

IN BLACK & WHITE

THE JOURNAL OF THE NSW CRICKET UMPIRES' AND SCORERS' ASSOCIATION



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CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

MARK HUGHES

Dear Members,

Welcome to our December edition of **In Black & White**.

It's wonderful after another challenging winter and spring to be back out on the field and enjoying involvement in cricket, no matter the level of the game being played. Over the off-season I had the privilege to attend, either in person or via electronic means, a number of our affiliates' annual general meetings. I was continually encouraged by so many of our members' outstanding service to their local communities and associations, ensuring not only that cricket is able to be played, but match officials are so well prepared for their on-field duties.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge two of our members, one announcing their standing down from representative scoring duties, and another retiring from on-field umpiring.

Geoff Rogers has decided to stand down from scoring representative cricket. Having scored at First Grade level since 1988, Geoff is a respected scorer and club volunteer having now served the game for more than 30 seasons. Geoff enjoys the respect of Cricket NSW operations staff and his scoring colleagues, both a person and a fine representative scorer, having recorded numerous men's NSW second XI and WNCL matches.



SSCUA's Gordon Smith

Gordon Smith from the Sydney Shires Cricket Umpires' Association recently announced his retirement from umpiring. Gordon officiated in over 500 matches in the Sydney Cricket Association, with a significant number of matches in both the men's and women's competitions. He stood with me in my first on-field match and was willing to teach not only me, but numerous other first time umpires, the basics of fieldcraft and technique. So many of our members will have 'a little bit of Gordon in them' in the way they officiate their matches.

Geoff and Gordon are just two of so many unsung and not often recognised members who have given so much to umpiring and scoring, with significant contributions spanning across all levels of the game, from the grassroots and local cricket through to the representative arena.

Best wishes to all of you over the summer months to come, and I hope the festive season is enjoyed by you all with your friends and family at this special time of the year.



Sue Woodhouse and Geoff Rogers at Joe McAleer Reserve

EXECUTIVE OFFICER UPDATE

TROY PENMAN

Dear Members and Affiliated Associations,

As we come to the end of 2021, it has been pleasing to see the progress the Association has made throughout the year and the many achievements of members.

A personal highlight for this year has been the increased attendance at Association meetings whether held via electronic means or in a hybrid fashion. The average attendance for meetings this year was 135 members with a peak attendance of 180 at the October Ordinary General Meeting. These numbers are significantly higher than when meetings were solely conducted in-person and the challenges provided by COVID have turned into excellent opportunities.

The Association aims to provide educational and informative meetings for all members. We are constantly reviewing our operations and will look at what improvements we can make to ensure that members continue to enjoy and benefit from meetings.

It was pleasing to see the Social Committee return to facilitating their traditional raffle at the December OGM. The new Committee under the leadership of Michael Meehan have made a promising start to their time in the role and we look forward to seeing what they have in store for members in the new year.

On behalf of the Association, we thank those who have contributed to our OGMs on a regular basis:

- State Umpiring Manager, Darren Goodger
- The Examination Committee for delivering the Laws of Cricket sessions

- Education Officer, Ben Treloar
- Laurie Borg, Mark Hughes and Bede Sajowitz for their respective reports

Also thank you to our members who presented on their own experiences throughout the year for the benefit of members, these sharing of experiences benefits everyone.

Cricket is now more accessible than ever; more and more competitions are covered via live streams that allow people anywhere in the world to watch a match that may be of interest to them. The Association does thank competition management and club administrators for their efforts in facilitating the streams which provide coverage for our members.

The increased exposure for Country Cricket is wonderful to see, recently the Plan B Men's and Women's Regional Bash competitions, along with the Bradman Cup, were accessible via the Frogbox program and it was wonderful to see so many members dressed immaculately in the McDonald's/Beastwear field shirt displaying their skills across the state.

We look forward to these live streams continuing throughout the Country Cricket Representative competitions for the remainder of the season and beyond.

The Association would like to acknowledge Rina Hore, who will be stepping down from her role with the Bradman Foundation.

Rina, and in turn the Bradman Foundation, have been wonderful supporters of NSWCUA in recent years, and we wish to thank her for the years of dedicated service to the Bradman Foundation and the benefits that members and the Association have seen as a product of her work.

For a number of years now the Foundation has provided two trophies for awards presented at our Annual Dinner. The winners of the Kevin Pye Medal

(Country Umpire of the Year) and the Malcolm Gorham Scorers' Award have received a statue of Sir Donald Bradman as their trophy.

The Association held its 2015 Convention at the Bradman Museum, where attendance was limited to 110 members with the weekend being booked out within weeks, such was the interest to attend the magnificent facility that is the Bradman Museum. Rina and her team were incredible hosts who ensured that members had a thoroughly enjoyable two days.

On behalf of the Board, Management and Members, we wish Rina well for the next chapter in her life.

One for members and affiliated associations to place in their diary is that the Association's Annual Dinner and Awards Night which has been confirmed for Saturday April 23. An official note will be sent to members prior to Christmas.

A key priority for Management in 2022 will be the implementation of an online portal for members to undertake Laws of Cricket questions and exams. The preferred software has been purchased and a Committee will be meeting in the new year to finalise content, structure, and roll out. We look forward to advising members of progress in the next edition of **In Black & White**.

Online training continues to be very prosperous for the Association. The educators have done a wonderful job in trying to keep up with demand for courses and we have seen 119 new members join the Association this year. It is hoped that we can return to face-to-face training in 2022 to ensure that we can cater for all needs and eliminate any barriers to attending courses.

I'd like to thank and acknowledge the incredible amount of work that has been undertaken and achieved by Bede Sajowitz this year. Faced with a number of challenges and roadblocks Bede has continued to maintain a first-class standard of service to members.

Dealing on a day-to-day basis with over 1300 members Bede has dealt with all request and enquiries in a timely fashion. Well done and thank you Bede.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank members who sent me a message or email on the birth of my second daughter Adele. It has been an incredibly busy first month and the messages have been greatly appreciated. We are slowly getting into a routine as a family of four and hopefully more sleep will follow.

As we come up to the festive season staff will be taking a well-earned break to recharge the batteries and come back fresh for 2022. In the Christmas newsletter we'll advise of leave dates.

Thank you to all members and affiliated associations for their continued support of NSWCUSA this year. The Association exists for the members and to provide an enjoyable experience for all.

"Alone we can do so little; Together we can do so much" – Helen Keller

In closing I'd like to wish everyone well for the upcoming festive period, enjoy spending time with family and friends, something we have missed out on recently. We look forward to seeing everyone again in 2022 which will no doubt be another busy and fruitful year for the Association.



Clay Flnnmore and Chris Beecher at University Oval

STATE UMPIRING MANAGER UPDATE

DARREN GOODGER

The season is in full swing and it's great to have cricket being played across the state. Thank you to all our match officials for your continued commitment and contribution to our game. Thank you also to the outstanding CNSW Competitions staff for their work in getting the season underway.

WBBL|07

Congratulations to Simon Lightbody (field) and Claire Polosak (third) on their respective appointments to the final of WBBL|07, played at Optus Stadium in Perth on November 27 between the Scorchers and the Strikers. Both deserved their appointment after strong and consistent performances in the preliminary rounds.

I wish to acknowledge and thank them, along with Roberto Howard, for their contribution to WBBL|07, away from home for weeks on end to help Cricket Australia deliver this summer of cricket. All may be proud of the way they performed and their contribution to the match officials' team and the game.



Simon Lightbody and Nathan Johnstone enter Karen Rolton Oval for a WBBL match // Getty

Men's Ashes Series

Congratulations to our members Rod Tucker and Paul Wilson on their appointment to the Men's Ashes Series. They are exceptional people, match officials and genuine ambassadors for New South Wales and Australian umpiring. We wish them the very best for an enjoyable and successful series.

The umpire appointments for the series are:

- First Test – Gabba
 - Paul Reiffel & Rod Tucker
- Second Test – Adelaide Oval
 - Rod Tucker & Paul Wilson
- Third Test – MCG
 - Paul Reiffel & Paul Wilson
- Fourth Test – SCG
 - Paul Reiffel & Rod Tucker
- Fifth Test – Bellerive Oval
 - Rod Tucker & Paul Wilson

BBL | 11

We offer best wishes and congratulations to all our umpires involved in BBL|11. It will be a busy and exciting period for them all over the Christmas holiday period.

- Gerard Abood
- Greg Davidson
- Andrew Hamilton (fourth umpire)
- Roberto Howard (fourth umpire)
- Simon Lightbody
- Troy Penman
- Sharad Patel (fourth umpire)
- Claire Polosak (third umpire)
- Bede Sajowitz (fourth umpire)
- Ben Treloar
- Tony Wilds

These members are outstanding representatives for the NSWCUA at the national level.

Ben Treloar

Congratulations to Ben Treloar who made his on field BBL umpiring debut at Adelaide Oval in the Strikers v Renegades fixture on December 9.

Ben works at CNSW as our Umpire Educator. He does a wonderful job and has an outstanding work ethic. He applies this work ethic to his umpiring and sets a standard of excellence with his preparation and willingness to share experience to benefit other match officials.

Ben has worked so hard for 15 years to make his appointment to umpire a BBL fixture a reality. He is committed to our game, disciplined, sincere and deserving of this next opportunity in his umpiring journey. Ben has made it happen. This appointment comes on the back of his List A debut in season 2019-20 and his first-class debut in season 2020-21.

Ben's appointment enables opportunity to acknowledge the place of NSW Men's Premier Cricket and the Kingsgrove Sports T20 Cup in preparing our match officials for professional cricket. Our people are fortunate to umpire in a competition that is so well organised and provides such a high standard of cricket.

Andrew Hamilton

A special umpiring milestone occurred at Hurstville Oval on November 20 as Andrew Hamilton stood in his 200th First Grade match in men's premier cricket, becoming just the 10th umpire to do so.

Andrew made his First Grade debut in season 2007-08, standing in the Campbelltown-Camden v Mosman fixture at Raby Oval. That day he umpired with Peter Tate and all these years later they were together again for Andrew's milestone 200th match.



St George and Penrith First Grade sides give Andrew Hamilton a guard of honour at Hurstville Oval ahead of his 200th First Grade match // Peter Tate

Andrew has enjoyed an exceptional umpiring career and his best years remain in front of him. A committed and respected member of the NSW State Umpire Panel, he has umpired:

- 1 women's ODI (TV Umpire 2014-15) – Australia v West Indies at Hurstville Oval
- 15 women's List A matches
- 32 women's T20 matches
- 8 men's Futures League / Second XI fixtures
- Men's Australian Country Cricket Championships (Queensland 2002-03)
- U19 Male National Championships (ACT 2009-10)
- U15 Male National Championships (Queensland 2017-18)
- U17 Male National Championships (Queensland 2018-19)
- U19 Female National Championships (Tasmania 2019-20; appointed by CA to umpire both the T20 and One-Day finals)
- 6 SCA men's finals

It's an impressive umpiring resume. More impressive, however, is the manner in which Andrew has gone about his work. He has made a sincere and selfless contribution, been dedicated, reliable, always thoroughly prepared, has umpired with a positive attitude, unobtrusive; a genuine team player and mentor to many umpires over the years. He has umpired with humility and a feel for

the game that is appreciated by the players. He loves the game and this is obvious to all.

Congratulations are offered to Andrew, along with our thanks for his loyal service to NSWCUA and umpiring in SCA competitions. A measure of the high regard in which Andrew is held is that both the St George and Penrith teams formed a guard of honour for him as he entered the field for the Round 3 clash.

Here is the scorecard from the fixture:

http://www.premier.nsw.cricket.com.au/common/_pages/public/rv/match.aspx?matchID=3957298&entityID=4

Alan Haynes

Congratulations to Alan Haynes who made his First Grade debut in Men's Premier Cricket at Coogee Oval on December 18 in the Randwick Petersham v Sutherland fixture.

Alan deserved this opportunity. A first grade debut is carefully considered and the opportunity is extended based on performance, merit and trust in an umpire's ability to perform to a standard the game expects. Alan is trusted.

Alan is a loyal member who is passionate about cricket and his umpiring, he just loves the game and the contest. Leading into his debut, Alan had umpired 68 matches in men's premier cricket, 38 of which were in second grade. It has been a strong apprenticeship having joined the NSWCUA in 2016.

Alan has enjoyed an excellent start to the season according to second grade captains. His current match average is 4.86 (out of 5). A first grade debut has been earned.

Alan has remained committed to umpiring and being the best match official he can be, and we hope he enjoyed his first grade debut which he shared with Andrew Coates.

Women's Representative Matches

Congratulations and best wishes to the following members on their appointment to umpire women's representative matches:

U19 Female Pathway

December 16 – BISP

Tony Carpini & Alicia Humphrey

December 23 – BISP

Geoff Garland & Rohan Kesavaram

U16 Female Pathway

December 21 – Thornton Oval (Maitland)

John Davidson & Scott Thomas

U16 Female Country v City Challenge

December 22 – Raymond Terrace

- John Davidson
- Steve Eccles
- Rodney Porter
- Stephen Wade

New South Wales Country Cricket Association Representative Programs

Congratulations and best wishes to the match officials who have been appointed to upcoming carnivals:

Women's U16 Country Championships | Raymond Terrace | 20-21 December

Match Referee: Keith Griffiths

Umpires:

- Katie Collins
- Sue Gregory
- Alicia Humphrey
- Mike McKenzie
- Lauren McGill
- Sophia Richards
- Manjinder Sandhu
- Bruce Whitehouse

Bradman Cup | Lake Macquarie | 4-7 January

Match Referee:

Graham Chudleigh

Umpires:

- Dave Cullen
- John De Lyall
- Keiran Knight
- Graham Moon
- Paul Olsen
- Glenn Pepper
- Rob Pye
- Phil Rainger

Women's U19 Country Championships | Raymond Terrace | 5-7 January

Match Referee:

Keith Griffiths

Umpires:

- Steve Eccles
- Leon Erich
- Ian Furner
- Sue Gregory
- Alicia Humphrey
- Ian James
- Beryl McCormack
- Lauren McGill

Country Colts | Bathurst | 10-13 January

Match Referee:

Neil Findlay

Umpires:

- Bruce Baxter
- John Davidson
- Jeff Egan
- Graeme Glazebrook
- David Grainger
- Greg Jones
- Murray Le Lievre
- Graham Rose

Men's Country Championships | Tuggerah | 28-30 January

Match Referee:

Neil Findlay

Umpires:

- John De Lyall
- Graeme Glazebrook
- Keiran Knight
- Phil Rainger

Men's Country Championships | Shoalhaven | 4-6 February

Match Referee:

Neil Findlay

Umpires:

- Bruce Baxter
- Dave Cullen
- Brenton Harrison
- Neil Smith

We wish all our members well for an enjoyable and successful experience.

Home Truths | Craig Bellamy | Humility

In Home Truths by Craig Bellamy he writes a chapter titled 'Humility'. There were some messages of substance, but he stresses how keeping our feet on the ground is a sign of good character. He recognises that successful people do work hard, but at some stage, they have also been lucky.

A lot of successful people would not be successful if it was not for other people. How many of us remember to acknowledge this and say thanks?

In sport we are successful because of our teammates. We are all successful together. Match officiating is a team sport.

Some of the values of humility:

- We act for the good of the team.
- We stay coachable.
- We help each other thrive.

Humility is not denying our strengths, humility is being honest about our weaknesses. Rick Warren

Vale Norm Stanton

I share in the sadness of many following the passing of Norm Stanton, our principal member.

Norm was one of a kind.

A gentle man, selfless, humble, totally committed to his family and the wider community.

He was involved in so many things, all to benefit others, and always positive. Norm gained enormous enjoyment and personal satisfaction from serving his community. He was an engaging person and a wonderful host.

The Southern Highlands News has described him as an institution.

From veteran Southern Highlands Cricket Club president David Wells –

"Norm was regarded as very firm yet fair as an umpire and a player. He was looked up to by many people and mentored a lot of young people."

That was Norm, always giving.

And from the Mittagong Hockey Club –

"Norm loved playing for our club and the Men's Masters and although competitive like us all, his selfless nature to always step aside and let others have a run in his place on the field and forever encouraging the younger or new players was a credit to the gentleman he was," a dedication read on Facebook.

"In chatting about Norm today, it was commented that not only was he the epitome of a gentleman sportsman but also in life in general."

Cricket has lost a loyal and genuine servant, and the Highlands community has lost one of its finest and most humble contributors. Norm was involved in several community projects and organisations, including an extended period serving as a Lifeline volunteer. He was so focused on what he could do for others. We have lost a member who through his administrative excellence, professionalism and commitment kept the Southern Zone Umpires' Association moving forward.

To live in the hearts of others is never to die. Norm Stanton will live in the hearts of his devoted family, friends and the Highlands community.

May this beautiful soul rest in peace.



Christmas

To those in our membership who recognise Christmas may you celebrate this wonderful time of year with family and friends and travel safely during the holiday period.

NSWCUSA Team

Sincere thanks to our dedicated staff. To Ben, Bede, Claire and Troy we extend our appreciation for your commitment to the NSWCUSA. It has been a challenging year and they have continued to find a way to maintain and enhance the services provided to members.

Jack Gibson once wrote, "To have the front office right is the whole thing in football. If you haven't got that, your football team will crumble away. Nothing surer."

The NSWCUSA front office is in fine hands. Congratulations and well done to the team on an outstanding year.

CRICKET NSW YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

DARREN GOODGER

Congratulations and thank you to the umpires who were appointed to the Cricket NSW Youth Championships carnivals held in Dubbo, Maitland and Grafton between December 20-23:

U13 Male Sixers, Maitland, (December 20-22)

- Glenn Benton
- Graeme Bruce
- Keith Davies
- Steve Eccles
- George Kuszelyk
- Darren MacClure
- Brian Magill
- Bruce Muddle
- Rodney Porter
- Erwin Taska
- Graeme Taylor
- Scott Thomas
- Michael Schultz

U14 & U15 Male Sixers, Grafton, December 20-23

- Ted Bailey
- Bill Battese
- Bruce Baxter
- Steve Cameron
- Gary Campbell
- David Chapman
- Darren Goodger
- Ian James
- Peter Kent
- Craig Lobegeier
- Rob Pye
- Phil Rainger
- Graham Rose
- Kate Rowlands
- Denis Silcock
- Chen Tay
- David Whitby

U13, U14 & U15 Male Thunder, Dubbo

- Nathan Astri
- Bill Bannon
- Al Bonney
- John Burgoyne
- Malcolm Campbell
- Dennis Chaplin
- John De Lyall
- Peter Done
- Stewart Dunbar
- Mark Frecklington
- Ian Furner
- Graeme Glazebrook
- Geoff Hoy
- Greg Jones
- David Low
- Thomas Maurer
- Anthony McGettigan
- Andrew McKittrick
- Graham Moon
- Glenn Pepper
- Peter Smith
- Matthew Tabbernor
- Trevor Tink
- Andrew Whale
- Brian Whitehouse



Chen Tay and Stephen Cameron



Denis Silcock and Dave Whitby

BEN TRELOAR MAKES BBL UMPIRING DEBUT

CHRIS GRANT | CRICKET AUSTRALIA

Cricket Australia (CA) Supplementary Umpire Panel (SUP) member Ben Treloar made his BBL umpiring debut when the Adelaide Strikers played the Melbourne Renegades at the Adelaide Oval earlier this month.

Since commencing his umpiring journey in 2006-07, Treloar has progressed through the Australian Cricket Umpiring Pathway reaching several major significant milestones along the way. Treloar officiated in all major CA National Championships which included standing in each of those competition Finals. Treloar then completed the Australian Sports Commission National Officiating Scholarship Program in 2017, all while officiating on-field in CA Second XI, WNCL and WBBL competitions. Treloar was elevated to the CA SUP prior to the 2017/18 season.

In the 2019-20 season, Treloar made his Men's List A debut in the Marsh One-Day Cup match between South Australia and Tasmania at Karen Rolton Oval, on that occasion standing with Simon Fry.

Last season, Treloar made his First-Class umpiring debut at tonight's venue the Adelaide Oval when South Australia played New South Wales in their Sheffield Shield match. Fittingly, Treloar stood on field that day with his on-field colleague tonight in Mike Graham-Smith.

Off the field, Treloar is an active member of the New South Wales Cricket Umpires and Scorers Association where he currently sits on the board. Treloar is four-time a winner of the prestigious George Borwick Memorial Award, the Association's highest honour. And Treloar plays a pivotal role to the education of all umpires in New South Wales in his role as Education Officer with Cricket New South Wales.

For the match, Treloar stood alongside Mike Graham-Smith, Phil Gillespie fulfilled the Third Umpire duties whilst fellow SUP member Eloise Sheridan was the Fourth Umpire. Match Referee Steve Davis oversaw proceedings.



Ben Treloar at North Sydney Oval, ahead of the 2019-20 WNCL Final // Getty

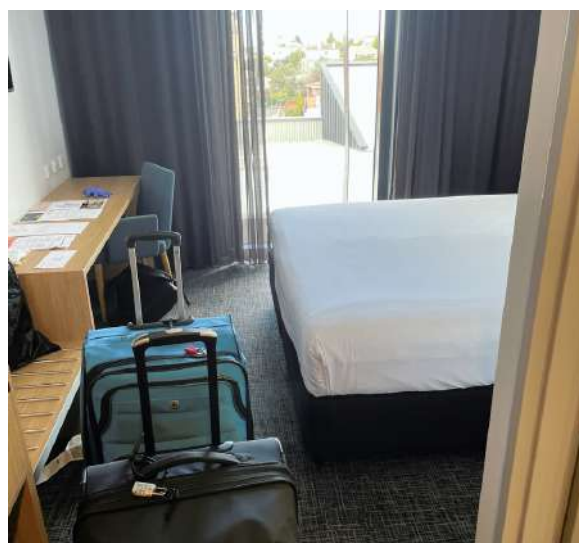
WBBL|07 EXPERIENCE

ROBERTO HOWARD

I was privileged to be appointed to attend the opening matches of the Weber WBBL|07 competition which was to be held in Hobart and Launceston. Due to the COVID climate and the border closures, match officials as well as players and staff who live in New South Wales and Victoria needed to jump through a few hoops before being able to leave their departure port. In order to leave Sydney, I had to answer questions from the Tasmanian Government that asked about my vaccination status, my address and whether myself or my wife had been in contact with any COVID exposure sites. By doing this, I was cleared to enter Tasmania.

I departed Sydney on September 23 in the company of Cricket Australia Match Referee Steve Bernard and the players and staff of the teams who were based in Sydney. The flight was full, and masks were needed to be worn the entire flight. Upon arriving in Hobart, we were screened by the Tasmanian Government officials for our temperature and any COVID symptoms, from there we picked up our luggage and boarded a coach headed to hotel quarantine. I had heard of many different experiences from quarantine, so I headed in with a blank canvas and tried to make the best of it.

Our quarantine was to be held at the Ibis Styles Hotel on Macquarie Street. The room was small and basic, but I made it my own. One of the tips I had received was to bring a HDMI cable with me to



connect my laptop to the TV, which formed how I entertained myself during the 14-day quarantine period.

The 14 days went quickly for me. I tried to keep a routine for each day so that I was able to maintain a positive headspace and occupy myself through the time. What I found very early on in the process was to do what your body feels. In this, if you don't feel like exercising, just go with it. If you don't feel like eating a hot lunch, don't eat a hot lunch. This is because when you are on your own and alone in a room, little things can be blown out of proportion. There is no one with you to talk sense into you and tell you that you just need to relax, and everything will be okay.

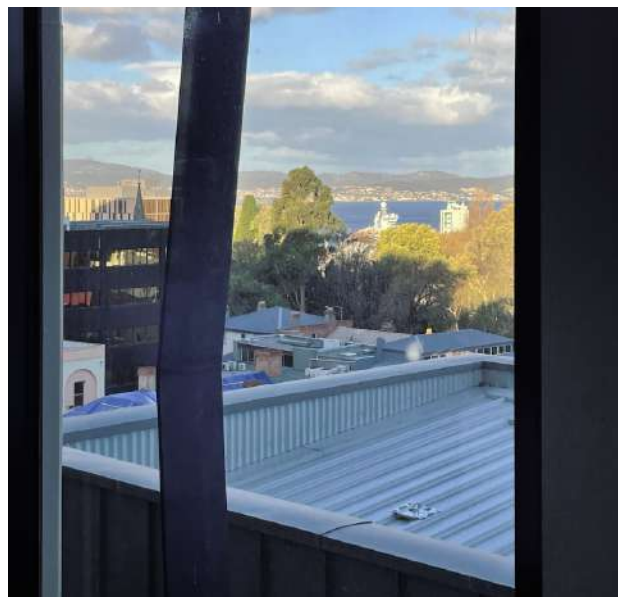
Having family and friends support was vital to getting through hotel quarantine. I had a strong circle of support that was always available for a chat on the phone or to have a text conversation with. It helped me pass the time and keep my headspace positive. We also received calls from the Tasmanian Government and Tasmanian Red Cross throughout the 14 days to check on our wellbeing which was also beneficial for myself to have a chat and talk through activities they have used with other people who have been into hotel quarantine.

Some of the activities that helped me pass the time during quarantine were crosswords, find-a-words and sudoku as well as watching Kayo Sports and YouTube. This allowed me to have downtime every day and try and enjoy myself as much as possible. While I was in hotel quarantine, I was able to prepare for the tournament by completing Law revision, watching the Athlete Management System for trends in regard to bowlers and batters for the tournament and knowing each player and what arm they bowl with whether they are right hand or left hand batters.

I managed to get through hotel quarantine in a positive mindset - just a few kilos heavier! I had 7 days between exiting hotel quarantine and my first match, during this time I focused on my fitness and cardio that I was unable to complete during hotel quarantine.

I was lucky enough to be appointed to eight matches in the tournament. As everyone probably assumes, it always rains in Tasmania so there were plenty of matches that were rain affected. I was able to get play in each of my matches, even if 1 of them was a no result. In the Weber WBBL, the matches are usually played in double-headers on the weekends as well as double headers during the week. This meant that you could be allocated a match on Saturday, then Wednesday and then the following Sunday. There is plenty of down time for the umpires between matches and the team environment was excellent in getting to know one another by going out to dinner as a small group each evening.

Between my matches, I ensured that I was properly hydrating and eating. It is very easy to put on weight when you are eating out for dinner each day. Making sure I was keeping my water intake up so I could get adequate sleep each night and for my body to be in as close to peak performance window as possible.



I would also spend time completing a self-assessment for each of my matches. The areas in which I focused in my self-assessments were: match goals and preparation; positives; review of decisions and areas to work on moving forward. I would spend some time after the game making notes in my notebook and then spend time the next day filling out a self-assessment. I find self-assessment a key element to improving each match. In every match, there is a learning opportunity, and it is important that you learn and build upon these opportunities.

With the first two weeks of the tournament hosted in Hobart, we then moved to Launceston for the next two weeks. Launceston was sleepy compared to Hobart but a lovely place to have some downtime. Downtime included daily walks to the Cataract Gorge to keep up fitness as well as taking in the beauty of the landscape and a trip to Barnbougle Links Golf Course. This downtime was important not only for us physically, but also mentally as we had been away from family for four weeks already and it can take a toll on your mental wellbeing.

While in Launceston, a group of umpires were asked to attend the Northern Tasmanian Cricket Umpires monthly meeting held at the NTCA Ground. Drew Crozier (ACT), David Taylor (QLD), Claire Polosak and I attended this meeting and held a question-and-answer session on anything related to umpiring.

This was a worthwhile chance for the members of the Association to pick our brains and a great opportunity for us to help fellow umpires. The attendees were extremely grateful for our time and effort, and I think each person took something away from that meeting.

I was glad to arrive home on November 1 after being away for 40 days. This was an excellent learning experience for me not only as an umpire but as a husband and person. I hope you enjoyed reading this insight into my time away - if you do have any questions, please feel free to reach out and ask!



Roberto on-field at Blundstone Arena // Getty



WBBL|07 FINAL MATCH OFFICIALS

CHRIS GRANT | CRICKET AUSTRALIA

Cricket Australia (CA) congratulate the Match Officials team who officiated the Final of the Weber WBBL|07 between the Perth Scorchers and Adelaide Strikers at Optus Stadium in Perth.

CA Supplementary Umpire Panel members Nathan Johnstone and Simon Lightbody were appointed on-field whilst Claire Polosak was appointed as Third Umpire for the Final.

Western Australian State Umpire Panellist Trent Steenholdt fulfilled the Fourth Umpire duties, with CA National Match Referee Kent Hannam overseeing the Final.

Originally hailing from the Nation's Capital, it was Lightbody's first appointment to the Weber WBBL Final having previously stood on-field in the Semi-Final of the WBBL|05. Coincidentally, that Semi-Final was between the two teams who competed for the title on November 27.

Prior to the Final, Lightbody had stood in 25 WBBL matches with a further 18 as Third Umpire, this tally includes three third umpire appointments to the Semi-Finals of WBBL|01, 03 and 04. Lightbody will be joined on field by Nathan Johnstone, also appointed to the Weber WBBL Final for the first time.

Western Australian Johnstone has stood on field in 20 Weber WBBL matches to date with a further seven matches as Third Umpire. Johnstone was in the Third Umpire's chair for the other Semi-Final of WBBL|05. Johnstone brings with him domestic finals experience having previously officiated the WNCL Finals of 2017-18 and 2018-19.



Perth Scorchers celebrate winning the WBBL|07 Final // Getty

Fellow SUP member Claire Polosak undertook Third Umpire duties for this year's Final having stood on field in the previous two WBBL deciders.

The Weber WBBL Final was also the first appearance in the season decider for Match Referee Kent Hannam. Hannam has officiated in all seven iterations of the WBBL and had a total of 68 matches to his name. Hannam was particularly prominent in this and last year's tournament officiating throughout the Sydney Hub last season, then travelling the width and breadth of Australia this season.

Keeping up the theme of firsts, Western Australian umpire Trent Steenholdt was Fourth Umpire for the Final whilst scorers Sue Rodgers and Sandy Wheeler were been appointed official scorers. Congratulations to all match officials involved.

**Weber WBBL|07 – THE FINAL, Saturday 27
November 2021, 4.10pm
Perth Scorchers v Adelaide Strikers
Optus Stadium, Perth**

Umpires: Simon Lightbody & Nathan Johnstone
Third Umpire: Claire Polosak
Fourth Umpire: Trent Steenholdt
Match Referee: Kent Hannam
Scorers: Sue Rodgers and Sandy Wheeler

VALE ALAN DAVIDSON AM MBE

CRICKET NSW MEDIA

New South Wales and Australian cricket is mourning the loss of Alan Davidson AM MBE, one of cricket's finest players and most influential and beloved figures, who died peacefully on October 30 aged 92, surrounded by his family.

As a brilliant all-rounder for NSW and Australia, sports administrator and benefactor, Davidson leaves an enormous legacy across all levels of cricket in Australia and wherever the game is played.

Davidson was a Life Member and Vice-Patron of Cricket NSW and served as the President of the New South Wales Cricket Association from 1970 to 2003. He spent 20 years as a member of the SCG Trust and five years as an Australian Test selector between 1979-84.

Among the many other honours bestowed on Davidson for contributions to sport and charity, he was a member of the Sport Australia Hall of Fame and the ICC Hall of Fame, in addition to being made a member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in 1964 and awarded the Order of Australia (AM) in 1987.

Born in Lisarow on the NSW Central Coast, Davidson progressed from a homemade wicket on the family property to become a fearsome force as a destructive left-arm fast bowler and hard-hitting lower-middle order batter for NSW and Australia.

Davidson made his First-Class debut for NSW during the 1949-50 season and his Test debut on the 1953 Ashes tour. He went on to play 44 Tests,



Alan Davidson during his time playing for Australia // PA Images/Alamy

taking 186 wickets at 20.53 with best figures of 7/93 and scored 1328 runs at 24.5, with a top score of 80.

After overcoming a series of injuries, Davidson was at his finest in the late 1950s and early 1960s under the captaincy of his schoolboy adversary, NSW teammate and close friend Richie Benaud.

During a golden period for the Australian team that included three Ashes series victories as well as successful tours of South Africa and India, Davidson was widely recognised as the game's predominant all-rounder.

Among Davidson's many fine performances, one fondly remembered is the swashbuckling innings of 80 on the dramatic final day of the 1960 Tied Test against the West Indies in Brisbane.

In that match Davidson became the first man to score 100 runs and take 10 wickets in the same Test, despite entering the contest with a broken finger.

As much as his wonderful playing career, Davidson will be forever remembered for the vast amount of time he volunteered to cricket, as well as other sports and charitable causes.

Cricket NSW CEO Lee Germon paid tribute to Davidson's lifelong contribution to the game of cricket.

"Alan Davidson was one of New South Wales' greatest ever cricketers and we are extremely saddened to hear of his passing," Germon said.

"From everyone at Cricket NSW and all of those who benefitted from Alan's massive contribution to the sport, I'd like to pass on my condolences to his family and friends.

"Alan's involvement in cricket was far greater than just his outstanding playing career and his legacy will live on in the state for many years to come.

"He was a wonderful player, administrator, mentor and benefactor, but most of all he was a gentleman of the game."

Alan was a Co-Patron of the NSW Cricket Umpires' and Scorers' Association and was a wonderful supporter of the Association and match officials.



Alan Davidson at the SCG last year // Getty

SYDNEY SHIRES UMPIRES RECOGNISED

**STEPHEN CLEMENTS
PRESIDENT, SYDNEY SHIRES CRICKET
UMPIRES' ASSOCIATION**

The following letters were provided to members of the Sydney Shires Cricket Umpires' Association in recent weeks:

Dear Members,

I wish to take this opportunity on behalf of the committee and all of the members of the Association to acknowledge the retirement of Gordon Smith from umpiring in the Shires competition.

Gordon is a foundation member of the SSCUA (Member number 27) having joined our Association in August 2001 leading into the start of the 2001-02 summer which was the inaugural season where our Association had a panel of umpires to allocate to matches in the Shires Competition. Prior to 2001 the only time Shires matches got umpires on a regular basis was in Finals Series. Gordon is one of only six members who joined the SSCUA in its debut season who are still members today, a testament to his loyalty to our Association.

In those early years Gordon held the position of Association Treasurer and did so for the first nine years until he handed over the reins in 2010. Gordon's shrewd and careful fiscal planning over those initial nine seasons was a contributing factor in setting the Association up for the successes that we as Association experience today.

Gordon has had an exceptional umpiring career having umpired a total of 301 career Shires games across all of the grades. In total he umpired 234 Matches in Shires 1st to 5th Grades and 67

matches in Frank Gray Shield. Gordon had a big highlight last season when he was acknowledged by all players with a guard of honour during his 300th match at Lance Hutchinson Oval.

In regards to Finals Series Gordon over the years has stood with distinction in a total of 26 such fixtures with career highlights being appointed to the following three competition Grand Finals -

- 4th Grade - 2002-03
- 4th Grade - 2003-04
- Frank Gray Shield - 2006-07

On top of the 301 matches umpired for Shires Cricket, Gordon took a spell away from our competitions about 10 years ago and made a strong contribution umpiring Sydney Women's Premier Cricket where he stood in an additional 201 matches.

When you add up Gordon's contribution to Shires and Women's Cricket he has stood in an amazing 502 matches for the Sydney Cricket Association. This is a monumental effort - it is extremely rare that an umpire stands in 500 plus career matches.

In recognition of his service to the SSCUA Gordon was in 2016 awarded the Association's highest honour becoming just the third member in the Association's history to be awarded Life Membership. It was an honour that was very much deserved and well received by all members who were present at the Association's AGM that year.

I have stood with Gordon on a number of occasions and have always found Gordon to be friendly and willing to pass on his experience to all new umpires. Gordon is not only respected by his umpiring colleagues but is also highly respected by the players and clubs within the Shire Cricket fraternity.

Gordon it is with sincere regret that we will lose you from our Umpiring ranks however we wish you

all the best in your retirement from Umpiring and I know your Umpiring colleagues pass on their best wishes to you and your family. Gordon the Association will miss you and I wish you all the best and I thank you for your dedication and commitment to the Association over the past 20 Years.

Dear Members,

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the committee and all of the members to acknowledge the retirement of Spencer Harrison from umpiring in all matches managed by the SSCUA.

Spencer is member number 52 having joined our association on 1 August 2003. Spencer has had an outstanding umpiring career having umpired 315 career games through the grades of which 74 of these have been in First Grade. He has stood in 31 finals series fixtures with the highlights of his career being selected to officiate in a total of six Grand Finals as follows:

- 4th Grade - 2005-06
- 3rd Grade - 2006-07
- 4th Grade - 2007-08
- 5th Grade - 2009-10
- 4th Grade - 2012-13
- 5th Grade - 2013-14



SSCUA's Spencer Harrison

In addition to his 315 Career Shires matches Spencer in recent seasons has made a huge effort in contributing to the Masters, Classics and Vintage competitions standing in 129 of these fixtures - this being the highest number of career matches umpired by an individual member in these competitions. When you add the two together Spencer has stood in an amazing 444 matches appointed by this Association.

Spencer has been an active member of our Association over the past 18 years through his attendance at meetings and his willingness to mentor new umpires in recent seasons. I have personal experience with Spencer as I stood with him when I first joined the umpiring ranks, I have wonderful memories of that time and have always found Spencer to be very open with his opinions and guidance to all umpires that have been fortunate to stand with Spencer in a Shires fixture.

He has always put the Association first and has made himself available to umpire any match that he was allocated without fuss. Despite the fact that Spencer will no longer be umpiring on field his contribution to the Association will continue this season as he takes on the role of an off-field observer for Shires matches played on Saturdays. So it will be great to know that Spencer will be sharing his wealth of experience with members he watches during the 2021-22 season. Thank You Spencer for agreeing to stay involved in this capacity.

Spencer - From all of your umpiring colleagues we wish you well in your retirement from umpiring Shires Cricket and I for one will miss your stories and your company over a beer at the Association meetings. You will leave a huge void in our Association and I hope you can visit us at future meetings.

All the best to you and a huge thank you from the members for your dedication and commitment over the past 18 years.

AUSTRALIA V INDIA INTERNATIONAL SERIES

CLAIRE POLOSAK

The Australia v India women's international series was very different to any other series that I have been involved with in the past. The very big change is that there was a requirement to undergo a hard quarantine period in order to enter Queensland. This two-week isolation was a new experience for me - I wasn't sure what to expect. I took many things to keep me occupied, knowing I would enjoy my time cross-stitching, colouring and exercising. Cricket Australia were as supportive as they could be, arranging for exercise equipment in our rooms and also a second computer screen, which made it a lot easier to work from the hotel room - which was also a very good thing.

The Association's Annual Convention fell during the quarantine period, which certainly helped with passing the time away. I had learnt from lockdown in Sydney that if I didn't use enough energy during the day, that I would have trouble sleeping at night, and then an awful cycle would start. I set a goal of exercising for at least two hours every day and found that for the whole two weeks I slept very well!

Once the New South Wales and Victoria cohort and the Indian touring party had completed the 14 days quarantine, we had some time in Brisbane with warm up matches and training sessions before the ODI component of the series was due to begin in Mackay. I used the training sessions to not only see deliveries being bowled, since I had

not had any matches since last season, but also with the help of optometrist Pat Gerry, I trialled a number of different coloured glasses to use for the coming Test match, as it was going to be a pink ball, day/night match.

The series got underway in Mackay, with three ODIs before we would move to the Gold Coast, where we would play the test match and three T20Is. There are 4 members of the Playing Control Team (PCT) and a Match Referee who looks after each match. Normally throughout a series the appointments are shared around the four umpires. I was appointed to be on-field for the first, Fourth Umpire for the second and then Third Umpire for the last ODI.

The second ODI is where things got a little interesting. I started the game as Fourth umpire, with Eloise Sheridan on-field, for her WODI Debut, with Bruce Oxenford and Phil Gillespie the Third Umpire. Late in the first innings, Bruce moved out of the way of the ball, but in doing so he somehow pulled a muscle and as they came off the field, he was finding it hard to move.

The physio ruled him out of the second innings, and as protocols dictate the Fourth Umpire was to head out to the middle. Joining a game halfway through was something I had never done before - so that in itself was an experience. I always take everything I might need to the ground, no matter what my original appointment is. I took a couple of minutes to mentally change gears from being Fourth Umpire to on field.



The officials during a national anthem in Mackay // Getty

Coming on for the second innings was a learning curve – the second innings is also where the match got exciting.... Well one word for it was exciting. Three overs into the innings the ball was moving around a great deal, and then at 45 overs I was convinced we were going to have a super over. There was also heavy dew to be contended with as well, and as such we had to monitor the condition of the ball throughout.

In the end, Australia needed 13 runs off the last over. The first delivery was a head high full toss that hit Nicola Carey in the head, and so a medical check was required by a doctor. Then on the last ball of the over, Australia needed three runs to win and two to force a super over. There was another high full toss that was then caught. Under the Playing Conditions, we are able to check for the fairness of the delivery on ball here a wicket has been taken. We asked Phil to check the height of the ball, it was tight call and after deliberation, Phil came back with it being a No ball. Australia awarded the one run for the No ball, and got an extra delivery. Australia ended up scoring the two runs they needed - after a missed run out opportunity.

After the ODI section of the series was finished, we flew to the Gold Coast for the remainder of the matches. Before the test match, I was very keen to get into the nets for some pink ball training. In the lead up to the match, I also tried to adjust my sleep patterns - normally I go to sleep about 10.30pm, which was not going to work very well with a day/night game!

In the couple of days before the match, there were a number of COVID-19 cases popping up on the Gold Coast, and there was speculation whether or not the game would go ahead thanks to a number of government regulations. Fortunately, things settled down and aside from being confined to either the hotel or the ground, we were good to go.

This was my first Women's Test Match, and I felt really lucky to be doing the game with Phil - we have umpired a number of games together over the years and work well together. Having Bruce Oxenford and all his experience at a Test match level was invaluable. Eloise and Bob Stratford rounded out a really strong and cohesive PCT. The time before walking out for the anthems is my favourite part of an international match. Darren Goodger said to make sure I took a moment to let the experience sink in. I did that, and then had to try very hard to stop the tears from flowing! It would have been great to have my family there, but it was not meant to be.

The game was both hard and not so hard. There were a number of challenges, being my first multi-day game for a few years, my first pink ball match, the wet weather around on most of the days, making a couple of errors on day three and then needing to come back on day four to finish well. The game though was not hard in the way that multi-day cricket flows - you are never more than an hour away from a break, and the pace of the game allows you to enjoy what is going on.



Claire and Phil Gillespie leaving the field during a rain delay // Getty

On day one, an Australia player asked me about when lunch was, and we had a bit of a chat - this was the first time she had ever played a game that had lunch and tea and not innings breaks! I enjoyed the game much more in hindsight than during the event. I was doing my best to concentrate on the ball in front of me. This was the first test match between the two teams for 16 years and it was being broadcast into 59 countries, so I definitely wanted to do a good job!

Being involved at the top level of cricket is a real privilege and I am very lucky to be able to say I have umpired a women's test match. The support from NSW/CUSA members was overwhelming throughout the series, we are very lucky the association is so supportive of other members who are doing well.

Wishing everyone the very best for the remainder of the season!



Claire, Bob Stratford and Phil Gillespie receive certificates commemorating their Women's Test match debuts // Getty

FEMALE UMPIRING IN SUTHERLAND

SUTHERLAND SHIRE CRICKET UMPIRES' ASSOCIATION

Ella Briscoe from Miranda, at 16 years old, umpired her first official cricket match as a qualified 'black and white' umpire on Saturday November 30.

Ella passed the NSWCUA exam back in September but had to wait patiently until COVID restrictions were relaxed and community sport could restart before she could get on-field for her first official appointment.

As well as NSWCUA, she is also a member of the Sutherland Shire Cricket Umpires' Association (SSCUA) - one of two female umpires in the SSCUA ranks.

SSCUA Umpire Development Officer Craig Lardner said, "our local association of umpires runs a mentor program for new umpires that pairs them with more experienced umpires for their first few games. This is now consistent with the NSWCUA's recently launched female umpire engagement program.

The SSCUA was the first affiliated association to receive funding and have our mentor program accredited as part of this female umpire initiative.

Ella is the first female cricket umpire in NSW to be mentored under this new framework", Craig added.

Cricket NSW Umpire Educator Claire Polosak said "It's great to see the support the Sutherland Shire umpires have for Ella and other female umpires in the Shire to be involved in umpiring. Our thanks also to the NSW Office of Sport for the 'Her Sport Her Way' funding which allow this to happen."

In her first match it didn't take long for Ella to be involved in an appeal, giving a stumping in the 10th over. Her finger went up as she adjudged the batter out of his crease for the first wicket of the match.

Ella said, "Having an experienced umpire like Craig with me for my first match was a big help. I felt more at ease in the match and his tips throughout the game made a big difference.

"The warm welcome and congratulations towards me from both teams, the coaches and managers, the scorers, even random spectators, before the match, was really wonderful. I hadn't anticipated such a big welcome and positive start.

"Under the mentor program, I'll have one more match with a mentor umpire and then I'll be ready to go solo."

Caringbah U14As went on to win the first match of the new season over GyMEA Bay U14As, with both coaches commenting to the SSCUA on the high quality of Ella's first match.



Ella Briscoe and Craig Lardner

MCC COWDREY LECTURE 2021 | STEPHEN FRY

MCC | 16 NOVEMBER 2021

STEPHEN FRY, A LIFELONG CRICKET SUPPORTER AND MCC FOUNDATION PATRON, SPOKE AT THE TWENTIETH EDITION OF THE MCC COWDREY LECTURE AT LORD'S ON TUESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2021.

Fry reminisced on how his passion for cricket developed and his fascination with the spectacle cricket produces and the many elements it involves, despite not being remotely sporty himself or indeed a fan of sport.

"I suddenly saw something intensely fascinating and beautiful in the drama of the game, the rainbow of possible outcomes, the prowess in mind-reading, bluffing and guessing; the exquisite balance of it all, the luck, the timing, the weather, the interdependence of so many factors."

Speaking with his usual wit and astuteness, Fry reflected on how the game has evolved, touching on formats and technique, as well as current matters regarding equality, race, access, progressive changes, and mental health.

"Like my homeland, my befuddled, bewildered, benighted and bedeviled homeland itself, cricket is beautiful and brutal, fair and foul, glorious and ghastly, decent and degraded. And also as with my homeland, my love and belief in cricket and its ability to change are strong enough and deep enough for me to believe that all is not yet lost."

Guy Lavender, MCC Chief Executive & Secretary said: "We are incredibly grateful to Stephen for his time in sharing his impassioned, honest and enlightening speech. It comes at the time when we

are all thinking about the issues of racism and discrimination within cricket, as well as society as a whole.

"As poignantly spoken about by Stephen, I hope that these topics will continue to be openly aired and that people will feel the encouragement to speak up. This is an opportunity to bring people together, not divide them. We are also thankful to Clare Connor and Kate Cross for joining us for the fascinating panel discussion, and to Mark Nicholas for hosting."

Fry was joined by MCC President Clare Connor and England Cricketer Kate Cross for a discussion after his speech, with broadcaster Mark Nicholas moderating topics. The discussions included the rise of the women's game and greater pathways needed to continue this trend and the strains of mental health on the players and how dressing room culture can impact both physical and mental performance. In the final comments, all agreed that greater access for all will ultimately keep the Spirit of Cricket alive.

The MCC Cowdrey Lecture, in memory of Lord Cowdrey of Tonbridge, has become an annual highlight in the cricketing calendar, provoking debate and discussion of the major issues facing the game today.

The inaugural address was delivered in 2001 by Richie Benaud and past lecturers include Clive Lloyd, Imran Khan, Kumar Sangakkara and Mike Brearley.

You can watch the Lecture in full here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ybpMcSbYPtE



TECHNICAL

BEN TRELOAR

MAXIMISING PLAY

An umpire's role is already hard enough when we talk about decision making and managing player behaviour when we begin to throw in managing dangerous or unreasonable conditions. When we experience ground, weather, and light (GWL) there are so many moving parts with the majority of them outside of our control. Our duty is to maximise play in safe, though not always ideal, conditions whilst putting aside the match situation. Not always an easy thing to do, but these are the decisions we must make in order to keep the game's participants safe.

When we're considering suspending play, conditions must be either dangerous or unreasonable i.e. there is actual and foreseeable risk to participants or when it would not be sensible for play to proceed. This is a judgment call of either umpire, we need no agreement here. If one umpire believes conditions are dangerous or unreasonable, then play is suspended.



Umpires walking out onto the WACA during a rain delay // Getty

Despite what many cricketers might believe, conditions do not need to be the same, nor do they need to be fair to both teams, over the duration of the match. Over the course of a match, there are so many variables. For example, extreme temperature and weather changes during which the hardness and speed of the pitch and outfield will inevitably change during which scoring runs and/or taking wickets alters the balance of the contest. Cricket's beauty is its unpredictability, it can be played in less than ideal, and somewhat challenging conditions - that's what makes it a 'sport'.

When faced with deteriorating conditions what are some of the areas within our control we may consider when looking to maximise play?

If conditions of the ground and pitch allow, play may continue during periods of light rain. If the ground and pitch are dry enough to start with, we can play through inclement weather to a certain degree, but keep in mind if the light rain continues moisture will build up slowly and the worsening conditions may catch us by surprise. If ground or pitch conditions were already moist leading into the match's commencement or on its resumption, conditions may become dangerous a lot quicker. It would not be prudent under these circumstances to continue playing during light rain.

In addition to ground and weather, where overcast conditions bring with it the threat of rain, it also creates the potential issue of bad light. A way in which umpires may maximise play in these situations is when light conditions are deteriorating come together and discuss each other's views. Ideally, we aim to come together on three occasions when managing bad light, and it may be a good idea to discuss this as an umpiring team beforehand to enable decisiveness. The first time we come together keep it brief, this should alert the players on and off the field of the potential light issue at hand whilst providing an opportunity for them to plan ahead.

The second meeting is to confirm the light has deteriorated to a point where it's now too dark for fast or medium-paced bowlers to operate. With an aim to maximise play, the umpires can offer the fielding captain the chance to use spinners. If they decide to take up this option, play can continue safely if conditions permit. If the light continues to deteriorate, thus making conditions dangerous for spinners to operate, we should come together for a final time to suspend play and take the players from the field. There will be certain match situations where the light is safe for spinners, but not for fast/medium bowlers, where the fielding captain will want to continue with quicks. If this occurs, then we have no option other than to suspend play immediately. At least we have provided the option to maximise play.

To complement the above match management techniques, it's imperative to have an in-depth knowledge and understanding of how to apply the playing conditions for your match and how you may best use them to maximise the amount of cricket played over its duration.

How much extra time do you have? Can we delay the start of play to allow ground conditions to improve without reducing the overs for either side? We see this happen when playing conditions allow us to reduce the duration of the interval between innings, adding this time back to the match.

These are just a few broad management techniques which we can apply to maximise playing time. Preparation is key to most things involved in officiating, managing GWL is no different. Prepare well individually (laws and playing conditions) and with your partner before the match (what if this happens?) as this will help us to be more decisive on the day when decisions need to be made. We're encouraged to speak with colleagues, share our experiences and to keep asking questions, as this is key to building our capabilities and confidence when managing GWL and maximising play.



The covers on at Drummoyne Oval with umpires inspecting the field of play // Ian Bird

FEMALE ENGAGEMENT

CLAIRE POLOSAK

Female umpiring in NSWCUA has never looked so strong. It has been great to see that there has already been more than 100 appointments filled by female umpires across the state so far this season. These appointments are seeing female umpires officiating in both metropolitan Sydney and regional New South Wales.

There are a number of Female members who are umpiring officially for their first season, and thank you to all the affiliated associations and umpiring partners who are providing support and these umpiring opportunities.

Sutherland Shire Cricket Umpires' Association applied for funding thanks to NSWCUA's and the NSW Government's **Her Sport, Her Way** program to support female umpiring in their local area. Under the guidance of Craig Lardner, they have been able to provide both on and off-field support to new umpire Ella Briscoe, who has recently stood on her own after having three very good games with mentor umpires, you can read about

her early on-field experiences elsewhere in this edition of In Black and White. Further funding remains available for affiliated associations to access should they wish to - please contact me for more information.

December 20 and 21 will see the Cricket NSW U16 Women's Country Championship played in Raymond Terrace, and 7 out of 8 of the umpires appointed are women. Congratulations to those umpires:

- Alicia Humphrey
- Beryl McCormack
- Katie Collins
- Lauren McGill
- Sue Gregory
- Manjinder Sandhu
- Sophia Richards



Manjinder Sandhu recently umpired a DHL charity match



Pat Holt and Deanne Jeffree at a Cricket NSW Youth Championships match

AROUND THE GROUNDS

As the season gets into full swing, here are a selection of images of members from the summer so far - we are always on the lookout for more photos of all members, please feel free to share with us.



Ted Bailey and Phil Rainger with team captains at Ellem Oval, Grafton



Bill Battese and Dave Chapman at Ulmarra Showgrounds



David Abbey in the middle at Manly Oval



Gary Campbell and Kate Rowlands at Lower Fisher Park, Grafton



Andrew Yarad and Dan Moran at North Sydney Oval

INTRODUCTION TO UMPIRING

CLAIRE POLOSAK

In August, Cricket NSW Community Cricket staff approached Ben Treloar and myself about the potential for an alternative level of umpire training, specifically aimed at parents who are wanting to learn a little bit more about cricket and umpiring, with an emphasis on involvement in junior cricket.

Between the group, it was decided that the most relevant content would be umpire signals and the forms of dismissals used in the Cricket Australia Junior Formats, from this, the 'Introduction to Umpiring' workshop was developed.

Across the last few months, four workshops were held with a total of approximately 100 people from across the state participating.

Thanks to Ben Treloar and Bede Sajowitz for their assistance in developing the workshop, and assisting with the delivery of the workshops along with Mitchell Elvery and Suffan Hussan for bringing the idea to fruition.

Feedback has been positive so far, with many participants expressing an interest in going on to complete further umpire training.

If any members feels that this session could be beneficial for your local cricket community, please reach out to myself, or your local Community Cricket contact!



CRICKET NSW

Introduction to Umpiring

FROM THE VAULT

COUNTRY UMPIRES' ADVISOR - 2001-02 ANNUAL REPORT

First I must thank the NSW Country Cricket Association and our Association for the opportunity afforded me to occupy the position of Country Umpires' Advisor. While I prefer to still be out in the middle, watching the game through different eyes retains many benefits and pleasures.

The assessment program has been well received by those country umpires I have watched. My comments and suggestions tried to portray my impressions of the performances of twenty umpires. Thank you to those colleagues who recognise that candid honesty is the way to development.

Hopefully, the Observation Checklist and the written reports are useful not only to the Country Panel of umpires but other umpires I'll meet at various occasions.

Next season, there will be one Country Representative Panel of 12 members to officiate at Country Colts, Open Age and NRMA Finals series.

A supplementary panel will be named and these umpires may be invited to stand in representative games in their area. The extent of this group's involvement will depend on Country Cricket's budget considerations.

The Zone Representatives are to be requested to lead the way in having panel members and those aspiring to higher honours appointed to NRMA Rounds 1 and 2 and having reports returned to me

on these and other appropriate representative games. The recognition of an umpire's potential and a record of progress are essential.

Darrell Hair, in his role as Development Officer is planning a series of Country Seminars and I urge all umpires to attend when he or the Training Committee visit your Zone. Darrell is, I know, extremely supportive of country umpires and is intent on increasing the number of opportunities available to us.

On that note, best wishes to Darren Goodger on his move to Sydney. I have no doubt he will make his mark.

Kevin J. Pye



CRIC-O-KU Number 15

Clue: A time to remember which batsman is to face the next ball

	T		I	H			G	E
	I			E		H		
N		H						
			H		N	I	R	G
	N			R			O	
H	R	G	O		T			
						G		T
		N		O			I	
I	H			T	E		N	V

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!

CRIC-O-KU No 14: Solution

H	Y	E	T	C	R	S	M	I
S	R	T	M	H	I	E	Y	C
C	M	I	Y	E	S	T	R	H
I	H	S	E	M	C	R	T	Y
R	T	M	H	I	Y	C	E	S
Y	E	C	R	S	T	I	H	M
E	I	H	C	T	M	Y	S	R
M	C	Y	S	R	E	H	I	T
T	S	R	I	Y	H	M	C	E

DECEMBER 2021 MERCHANDISE VOUCHER WINNER



ASSOCIATION PARTNERS

TROY PENMAN

The Association is in a fortunate position where we have strong partnerships and relationships with a number of recognisable brands and companies.

We thank each partner for their assistance and support throughout season 2020-21, it is greatly appreciated by Management and Board.

Season 2021-22 sees NSWCUSA continue its sponsorship agreement with global fast food chain McDonald's. The sponsorship deal with McDonald's will be in conjunction with a larger deal between Cricket NSW and McDonald's. McDonald's continued on the back of the Association's field shirts. For this exposure the Association will receive \$15,000 + GST annually.

With the revenue from the sponsorship deal with McDonald's being invested in items for members, education and development, it offsets the cost for members and guests to attend Association events and an upgrade to Association products.

Since 2016, Beastwear has manufactured our merchandise – we are pleased for this association to continue into season 2021-22. The Association looks forward to continuing this partnership into the future and ensuring members are provided with quality on and off field wear.

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

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

Another of the Association's partners – the Bradman Foundation – continued its support of the Association and its members in season 2020-21. All members received a 10% discount on entry into the Bradman International Cricket Hall of Fame at Bowral and a 10% discount on all products in their Merchandise Store.

Additionally, they are offering an umpire mug at the special price of \$16 including postage. To reserve one please at the special price, please contact store@bradman.com.au with your postal address and you will be sent a link for payment.

It is a pleasure to be continuing our relationships with each of our partners in season 2021-22. Discussions with McDonald's and Cricket NSW saw a new three-year deal finalised for CNSW and NSWCUSA. The deal will see \$45,000 + GST come into the Association throughout its duration, with funds to be used to improve the experience for all members.

60 SECONDS WITH....

JOHN DE LYALL

Day job?

State Sales Manager at Echem PL - a generic Australian-owned farm chemical supplier

Officiating Debut and the first time you fired someone?

My first official game was a Second Grade match in the Dubbo competition - Rugby versus CYMS. I do remember firing my son LBW as a player umpire in local competition.

Career (to date) officiating highlight(s)

First visit to Sydney to umpire Premier Cricket was Easts against Sydney at Drummoyne.... a long high scoring game ended up in a draw but remembered from the game the first time I came across a batsman knocking his way to about 40 suddenly start sledging the fielding team as his way to get back into the batting zone.

Best cricketer you have officiated?

Tim Cox (Dubbo, UNSW, Toronto, Western Zone, Country NSW, Australian Country) for the way he set up a batsman and his consistency.

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

Unfortunately, having a pitch invader sit down at a night game on the infield. He had marriage problems and chased his wife by car from Wagga, where she saw a big crowd at the cricket ground and tried to hide there. I removed both sets of stumps and waited for the constabulary.

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

Just retired Wagga and Country Panel umpire Tony Hackett (half-game Hackett!) who was always able to enjoy the lighter moments both on and off the field.

Any superstitions?

Not really, but I can't stand being late for anything.

Any special talents?

I do like looking after the gardens at my large home block on outskirts of Dubbo.

Best piece of advice?

Be prepared. You can be sure that if something happens on the cricket field, then another event will surely follow around it.

What got you into umpiring?

Graeme Dyball, long time Macquarie Cricket Club Dubbo president "volunteered" me unbeknownst to a local umpires training course.

Three people you would love to have dinner with?

Carl Baron (Australian Comedian as he makes everyday simple things funny); Scott Robertson (professional NZ rugby coach with a tremendous record); and my father-in-law Dick Horton (one of the last old-fashioned bush storytellers who just keeps 'em coming).



John De Lyall and Keiran Knight

60 SECONDS WITH....

BOB SHIELD

Day job?

Happily retired after 49 years working for 11 as an accountant and the next 38 teaching adults at TAFE.

Officiating Debut and the first time you fired someone?

My first SCA match was in Round 5 2007-08 Fairfield-Liverpool v Sydney University at what we then called Cabramatta Oval, now Don Dawson. I was privileged to be partnered with Graham Chudleigh. Both days were washed out without a ball being bowled. Learnt a lot about the PCs from Graham. I cannot recall my first dismissal but a fair bet it was an LBW smashed into the pads.

Career (to Date) officiating highlights.

Every game has been a privilege but I would rank the CHS Final in 2014 partnered with Kevin Battishall at Mark Taylor Oval as the highlight.

Best cricketer you have officiated?

Former West Indian left-arm paceman Pedro Collins played for South Sydney in Shires some years back. Bowled from my end and was far too good for me.

Funniest thing to happen whilst on a cricket field?

In the 1969-70 B Grade Final at Parklands Oval in the Hornsby-Kuringai competition, I was the non-striker. The bowler was the (official) umpire's son who adjudged my partner LBW. The umpire turned to his son and said "Well bowled". I suffered the same fate late in the day with all our supporter's car lights glaring. We lost the final. I can laugh after all these years.

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

Too many to name but my least favourite was Darcy Lawler who refereed the 1963 R.L. Grand Final in the mud won narrowly by St. George over my team, Western Suburbs. I was on the SCG Hill that day and still hold a grudge.

Any superstitions?

Not really, although after umpiring a Frank Gray match with Goodge 10 years ago I now only umpire in black socks. It is the little one percenters that Darren talks about that make a difference.

Any special talents?

I BBQ a great salmon to be enjoyed with Riesling whilst cooking and eating.

Best piece of advice?

Never take your eye off the ball whilst it is in play.

What got you into umpiring?

Something I always wanted to do after a lifetime in cricket. I lost my mother early in 2007 and with our two girls working in England and our son finding his way in the world as well it seemed the right time. Glad I did.

Three people you would love to have dinner with?

I would prefer to take my wife Maria to dinner three times but failing that Premiers Palaszczuk, McGowan and Andrews. There is a lot I would get off my chest!



Maria and Bob Shield together at the 2019 Annual Dinner

60 SECONDS WITH....

SANJEEV UNDRI

Day job?

I am a Data Analytics Manager at Westpac, it's brain racking everyday, so I find cricket scoring very soothing experience!

Officiating Debut?

I started with Fairfield-Liverpool's Second Grade side October 2018 and two years later in October 2020, I took over from Kay Wilcoxon as their First Grade scorer.

Career (to date) officiating highlight(s)

I did scoreboard duties for WBBL match in 2020. I have also been part of few Under 19 carnival matches. I also did the England v Pakistan Veterans World Cup match and enjoyed scoring that game at Coogee Oval.

Best cricketer you have officiated?

Many matches come to my mind, to pick the top one was in November 2020 - a match against UNSW. On day one, Fairfield-Liverpool scored 290 and on day two UNSW batted so beautifully that two of their batters got hundreds and were cruising to victory. Once the new ball was taken, Young gun Josh Baraba bowled his heart out and took crucial wickets. His five-wicket haul forced a draw from a winless situation for F-L. Loved the drama and emotions of that day.

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

Arthur Watson. 850 matches and still going strong. I also liked scoring with Adrian Tham, His calm and friendly nature helped me learn a lot on a cricket ground. Doug Williams from Fairfield-Liverpool as well, love his passion and wealth of knowledge on cricket.

Any superstitions?

I don't want to touch a red pen when batter is going to reach Milestone score. No wides or no balls please. I might jinx him.

Any special talents?

I am decent Bollywood songs singer. I also take lot of interest in volunteering in the community. I am doing my third season of volunteering for the McGrath Foundation this year and was also awarded the Volunteer of the Year for Warewa Community for 2021.

Best piece of advice?

Come to ground one hour early to calm your nerves.

What got you into scoring?

I am regarded as a captain's nightmare on a cricket ground. Can't bowl and bat at 11 with my bat being only an accessory. Am also one of those fielders who the captain tries to hide, but the ball finds its way towards me. But maths always saved me. I could keep score well. So when I migrated, I found that I could get myself accredited and follow this passion. Loved every moment from that day.

Three people you would love to have dinner with?

The Queen, Doug Williams and his family and Brad Pitt.



NEW MEMBERS

PAUL NORTON	INGLEBURN	JOY SARKAR	TOONGABBIE
AJITHKUMAR	MERRYLANDS	PHILLIP BALDWIN	BOLWARRA
CHANDRAMOULI		MOHAMMAD SHOHUG	PUNCHBOWL
JOHANNA STAINES	LITHGOW	JAMES PEARCE	BAULKHAM HILLS
AZEEM AHMAD	ROOTY HILL	RORY STEINBERG	NORTH BONDI
GAVIN MALLAWARATCHY	QUAKERS HILL	VIKRAM PATEL	WENTWORTHVILLE
ELANGO KRISHNAN	TOONGABBIE	CHARAN DARUVADA	PARRAMATTA
DANIEL MARSHALL	INGLEBURN	GIRISH PALLOD	PARRAMATTA
MICHAEL KAMMERER	BAULKHAM HILLS	SHISHIR KUMAR	WENTWORTHVILLE
BRENT HARTLAND	PALMERSTON	STUART OWEN	NARARA
PRADEEPAN	EASTWOOD	HARPAL SAINI	PARRAMATTA
VENKATASUBRAMANIAN		BHARADWAJA KALA	WENTWORTHVILLE
PRAKASH KRISHNARAJ	WESTMEAD	JOSHUA MENEZES	QUAKERS HILL
BRETT JAMES	CARINGBAH SOUTH	AJAYPAUL SINGH	THE PONDS
NAYAN SARKAR	BLACKETT	BEN FARRELL	BANORA POINT
GRAEME GARTRELL	PICTON	GLENN MEARNES	BLACKETT
SAMUEL NGUYEN	LAKEMBA	ELLA BRISCOE	MIRANDA
DEARNE JEFFREE	CASINO	ELIZABETH BALDWIN	CHAIN VALLEY BAY
KARTHIK PANDE	WENTWORTHVILLE	JENNIFER WISE	WENTWORTHVILLE
JASON CUMMINS	WINSTON HILLS	PAUL HILLIER	CAMERON PARK
BRIAN MAGILL	METFORD	JONATHON REID	LITHGOW
NATHAN MAHONEY	BEAUMONT HILLS		
SOURAV PAUL	POINT FREDERICK		
ANDREW TENNI	HORNSBY		

Welcome!

TO ALL WHO JOINED AT THE OCTOBER,
NOVEMBER & DECEMBER OGMS

2021-22 REPRESENTATIVE PANELS

ELITE PANEL OF ICC UMPIRES

RODNEY TUCKER (AUS.)

PAUL REIFFEL (AUS.)

INTERNATIONAL PANEL OF ICC UMPIRES

SHAWN CRAIG (AUS.)

DONOVAN KOCH (AUS.)

SAM NOGAJSKI (AUS.)

PAUL WILSON (AUS.)

DEVELOPMENT PANEL OF ICC UMPIRES

HEATH KEARNS (JERSEY)

CLAIRE POLOSAK (AUS.)

ELOISE SHERIDAN (AUS.)

IAN THOMSON (HONG KONG)

CA NATIONAL UMPIRE PANEL

GERARD ABOOD

DARREN CLOSE (TAS.)

SHAWN CRAIG (VIC.)

GREG DAVIDSON

PHIL GILLESPIE (VIC.)

MIKE GRAHAM-SMITH (TAS.)

DONOVAN KOCH (QLD.)

SAM NOGAJSKI (TAS.)

BRUCE OXENFORD (QLD.)

TONY WILDS

PAUL WILSON

CA SUPPLEMENTARY UMPIRE PANEL

NATHAN JOHNSTONE (WA)

SIMON LIGHTBODY

TROY PENMAN

CLAIRE POLOSAK

ELOISE SHERIDAN (SA)

DAVID TAYLOR (QLD.)

BEN TRELOAR

CNSW STATE UMPIRE PANEL

ANDREW HAMILTON

ROBERTO HOWARD

SHARAD PATEL

BEDE SAJOWITZ

COUNTRY UMPIRE

REPRESENTATIVE PANEL

BRUCE BAXTER

DAVID CULLEN

JOHN DE LYALL

GRAEME GLAZEBROOK

BRENTON HARRISON

KEIRAN KNIGHT

PHIL RAINGER

NEIL SMITH

2021-22 NSWCUSA COMMITTEES

EXAMINATION COMMITTEE

KEVIN BATTISHILL

ANDREW COATES (CHAIR)

DARREN FOSTER

SATHISH KUMAR

MICHAEL MEEHAN

SCORERS' COMMITTEE

JANELLE CAREW

PETER GARLICK

ADRIAN THAM (CHAIR)

SUE WOODHOUSE

IAN WRIGHT

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

NOEL FORD

BILL GLACKEN

MICHAEL MEEHAN (CHAIR)

SACHIN SOLANKI

VIVEK SOLANKI



NSWCUSA & Cricket NSW Match Officials Staff

Executive Officer
Troy Penman

Troy.Penman@cricketnsw.com.au

0425 201 835

State Umpiring Manager & Coach
Darren Goodger

Darren.Goodger@cricketnsw.com.au

0425 275 795

Umpire Educator/Female Umpire Engagement
Claire Polosak

Claire.Polosak@cricketnsw.com.au

0417 074 458

Administrator
Bede Sajowitz

Bede.Sajowitz@cricketnsw.com.au

0427 947 000

Education Officer
Ben Treloar

Ben.Treloar@cricketnsw.com.au

0414 504 236