead of the 2019-20 season, Patel made his WBBL debut at Drummoyne Oval this season, officiating the match between the Perth Scorchers and the Brisbane Heat.

Having debuted in NSW Men's Premier Cricket in 2015-16, Patel has now officiated in 68 Sydney Cricket Association (SCA) matches, including 25 at a First Grade level.

The carnival was Berend's second experience at the U19 level, having attended the 2018-19 edition held in Adelaide last December.

His appointment to that tournament came as a result of strong performances in the 2018-19 U17 Male National Championships in Mackay, where he was appointed to the Final.

In his second season as a member of the NSW State Umpire Panel, du Plessis officiated in six fixtures in this season's WBBL, adding to his tally of three matches in WBBL|04.

Berend made his debut in the four-day format of the National Second XI Championships in September, after being appointed to four T20 fixtures last summer.

Having made his first appearance on-field in NSW Men's Premier Cricket in the 2012-13 season, Berend has now officiated in 110 matches in SCA competitions, including 55 in First Grade.

The full panel of umpires for the 2019-20 U19 Male National Championships was as follows-

Daryl Brigham (Victoria)  
Drew Crozier (Australian Capital Territory)  
Steve Dionysius (Queensland)  
Berend du Plessis (New South Wales)  
Steve Farrell (Queensland)  
Sharad Patel (New South Wales)  
Muhammad Qureshi (Tasmania)  
Eloise Sheridan (South Australia)  
Trent Steenholdt (Western Australia)  
John Ward (Victoria)



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## Technical

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### Ben Treloar

During the recent Test Match between Australia and New Zealand at Perth's Optus Stadium, Matthew Wade was subjected to a barrage of consistent fast, short-pitched bowling from Neil Wagner.

The deliveries were played in a way that required the umpire to make a decision to either award or disallow runs to the batting side had the ball gone into the outfield and the batsmen attempted to run. Let's take a closer look at Law 23.2 as to whether runs are to be scored or not awarded as leg byes when the ball comes off the person of the striker, and the actions of the umpire in certain scenarios.

What do we need to consider when we are faced with the ball only making contact with striker's person?

To award leg byes, the ball must have been delivered and contacted the person (A.12 – A player's person - his/her physical person together with any clothing or legitimate external protective equipment that he/she is wearing) of the striker. This applies to the first and any such subsequent contact. At no stage can the ball come in contact with the bat. (N.B Law 34.4 where runs are not permitted from a ball lawfully struck more than once in defence of the striker's wicket.

This Law is similar in its' application preventing the batting side from being awarded any runs from that delivery apart from the penalty for a No ball or applicable 5-run penalties).

Let's say for the Matthew Wade scenario ([video found here](#)) in addition to the ball

only making contact with the person, the umpire is required to make a further determination as to whether the striker has either; attempted to play the ball with the bat, or tried to avoid being hit by the ball; to allow leg byes to be awarded to the batting side.



If the umpire is satisfied the striker completed either of the above actions and the ball comes off their person only, then they are duty bound to award leg byes to the batting side if subsequent runs are completed. For example, the striker attempts a leg glance to a delivery which she misses, and the ball contacts the pad, runs away down to fine leg and the batsmen complete a single – leg byes are to be awarded as the striker has attempted to play the ball with her bat.

This ticks off one of the actions. Another example might be when a bowler delivers a fast, short-pitched delivery which the striker attempts to sway out of the way of. Despite this attempt to avoid being hit by the ball, it contacts her arm



guard and runs away into the outfield and the batsmen complete two runs.

These are awarded to the batting side as leg byes because she tried to avoid being hit by the ball. Many commentators refer to this as taking evasive action.

But what if the striker shoulders arms to the delivery? Let's say a right arm bowler delivers a ball from round the wicket to a right-hand batsman. The ball pitches outside the line of leg stump, the striker plays forward whilst lifting his hands and bat up high above his head while allowing the ball to hit his pad. This is the same if the striker is facing an opening bowler who delivers a fast, short-pitched delivery which strikes her on the body making no attempt to avoid the delivery and just wearing it as is the case with some of the Matthew Wade examples.

For both scenarios if the ball happened to go into the outfield and the batsmen run, what does the umpire do?

If the umpire considers the striker did not attempt to play the ball with the bat nor tried to avoid being hit by the ball, then after one completed run, or when the ball reaches the boundary, whichever occurs first, the umpire shall call and signal Dead ball, return to the batsmen to their original ends and disallow the run or boundary. If the same occurs and the ball runs into the field and strikes a fielder's helmet on the ground behind the wicket-keeper, upon hitting the helmet, the ball shall immediately become dead and the umpire will return the batsmen to their original ends and no penalty runs are awarded to the batting side.

In all circumstances where leg byes are not to be awarded the delivery will count as one in the over. However, if the

delivery was a No ball, it will not count as one of the over but the one run penalty for the No ball will be scored.

The question then arises if we are not awarding runs for leg byes, why are we allowing the batsmen the opportunity to run? The reason for allowing the first run to take place is to provide an opportunity for the fielding side to run out either batsman. If the fielding side is successful in running out either batsman before the completion of the first run, a legitimate wicket has fallen. The reason for this is the ball remains in play up until the completion of the first run or the ball reaches the boundary.

This brings us to another scenario where runs are to be disallowed. What if the striker makes no attempt to play at the ball the bat nor tries to avoid being hit by the ball, where the ball first strikes the person of the striker and then inadvertently contacts the striker's bat? If the ball then runs off into the field of play and the batsmen run, we treat this exactly as the same as disallowing leg byes.



Theory being if there is no attempt to play at or avoid the ball then the batting side does not deserve runs. However, if the ball after making subsequent contact with the bat is caught by a fieldsman before the ball has contacted the ground, the striker is to be given out – caught. Law 23.2 and 23.3 has always had subjectivity associated with it, and at times appearing to be contentious when an umpire disallows the run.

If the umpire is satisfied that either a batsman has attempted to play the ball with the bat or tried to avoid being hit by the ball and the ball contacts the striker's person – leg byes can be awarded. However, if the umpire is not satisfied that either action has occurred, then the run or boundary shall be disallowed.



Patrick Smellie receives a guard of honour ahead of his 200th Sydney Shires match

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## Focus

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The following piece is an extract from Simon Taufel's newly released book, *Finding the Gaps*.

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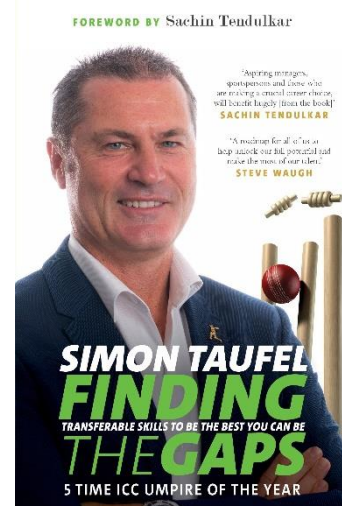
World class preparation involves focus. The ability to stick to your plans through self-discipline and have the strength and courage to say "no" to people or tasks that distract you from your goals.

One of the best ways to remain focused is to have regular reminders of your goals and why they are important through visualisation. Putting up your goals in prominent places around the home or workplace may seem awkward or embarrassing, but they act as a constant reminder of the "what" and "why" you are doing. If you don't have a coach, get one! I think everyone should have a coach to offer support by asking the right question at the right time. They can provide external accountability on matters like focus and completion of tasks when your own accountability slips.

I would share my preparation checklists, training activity spreadsheets and goals with my coaches. That worked for me and helped me to stay on track. We can take shortcuts, but then we have to accept the outcomes that go with them. A book worth reading is Wayne Bennett's book "Don't die with the music in you." He talked about his training sessions with the rugby league players when they were doing sprint work.

The guys who were not committed to training and preparation by pulling up three steps short of the finish line were not only hurting themselves by taking a short cut but also jeopardising team performance. See the finish line and run

through it. Hard work, self-discipline – FOCUS! You have to be able to clearly see the target to hit it, just like the archer. Aim for the bullseye and don't let anything else distract you from what you are aiming for.



When the effort appears to be dropping off, focus on what you are doing, but most importantly, why you are doing it. What will determine how successful you are going to be is what you when no one else is watching, so focus and don't get distracted.

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*"No matter how much enthusiasm the teacher has for you, or how persistent your family and friends are, at day's end it is up to you to be disciplined and motivated. If you love what you do, you can do anything. Discipline also means a no-nonsense attitude. That is, tunnel vision. Because the only lasting form of discipline is self-discipline."*

Wayne Bennett





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## *West of England Premier League Umpiring*

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### **David Abbey**

I had the recent experience of umpiring in the West of England Premier League 2 match between Midsomer Norton (near Bath) and Keynsham (from Bristol).

This opportunity had come about through contact with Ian Herbert from the UK who has umpired with us in Sydney the last two seasons. As I was to be in the UK for the World Cup in Nottingham, I had made myself available for a weekend before the June 6 game at Trent Bridge and was appointed by the WEPL Officer Les Clemenson (also the Umpires' Liaison at Trent Bridge games).

It was encouraging to find that all the expectations we have in our NSW Men's Premier Cricket were also the same standards in the West England Premier League. My fellow umpire was Bob Hampshire who has experience in County Cricket, Second XI County Cricket and West England Premier 1 and 2 Cricket.

We had initial contact through emails and discussing the standard ECB Playing Conditions before arriving at Midsomer Norton Field on Saturday 25 May for a thorough overview of the PCs and ground/pitch inspection. Bob prepared me to expect a very competitive game as both teams were seeking promotion to League 1.

Some of the interesting PCs were:

- 1 day start time 12.30pm and scheduled finishing time 7.30pm with possible "Golden half-hour" if needed till 8pm.
- Before play, each side provided their regulation Dukes cricket ball to the umpires which they would then bat against their own ball in their 50 overs. Both sides also provided another 4 balls of various ages (10 overs, 20 overs, 30 overs and 40 overs old) in preparation for any lost or out of shape balls.
- Each team must have a scorer to score for the entire game. If a team did not have a designated scorer then one of the eleven nominated players would have to score and take no part as a player in the game.
- The fielding team was given 3 hours and 5 minutes to complete bowling 50 overs. If they had not achieved this (unless prevented by weather interruptions) they received an automatic 1-point penalty.
- The possible points were 10 for a win plus one bonus point for each 25 runs



Midsomer Norton Field



scored after 100 runs to a max. of 225 runs and another point for each two wickets taken. Two extra points if you dismiss the opposition for less than 120 and for the team batting second, an extra point for each two wickets in hand.

- Comprehensive post-match reporting; including Fair Play, Pitch, Captains' marks and Team marks with significant penalties if teams scored 4 or 5 out of 10 (automatic 5 point penalty) or 0-3 out of 10 (automatic 10 point penalty). If captains scored 4 or 5 out of 10 they receive a warning for a one match ban and captains scoring 0-3 out of 10 receive an immediate two match ban.

The game was played on a delightful smallish boundary ground with a green square, a scorer's box with a ball by ball scoreboard, PVC pitch covers on wheels and lavish change-rooms next to an extensive food, entertainment and viewing area.

The standard of play was consistent with Second Grade in NSW Men's Premier

Cricket with a higher level of keeping demonstrated (100% clean takes when up to the stumps to medium/fast bowlers with two stumpings made). Player behaviour was exceptional with both captains' communication timely and collaborative.

Midsomer Norton scored 8 for 250 whilst Keynsham replied with 10 for 179. Both teams had players on County contracts from Somerset and Gloucestershire whilst Daniel Price (NZ U19) was the overseas player for Keynsham.

After the game I was presented with an WEPL umpire shirt and was given one of the match balls.

Both captains also completed verbal and written match reports with us as the umpires and their feedback was positive and encouraging.

This was a wonderful umpiring opportunity and I would recommend any NSWCUA members who may be travelling to the UK to take up the chance of a lifetime to umpire 'internationally'!



David with Midsomer Norton players after the match

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## Female Umpire Engagement

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### Claire Polosak

So far in season 2019-20, 19 female umpires have been appointed to matches across NSW.

These 19 females have had a total of 145 appointments in a variety of different competitions.

A breakdown of these appointments are as follows:

Competition	Appointments
SCA Men's	33
SCA Women's	37
NSW Youth Championships	21
Affiliated Umpires Associations	30
Pathway matches	32
<b>Total</b>	<b>153</b>

Thank you to Stephen Blomfield, Dr John Colwell, Darren Goodger, Troy Penman,

Bede Sajowitz and Bruce Whitehouse and affiliated Umpire Associations around the state who continue to provide umpiring opportunities and support for females.

### Female Umpire Mid-Season Training Session

On Tuesday 10 December, female umpires were invited to a session with Belinda Sleeman, who was the first female to referee an NRL game.

Belinda spent 2 hours with the females, discussing all sorts of aspects of being a female in a very male-dominated sport. She was very open to talking about her experiences, her training regime, the NRL referees review and self-assessment of their own games.

Belinda was also very interested in our own umpires, and their experiences beginning out in the middle for the first time. Belinda was so engaging that I forgot to take a photo of her and the group!



Erica Looyen and Megan Baker officiating in the Camden District Cricket Association Competition  
Photo- David Stewart

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## Around the Grounds

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### Compiled by Neil Findlay

#### *Inner West Harbour CUA & Church Cricket CUA*

Church Cricket NSW has merged with Inner West Harbour Cricket Association to form a combined A Grade competition. As a result of the merger, Inner West Harbour umpires have joined with Church Cricket umpires in umpiring Church Cricket matches.

Attempts are being made to recruit new umpires within Inner West Harbour and it is hoped that umpires from both the Inner West Harbour and Church Cricket Umpire Associations will complete the NSWCUA course planned for February 2020.

#### *Upper Hunter CUSA*

Notable umpire appointments:

- U14 Hunter T20 Final – Gavin Newton-Smith and Travis Batch
- NSW Country Youth Championships – Steve Eccles.
- Veterans Over 60 Championship – Steve Eccles.

#### *South Coast District CUA*

So far this season, SCDCUA are have had nine umpires officiate in the South Coast District Cricket Association (SCDCA) competition. Regular unavailability has left the Association struggling to appoint at least one umpire in all First and Second Grade matches across the district with usually six umpires available.

John Oliver umpired his 800<sup>th</sup> Match in SCDCA on Saturday 19 October which was a First Grade One Day fixture involving The

Rail and Shellharbour Cricket Clubs. John is the first umpire to officiate at 800 matches for SCDCUA in the SCDCA competition and we congratulate John on this outstanding achievement.

Gary Paget and Frank Ulcigrai were appointed to umpire the SCDCA First Grade One Day Final which is to be played at Geoff Shaw Oval on Sunday 15 December.

Paul Kitson umpired his final match with SCDCUA on Saturday 7 December which was his 445<sup>th</sup> Match in the SCDCA competition. We thank Paul for his service to our umpires' association and wish him all the best on his move up to Port Macquarie.

#### *Fairfield-Liverpool CUA*

The 2019-20 season kicked off with the election of Fairfield Liverpool Cricket Association stalwart and Life Member, Peter Moore as President. One of Peter's first duties was to congratulate Paul Marsh as the winner of the 2018-19 Doug Tyson Memorial Umpire of the Year Award. Doug will be remembered as a popular FLCUA and NSWCUA member who passed away in 2013.

The season opening saw an influx of several new members with a training course convened by Darren Foster. The course was held over five nights and facilitated by NSWCUA educator, Laurie Borg. Some nineteen members attended part or all of the course.



Our new members have taken up their duties working in the local Association, but as always, it is difficult to get a firm commitment from them to officiate every week.

Several of our members including Brent Bulliman, Rick Crocono, Bill Howard, Paul Marsh, Ray Marshall and Arthur Watson officiated in matches conducted in the Cricket NSW Youth Championships.

Our congratulations are extended to two of our long-term members, Darren Foster and Rick Crocono who, as members of NSWCUA reached personal milestones. Darren was appointed to his 150<sup>th</sup> SCA game and his 100<sup>th</sup> First Grade Game is just around the corner, a truly magnificent effort. Rick has reached his 100<sup>th</sup> SCA game. As a representative of the NSWCUA, Rick recently participated in an umpire exchange programme with the Illawarra Umpires Association.

Our Association, as always, is extremely appreciative of the ongoing, sponsorship and support we receive from the Cabra Vale Diggers Club.

#### *Murray Border CUA*

The season so far has seen a boom in representative Cricket with our umpires officiating in the following:

- NSW Youth Championships- Bob Allan, Ken Brooks, Tim Hanlon and Raj Kapoor
- Plan B Regional Bash- Ken Brooks and Norm Maclure
- Country Championships- Ken Brooks and Neil Smith (Final)
- VCCL u21s- Peter Bridle, Raj Kapoor and Brendon Wood
- National O70s- Bob Allan, Algy Arendarcikas,

Geoff Beer, Roger Burns, Tim Hanlon, Raj Kapoor, Stuart Lancaster (Div. 1 Final), Nick Moore, Neil Smith, Glenn Stevenson and Brendon Wood

- O'Farrell Cup- Geoff Beer and Peter Bridle
- Coulston/Scammell Shield- Bob Allan, Tim Hanlon, Anthony Holmes, Neil Smith, Brendon Wood
- Neil Smith also officiated in the Country Colts from the 16th to 19th December.

The amount of representative cricket played has allowed more MBCUA umpires to further their skills and experience and meet and enjoy the fellowship of umpires from other regions. Upcoming tournaments include North East Junior Country week and the Bradman and Kookaburra Cups to be held in the Albury/Wodonga area.

On a sad note we lost a well-respected member in Jon Carrodus who passed in away late November.

#### *Newcastle District CUA*

##### **Female Cricket/Special Events**

The NDCUA is affiliated with the Newcastle District Cricket Association (NDCA). The NDCA recently held its' inaugural Women's T20 competition. The competition involved 4 NDCA club teams with the final umpired by John Canning and Bruce Muddle.

##### **Major Umpire Appointments**

- Over 60s ODI – Australia vs England held on 28 November at Pasterfield Sports Complex, Cameron Park. Umpires appointed were Bill Bannon and Alan Nichols.
- Cricket Australia Under 18s Female National Championships, Hobart – Daniel Moran.





- NDCUA Umpires Standing in Kingsgrove Sports T20 Cup – Gary Crombie, Kieran Knight, Ross McKim, Daniel Moran.
- NDCUA Umpires standing in Plan B Regional Bash – Gary Crombie, John De Lyall, Ross McKim, Kim Norris.
- McDonalds Country Championships (Northern Pool) held in Central Coast– Gary Crombie
- McDonalds Country Championships (Sothern Pool) held in Goulburn– John De Lyall
- Country Colts Carnival held in Bathurst 16-19 December – Ross McKim

### Items of Interest

- Umpires standing in the NSW Youth Championships – Country and Metropolitan – during October and November were: Bill Bannon, Glenn Benton, Graeme Bruce, Bruce Muddle, John Canning, Gary Crombie, John De Lyall, Terry Collins, Andrew Hollingsworth, Alan Nichols, Kim Norris, Paul Olsen, Phil Rainger, Scott Thomas, Stephen Wade.
- NDCA One Day Competition held October / November for First and Second Grades:  
Tom Locker Cup Final – Gary Crombie & Ross McKim  
Royce McCormack Cup Final – Glenn Benton & Graeme Bruce
- McDonald's Women's Country Championships u13s held 19-20 December – Peter Tate.
- NDCA T20 Competition in full swing with fixtures in – u15s, u21s and Lower Grades. Semi-finals and Finals to be held in December.
- NDCA Masters T20 Competition kicked off on 4 December 2019.
- Newcastle City Council T20 Summer Bash to kick off on 14 January 2020.

Teams competing have increased to 14 this season with two teams from the Hunter Valley.

- First Grade debuts – Paul Kehoe, Alex Seccombe and Scott Thomas.

### *Sutherland Shire CUA*

The primary role of SSCUA is to provide umpires to officiate in both the Sutherland Shire Junior Cricket Association (SSJCA) and Sutherland Shire Cricket Association (SSCA) matches on Saturday mornings and afternoons respectively. In addition, we service games for local schools across a range of mid-week competitions including; CHS Davidson Shield and Cornish Trophy, the Combined Catholic Colleges Downie and Berg Shield competitions and the Christian Schools Sports Association fixtures.

SSCUA has long supported the District Cricket Association (DCA) junior representative matches and has been an active contributor to the umpiring pool in this season's NSW Youth Championships. We continue to provide umpires as required in the inter-district President (juniors), Telegraph and Martin Shields (seniors).

At present we have 55 active members many of who umpire regularly whilst the major component would consist of current cricketers who officiate when their team is on a compulsory umpiring duty round.

A summary of our membership participation mid-season is:

- (a) Juniors – 60 appointments to the 6 divisions of the 16 and 14 age groups.
- (b) Seniors – 50 appointments.
- (c) Inter-district matches – 14 appointments with many more to come over the next two months.



- (d) School matches – 31 appointments.
- (e) NSW Youth Championship – 7 members covering 30 matches including one semi-final.

A major goal of our Association, of which we are proud to achieve, is to provide two umpires to each match in both junior and senior semi-final and final matches in March each year.

SSCUA has long provided lectures followed by examination at the start of each season, and at other times if demand warrants, in order to add further to those qualified to umpire in local competitions. A handful of our members are also NSWCUA members and we have begun preliminary talks with NSWCUA with a view to upgrading the umpiring qualifications of our members, especially those expressing interest in umpiring NSW Youth Championship matches in 2020-21.

#### *Tamworth District CUA*

The 2019-20 season has been a challenging one and so far, a very busy one.

21 umpires attended the very successful NSWCUA training conducted by Gary Crombie and Claire Polosak which saw four new members attain their State badge including the President of Tamworth District Cricket Association, Ben Middlebrook, and Dave Bamforth who both play in the lower grades. Both gentlemen have now officiated in matches and have favourably impressed clubs and players alike with their skills.

Lauren McGill attained her NSWCUA badge and has now umpired in Second, Third and Fourth Grade matches and oversaw the Fourth Grade One Day final Day/Night match with Al Herbert on 14th December at No 1 Oval.

Lauren was also appointed to the U13 Female Country Championships at Raymond Terrace alongside Geoff Hoy, Ian James & Mike McKenzie from our Association.

Life members Simon Hood & John Thompson together with Leon Erich, Dan O'Connor and Wayne Solomons have now passed 400 matches in official games including juniors, grade, women's and school fixtures.

#### One Day Finals Appointments:

First Grade –

Ian James and Steve Beaton

Second Grade –

Ian Furner and Geoff Hoy

Third Grade –

Simon Hood and Mick Turner

Fourth Grade –

Lauren McGill and Al Herbert

TDCUSA have 24 members on our books currently and we have managed to provide officials in each of the four grades each week so far which is impressive. A long hot summer still awaits.



Ben Middlebrook and Dan O'Connor with captains prior to Ben's first official match as an umpire.

### *Mitchell CUA*

The commencement of the 2019-20 season has seen a major overhaul of the First Grade Competitions in four of the major centres within the Mitchell Council area. A five-team competition has been established drawing players from Mudgee, Gulgong and surrounding areas while a ten-team competition featuring teams from Bathurst and Orange has also been established.

The umpiring ranks in the Bathurst/Orange competition have been bolstered by the return of three vastly experienced umpires- Chris King, Gary McAulley and Greg Jones. Their return was a timely one with umpiring numbers within the Zone slowly falling and we look forward to all three imparting their vast knowledge to the less experienced umpires within our ranks.

Other umpiring highlights include the First Grade debut of Orange umpire Scott McLean in the Round 1 match between Kinross and CYMS and the Round 1 debut of Mudgee umpire Andrew Whale in the Mitchell Junior Competition. Both are extremely keen and eager to learn and we look forward to their positive input to umpiring in coming seasons.

Members also participated in various representative matches including the NSW Country Championships, Under 18 and Under 15 Women's Country Championships, NSW Youth Championships, Western Zone Premier League, Western Zone Plate, Western Zone Colts, Western Zone Under 16s and Mitchell Junior and Senior representative matches.

Thanks to the respective bodies for providing our members with the various

umpiring opportunities and also to NSWCUA for their assistance with training and development of cricket umpiring.

### *Murray Valley CUA*

The 2018-2019 season ended with the Macquarie Valley Cricket Umpires having eight regular umpires. Illness, retirements and umpires moving town have been reducing numbers, with a continuing need to fill 12 games each Saturday, Friday T20 games and representative games on Sunday. A strategy of recruitment and training began, to hit the 2019-2020 season with momentum. This involved local and NSWCUA resources. We appreciate and thank the NSWCUA for the resources that have been committed to MVCUA.

A NSWCUA Professional Development workshop for existing umpires was held in July with attendees coming from Bathurst, Dubbo, Narromine, Parkes and Toongi. Darren Goodger and Graeme Glazebrook conducted a very practical course, including the latest MCC Laws.

Leading female umpire Claire Polosak conducted a Community Officiating course in August for the beginners such as teachers, coaches, players.

A NSWCUA Level 2 course was held in September with 16 umpires attending from Dubbo, Mudgee and Narromine. The course was completed by Darren Goodger, Sharad Patel and Bede Sajowitz.

The course was completed in a bank, with Darren stating he never expected to spend Sunday in a bank!

Eight attendees were new. Seven passed and six (Steven Craggs, David Low, Angus



Norton, Brett Paul, Trevor Tink and Stephen Wolter) have now joined the MVCUA.

Darren Goodger also conducted a 60-minute session to the Dubbo Cricket captains on the Spirit of Cricket and Leadership among other subjects.

With the influx of new umpires, it created an opportunity for existing umpires to be given the role of mentoring and coaching by joining them on the field. Two months later we are now able to field two umpires for seven matches of First and Second Grade in the Dubbo Cricket Association competition each week. This assists umpires with their striker's knowledge and development.

The MVCU has also relocated to a new sponsor, The Pastoral Hotel, Dubbo in 2019-2020.

The season has presented challenges with the new helmet rules for fast and medium pace bowlers, dust and smoke on game days, water restrictions and new umpire development. Regular communication with all cricket stakeholders has been required.

Many of the MVCUA's umpires (John De Lyall, Colin Harper, Mark Munro, Doug Sandry and Peter Singh) have been selected for higher level junior carnivals. In addition, MVCUA umpires have been selected for the Western Zone Premier League senior games.

On an individual level, congratulations to John De Lyall who was elevated to the Country Umpire Representative Panel at the start of the season.

### *Northern Inland Cricket Umpires and Scorers Association*

The season to date has been challenging with the drought and bushfire impacting on some of our members.

We currently have 22 members and have covered games in War Veterans Cup, M. A. Connolly Cup and Northern Inland Cricket Council junior competitions with umpires travelling to Armidale, Bingara, Glenn Innes, Gunnedah, Inverell, Moree, Narrabri, Quirindi, Tamworth and Walcha.

With the Plan B Regional Bash being moved from Armidale to Tamworth because of the drought, the groundsmen have done a tremendous job getting the wickets up to standard. Geoff Hoy and Paul Purdy from NICU&SA were appointed to the Women's Regional Bash match at No 1 Oval played under lights on Saturday 26 October.

Bruce Baxter (North Coast), Ian Furner, Ian James and Peter Smith from NICU&SA were appointed to umpire the Men's Regional Bash games on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 October.

The following umpires were appointed to Cricket NSW Youth Championship in Tamworth in October- Mike McKenzie, Steve Eccles (u13s), Rodger Doughty, Arthur Yates (u14s), Paul Purdy and Simon Hood (u16s). In October, Peter Smith was appointed to u15s at Dubbo, Geoff Hoy was appointed to u13s at Dubbo. In September, Ian Furner and Ian James were appointed to u14s in Grafton.

Geoff Hoy as appointed to both the U15 and U18s McDonalds Women's Country Championship at Raymond Terrace.





Ian James and Wayne Solomons were appointed to the War Veterans Final at Narrabri on December 15.

Northern Inland Cricket Council Finals were also held on December 15, the following umpires were appointed-  
U16s - Geoff Hoy and Simon Smith  
U14s - Ray Nyland and Peter Smith  
U12s - Ian Furner and Steve Lalor

### *Riverina Zone*

During the 2019-20 season, umpires in the Riverina have been afforded plenty of opportunities to stand in cricket carnivals and matches conducted by Country Cricket NSW.

With the season half over, already 19 umpires have received appointments. Last season, 11 Riverina umpires received Country Cricket appointments. Obviously, the addition of the Youth Championships has opened up more opportunities for the Riverina umpires.

As seen by the list below, appointments are from the Country Championships right through to the Under 13 Youth Championships.

### **Country Championships (Southern Pool) at Goulburn:**

Ken Brooks and Tony Hackett.

**Country Championships Final at Wollongong:** Neil Smith [stood with Graeme Glazebrook from Western]

**Plan B Regional Big Bash at Albion Park, Shellharbour, Albury and Canberra;**

Ken Brooks, Dennis Chaplin, Tony Hackett, Pat Kerin, Murray Le Lievre, Norm Maclure and Graham Moon (Note: Only one of the ten matches were held in the Riverina.)

**Plan B Regional T20 Bash Finals, Sixers Conference Final, SCG –**  
Graham Moon and Neil Smith.

**Country Colts at Bathurst:** Dennis Chaplin, Brenton Harrison, Murray Le Lievre, Graham Moon and Neil Smith.

**Bradman Cup:** Ken Brooks, Brenton Harrison and Graham Moon.

**Kookaburra Cup:** Bob Allan, Roger Burns, Pat Kerin, Murray Le Lievre, Anthony McGettigan and Graham Moon.

**Under 13, 14 and 15 Youth Championships at Dubbo and Riverina:** Bob Allan, Phil Angel, Ken Brooks, Roger Burns, Steve Carracher, Dennis Chaplin, Tony Hackett, Tim Hanlon, Brenton Harrison, Raj Kapor, Pat Kerin, Murray Le Lievre, Anthony McGettigan, Graham Moon, Garry Tucker, Bob Ward and Matt Whitty.

(Note: Graham Moon also stood in the Youth Championships at Maitland.)

**Women's Country Championships at Raymond Terrace:** Dennis Chaplin

**State Challenge at Dubbo:** Bob Allan, Dennis Chaplin, Tony Hackett, Pat Kerin and Graham Moon.

**NSW Men's Premier Cricket:** Jeff Egan.

**Riverina Zone Carnivals:** Colts-Dennis Chaplin and Matt Whitty.

**Colston Scammell Shield:** Bob Allan, Anthony Holmes, Tony Hackett, Tim Hanlon, Pat Kerin, Neil Smith and Brendon Wood.



Graham Moon and Dennis Chaplin in Dubbo

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## *Education Officer Update*

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### **Ben Treloar**

A warm hello from the NSWCUA Education Officer. The following is a report of the undertakings of the association in the Education and Development space and what we have planned for the near future.

November welcomed a new umpires' workshop with 15 members in attendance at an evening session which was held at Cricket NSW's Sydney Olympic Park office.

Those in attendance were led through various on-field scenarios, using video analysis of actual events whilst relating them to similar experiences from the initial part of the season. We discussed how the scenarios were managed and invited participants to share their experiences, thoughts and feedback in an open forum. This allowed reflection of one's own performances and provided alternate management strategies for future use.

During the session we delved further into Law interpretation and application such as:

- Fielder encroachment
- Run out or Stumped?
- Obstructing the field
- Protective helmets belonging to the fielding side
- Runners

Fieldcraft and technique was integrated into the scenario discussions, with particular focus on:

### **Runners and the umpires' position on the field of play**

When a runner is introduced into a match it is important for the umpires to come together, slow things down and, instruct the injured striker and runner to where they need to be situated when they are at the striker's and non-striker's end, respectively.

We discussed different techniques enabling the umpire at the bowler's end to go to the same side as his/her partner (situated at point) when the injured striker is on strike and there is a run taken. This will avoid the possibility of the runner running behind the umpire.

### **Non-verbal communication at the striker's end**

This discussion highlighted the importance of non-verbal communication during the match and asked what information can be obtained and/or conveyed between the two umpires simply by using soft signals and eye contact. The signalling of fast/short pitched deliveries, one/two above the shoulder, wides above the head, where the striker is in relation to the popping crease, times when the ball is played off the striker's bat or person down the leg side, rechecking the number of balls in an over after Wides or No balls/ wickets having been put down... were all covered off.

We stressed the importance of talking about the above points with your partner before the match and agreeing on signals and their interpretation to ensure these

are concise, effective and clearly understood.

NSWCUSA was invited to attend the Central Coast Cricket Umpires' Association OGM and here we provided an Umpire Training Session. This was held at the Ourimbah Lisarow RSL Club. There were 17 members in attendance who genuinely engaged during the training session. We provided video analysis of Laws, in particular, LBW and Hit wicket.

Experiences from the season were shared which the whole room benefited from and there was a heavy focus on technique and fieldcraft including, movement from the bowler's end non-verbal communication between the on-field umpires.

Work has now commenced providing our members with their NSW Men's Premier Cricket captains' marks and comments for season 2019-20. So far, 60 umpires have taken up this opportunity. The marks and comments can assist umpires to identify trends or perceived traits that may be recurring in their officiating.

Reports can also highlight areas of strength for an umpire, as well as any challenges they may be facing. This can assist an umpire by providing focus for match goals. Should umpires wish to discuss their comments, they are welcome to make contact with myself. Captains'

marks and comments will be made available again after Round 12 and then after the season has concluded.

Members will receive correspondence from the Executive Officer alerting them of this opportunity and closing dates for requests.

To date, there have been 138 observer reports provided to members during the initial part of the 2019-20 season. As always, the observers are providing an outstanding service to members, providing accurate, timely and relevant reports with observations and targeted feedback to NSW Men's Premier Cricket umpires.

Umpires' strengths are highlighted, as are areas for improvement, which lead to the development of match goals and, thus, fueling the continual improvement process.

Lastly, the NSWCUSA and its' accredited trainers will be providing a Laws of Cricket Training Course held at Bankstown Sports Club, 8 Greenfield Parade, Bankstown, commencing Tuesday 4 February at 6:30pm for five nights. If you would like to register for this course or require more information, then, please contact with the NSWCUSA Education Officer [Ben.Treloar@cricketnsw.com.au](mailto:Ben.Treloar@cricketnsw.com.au) or on 0420 822 532 for a registration form.



Laurie Taylor, Roberto Howard and Scott Rogan revising the Laws

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## SCA Milestones

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### Stephen Blomfield

Congratulations to the following members who have reached milestones in the Sydney Cricket Association since the last publication!

- Rodney Porter – NSW Men's Premier Cricket First Grade debut
- Rick Crocono – 100 matches in the Sydney Cricket Association
- Dean Martin – 100 matches in the Sydney Cricket Association
- Kim Hunter – 150 matches in Sydney Shires Cricket
- Darren Foster – 150 matches in the Sydney Cricket Association
- Bruce Whitehouse – 150 matches in the Sydney Cricket Association
- Patrick Smellie – 200 matches in Sydney Shires Cricket
- Mark Hughes – 200 matches in the Sydney Cricket Association
- Darren Goodger – Moved into Third onto the All-time List of First Grade matches (269)



Darren Goodger (269th) and Rodney Porter (1st) stand together at David Phillips South



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## 7 Assumptions We Need to Stop Making About Other People

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### Marc Chernoff

*Never underestimate a person's challenges. Everyone is struggling. Some are just better at hiding it than others.*

Too often we judge people too quickly, or too subjectively. We tell ourselves stories about them without thinking it through—our perceptions and biases get the best of us. I was reminded of this today when I received the following in an email (I'm sharing this with permission):

*"...I learned the hard way that a smile can hide so much—that when you look at a person you never know what their story is or what's truly going on in their life. This harsh reality became evident to me this morning when I found out one of my top students—always straight A's, a positive attitude, and a smile on her face—died by suicide last night. Why? Nobody seems to know. And it's killing me inside."*

Talk about a reality check, right?

What we tell ourselves about others—what we think we know—is often far from the truth.

And with that in mind, I'm sitting here reflecting on all the little things we have to stop assuming about other people, for their sake and ours...

1. We need to stop assuming that the happiest people are simply the ones who smile the most. – Behind the polite smiles and greetings people give you, some are hurting and lonely. Don't just come and go. See them.

Care. Share. Listen. Love. We can't always see people's pain, but they can always feel our kindness. So be kinder than necessary.

2. We need to stop assuming that the people we love and respect won't disappoint us. – When we expect perfection we tend to overlook goodness. And the truth is, no one is perfect. At times, the confident lose confidence, the patient misplace their patience, the generous act selfish, and the informed second-guess what they know. It happens to all of us too. We make mistakes, we lose our tempers, and we get caught off guard. We stumble, we slip, and we fall sometimes. But that's the worst of it... we have our moments. Most of the time we're pretty darn good, despite our flaws. So treat the people you love accordingly—give them the space to be human.
3. We need to stop assuming that the people who are doing things differently are doing things wrong. – We all take different roads seeking fulfillment, joy, and success. Just because someone isn't on your road, doesn't mean they are lost.
4. We need to stop assuming that the people we disagree with don't deserve our compassion and kindness. – The exact opposite is true. The way we treat people we strongly disagree with is a report card on what we've learned about love,



compassion, kindness and humility.

5. We need to stop assuming that we can't trust people we don't know. – Some people build too many walls in their lives and not enough bridges. Don't be one of them. Open yourself up. Take small chances on people. Let them prove your doubts wrong, gradually, over time.
6. We need to stop assuming that the rude people of the world are personally targeting us. – We can't take things too personally, even if it seems personal. Rarely do people do things because of us. They do things because of them. And there is a huge amount of freedom that comes to us when we detach from other people's behaviours. So just remember, the way others treat you is their problem, how you react is yours.
7. We need to stop assuming that other people are our reason for being unhappy, unsuccessful, etc. – We may not be able control all the things people say and do to us, but we can decide not to be reduced by them. We can choose to forgive, or we can choose to forget. We can choose to stay, or we can choose to go. We can choose whatever helps us grow. There's always a positive choice to make. Thus, the only real, lasting conflict you will ever have in your life won't be with others, but with yourself... and how you choose to respond... and the daily rituals you choose to follow.

#### Dealing with People Who Deeply Offend Us

Some of the points above (like numbers 4 and 6 for example) potentially require a willingness to cordially deal with people

who yell at us, interrupt us, cut us off in traffic, talk about terribly distasteful things, and so forth.

These people violate the way we think people should behave. And sometimes their behaviour deeply offends us.

But if we let these people get to us, again and again, we will be upset and offended far too often.

So what can we do?

There isn't a one-size-fits-all solution, but here are two strategies Angel and I often recommend:

- Be bigger, think bigger. – Imagine a two-year-old who doesn't get what she wants at this moment. She throws a temper tantrum! This small, momentary problem is enormous in her little mind because she lacks perspective on the situation. But as adults, we know better. We realize that there are dozens of other things that 2-year-old could do to be happy. Sure, that's easy for us to say—we have a bigger perspective, right? But when someone offends us, we suddenly have a little perspective again—this small, momentary offense seems enormous, and it makes us want to scream. We throw the equivalent of a two-year-old's temper tantrum. However, if we think bigger, we can see that this small thing matters very little in the grand scheme of things. It's not worth our energy. So always remind yourself to be bigger, think bigger, and broaden your perspective.
- Mentally hug them and wish them better days. – This little trick can positively change the way we see people who offend us. Let's say someone has just said something



unpleasant to us. How dare they! Who do they think they are? They have no consideration for our feelings! But of course, with a heated reaction like this, we're not having any consideration for their feelings either—they may be suffering inside in unimaginable ways. By remembering this, we can try to show them empathy, and realize that their behaviour is likely driven by some kind of inner pain. They are being unpleasant as a coping mechanism for their pain. And so, mentally, we can give them a hug. We can have compassion

for this broken person, because we all have been broken and in pain at some point too. We're the same in many ways. Sometimes we need a hug, some extra compassion, and a little unexpected love.

Try one of these strategies the next time someone offends you. And then smile and breathe, armed with the comforting knowledge that there's no reason to let someone else's behaviour turn you into someone you aren't.



Greg Davidson and Simon Lightbody ahead of the Sheffield Shield match between NSW and WA at the SCG

### CRIC-O-KU Number 8

Clue: An interval

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

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 7: Solution

Y	A	6	R	B	O	N	U	O
D	N	U	A	O	6	R	B	Y
O	R	B	Y	U	N	D	6	A
U	6	R	O	N	Y	A	D	B
A	Y	O	U	D	B	6	N	R
B	D	N	6	A	R	Y	O	U
N	B	Y	D	R	O	U	A	6
6	O	A	N	Y	U	B	R	D
R	U	D	B	6	A	O	Y	N

### December 2019 Merchandise Winner

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

**\$100 Merchandise Voucher**

**08/4726-0**



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## McDonald's & Beastwear

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### Troy Penman

Last season saw NSWCUSA undertake two sponsorship agreements; one with global fast food chain McDonald's and the other with custom made sportswear company Beastwear. These two agreements are both continuing into the 2019-20 season.

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

Beastwear will 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.

The Association has ordered shirts to allow all umpires in the NSW Premier Cricket competition, Sydney Shires competition,

the NSW Premier Women's Cricket competition and the Country Cricket NSW representative programs to have access to 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.



A screenshot of the Beastwear website banner. The banner features the Beastwear logo (a blue paw print with a 'B' inside) and the tagline "Unleash The Beast Within". Below the logo, there is a navigation bar with links for "SPORTS", "PRODUCTS", "DESIGN", "INFO", and "NEWS". A green button in the top right corner says "FREE SAME DAY QUOTE CLICK HERE". The main image shows four people wearing blue Beastwear polo shirts and caps. Text on the left says "Upgrade to our Express Production Service 10 Business Days" and "That's Australia's best delivery time! Speak to our sales team for more info". Navigation arrows are visible in the bottom right corner.

## 60 SECONDS WITH...

*Roberto Howard*



*Abbey Sim*



*Ken Brooks*

## 60 SECONDS WITH ROBERTO HOWARD

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Roberto Howard</b>
<b>Day Job?</b>	High School Teacher & Sports Coordinator in Maroubra
<b>Officiating Debut? The first time you fired someone?</b>	From memory it was 2009-10 was when I made my debut in a Fourth Grade match. I'm sure that I fired someone in that match
<b>Career officiating highlight (so far)?</b>	Making my WBBL debut last year at Hurstville Oval with Berend Du Plessis.
<b>Best cricketer you have officiated?</b>	When I first came into First Grade, umpiring Brad Haddin and Ed Cowan was a buzz for me. There are always NSW contracted players playing in the First Grade teams these days.
<b>Strangest (funniest) thing to happen whilst on a cricket field?</b>	Standing in a match at Coogee Oval on a hot day and the Irish backpackers thought it would be hilarious to run onto the field.
<b>Who is your favourite official to have or still is officiating in a sport (any sport)? Why?</b>	Rugby referee Nigel Owens. He is very well respected by all stakeholders in the game of rugby. He is a clear communicator and his match management skills are excellent.
<b>Any superstitions?</b>	Always wear white socks to umpire matches, except for WBBL/BBL.
<b>Any special talents?</b>	Not really. I am a pretty plain and simple person.
<b>Best piece of advice?</b>	Focus on process rather than the outcome
<b>What got you into umpiring?</b>	My dad umpired Premier Cricket and I started by doing it for a bit of cash on the side after I finished school as I didn't really impress on the cricket field!
<b>Three people you would love to have dinner with?</b>	Don Bradman David Attenborough Cooper Cronk

## 60 SECONDS WITH ABBEY SIM

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Abbey Sim</b>
<b>Day job?</b>	I work casually for Cricket NSW, delivering kids' cricket programs at schools and for cricket clubs. I'm also studying Law and Communications at UTS, majoring in Creative Writing.
<b>Officiating Debut and the first time you fired someone?</b>	My officiating debut was on November 11, 2018 in the Mollie Dive Shield between Bankstown and Penrith. I was the umpire who Bankstown were supplying for the game, and I didn't know who my partner was going to be until I got there. I certainly fired a few people in that game!
<b>Career (to date) officiating highlight(s)</b>	Going to Raymond Terrace for the Female Country Cricket Championships in October this year, as well as the 2019 State Challenge.
<b>Best cricketer you have officiated?</b>	In Raymond Terrace, I umpired a young woman named Rachel Carroll. She played u15s even though she was actually the captain of the u13s, and the weekend following the carnival she bowled and batted defiantly in a brilliant game in which ACT chased down a mammoth score posted by Canterbury Wests. To be perfectly honest, the passion of that entire ACT u13 girls' team really inspired me, I was grateful for my sunglasses that day as I felt quite emotional at watching a group of girls I'd been following through the week give their all on the cricket field.
<b>Strangest (funniest) thing to happen whilst on a cricket field?</b>	In Raymond Terrace, a batter was caught off a no ball, then ran through thinking she was just crossing for the catch and then was run out by the fielder who threw it at the stumps knowing it was a no ball. I felt a little silly signalling no ball, then out, when it had been caught, so much so that I actually committed the cardinal sin of changing my signalling hand, no ball with the left arm, arm down, out with the right. What's more, there were two other run outs in that same game off no balls or free hits!
<b>Who is your favourite official to have or still is officiating in a sport (any sport)? Why?</b>	I never fail to be in awe of Claire Polosak and the role which she plays in providing a place for women in cricket umpiring. To have the strength of character and determination to succeed which she has consistently demonstrated from a young age has been inspiring. She continues to be humble and hardworking on and off the field. This sets an example for match officials, male and female, young and old, to follow.



<b>Any superstitions?</b>	Sometimes when I'm umpiring I pray (in my head) for truthfulness in my decisions and to love the players, my fellow match officials and the players' families well. This did lead to the situation where I very nearly called 'Amen' instead of 'Over!'.
<b>Any special talents?</b>	I am a keen crafter. I like knitting (generally baby clothes, despite my cricketing interest I'm somewhat impatient so that means that each project is finished quickly) and cross-stitching (currently I'm working on an nativity design which I'm trying to complete throughout Advent). I also enjoy writing fiction, although I probably do a bit more creative thinking these days rather than creative writing. I am currently in the process of editing a novel-length work and have a number of other long-form projects underway.
<b>Best piece of advice?</b>	I have often received the advice from Kevin McFarlane to have fun while I'm umpiring. I'm not sure if I apply it as often as I should - sometimes I take myself a little too seriously. A friend the other day told me that sometimes it's important to watch a movie, eat some chocolate and have a cry, something I've fortunately not done after a game yet but no doubt I'll get there at some stage. I love taking on other people's feedback, there's certainly a lot that I can learn from.
<b>What got you into umpiring?</b>	I saw advertised on the Cricket NSW website that there was a free umpiring course offered for women. I didn't really think that I would ever actually umpire, but I went along and enjoyed it. Over the next year (which was the year I was in Year 12), I went to a lot of courses, being encouraged along the way to actually take up umpiring. Eventually my Mum told me that I either needed to take the plunge or stop taking courses, so I started umpiring.
<b>Three people you would love to have dinner with?</b>	My late great-grandmother Nanna Jean Tim Paine Jesus

## 60 SECONDS WITH KEN BROOKS

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Ken Brooks</b>
<b>Day job?</b>	Audio Visual Technician at LaTrobe Uni, Wodonga campus, at least until March when I will be retiring. After that, a grey nomad in the winter months and umpiring during summer.
<b>Officiating Debut and the first time you fired someone?</b>	Debut Oct '06; Most probably day 1 – but the most memorable was giving my nephew out LB when, as he keeps telling me at every family Christmas dinner since, he was on his way to a 100.
<b>Career (to date) officiating highlight(s)</b>	Officiating at the SCG with Dave Cullen in last season's Regional Big Bash Semi.
<b>Best cricketer you have officiated?</b>	That's hard to answer as I've had the honour to umpire a lot of great players, but the best I've had the pleasure of umpiring more than the odd time was Sahib Malhotra for Tallangatta CC. He is an import from India who has played here in Albury the last couple of seasons. He is a gentleman on and off the field and plays the game in the right manner. He had the ability to build an innings and was great batting with his younger team mates, always talking <b>to</b> them, rather than <b>at</b> them.
<b>Strangest (funniest) thing to happen whilst on a cricket field?</b>	Having to stop play as a father of one of the batting team calmly walked onto the ground to catch a 1.5m brown snake that was making its way towards the clubhouse from the tennis courts on the side of the oval. He was a professional snake catcher who was there watching the game when someone noticed the snake move towards the clubhouse. After the game he said that he always told his clients that they should keep their grasses mowed short around their homes because snakes didn't like moving across open ground, he needs to rethink that I think...
<b>Who is your favourite official to have or still is officiating in a sport (any sport)? Why?</b>	Pierluigi Collina, he refereed the 2002 FIFA World Cup Final between Brazil and Germany and was voted the best referee in the world six times. He didn't care about players reputations or pay-packets and didn't put up with their diving or pretending to be shot from the grassy knoll. He let play go but had that ability to control the game without letting things get out of control.
<b>Any superstitions?</b>	Not really, but I do hate feeling rushed, so I like getting to the game early, if that qualifies as a superstition.
<b>Any special talents?</b>	None that I can think of.



<b>Best piece of advice?</b>	I always try to follow two pieces of advice I received from two umpires I have a lot of respect for: 1. When talking to the players always remember how you wanted to be talked to when you were a player. 2. Always try to be the best umpire you can be by doing the little things to the best of your ability.
<b>What got you into umpiring?</b>	A friend who I refereed football (soccer) with, Graham Watson, talked me into giving it ago, the best sporting decision I've ever made, so thanks Watto.
<b>Three people you would love to have dinner with?</b>	Pierluigi Collina Kenny Dalglish Billy Connelly

# NEW MEMBERS

Name	Suburb	Name	Suburb
Allan Jones	Emu Heights	Graeme Taylor	East Maitland
Anthony Ferraro	Cabramatta West	Graham Dodd	Bowral
Anthony Holmes	Rutherglen	Kathryn Murphy	Maroubra
Ben Campbell	Green Point	Lauren McGill	Tamworth
Brian Dick	Hebersham	Lorne Cummings	Pymble
Bruce Alp	Boambee East	Marlon Meurling	Oakhurst
Carl Keating	Newcastle	Murray Miles	Claremont Meadows
Charlie Williams	East Side	Nicolas Warburton	Orange
Craig Willsmer	River Way	Paul Purdy	Calala
Daniel Ebert	Cessnock	Peter Murphy	Figtree
Daniel Ford	Fairfield West	Russell Cowell	Glebe
Darren D'Mello	Liverpool	Scott McKay	Coal Point
David Brown	Hinchinbrook	Shivakumar Hampasagar	Horsley
David Low	Dubbo	Steven Craggs	Dubbo
Glen Bock	Griffith	Trevor Tink	Dubbo



NSWCUSA Life Member Simon Taufel with new members Darren D'Mello and Brian Dick at the December OGM



# 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)



Simon Fry (left) and Bob Stratford (right) with Ben Treloar (middle) ahead of his List A Debut



#### **NSWCUSA & Cricket NSW Match Officials Staff**

**Executive Officer  
Troy Penman**

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

**Administrator  
Bede Sajowitz**

[Bede.Sajowitz@cricketnsw.com.au](mailto:Bede.Sajowitz@cricketnsw.com.au)  
0427 947 000

**Umpire Educator/Female Umpire Engagement  
Claire Polosak**

[Claire.Polosak@cricketnsw.com.au](mailto:Claire.Polosak@cricketnsw.com.au)  
0417 074 458

**Education Officer  
Ben Treloar**

[Ben.Treloar@cricketnsw.com.au](mailto:Ben.Treloar@cricketnsw.com.au)  
0420 822 532

**State Umpiring Manager & Coach  
Darren Goodger**

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