

IN BLACK & WHITE

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



THIS ISSUE'S HIGHLIGHTS:



**Penman First-Class
Debut - 12**

**Tucker Becomes
Most-Capped - 18**

**Scoring at the T20
World Cup - 24**

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CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

MARK HUGHES

Dear Members,

Welcome to 2023 and the February edition of **In Black and White**. I hope you all enjoyed your time over the Christmas and New Year period.

We are rapidly approaching the business end of season 2022-23. In the lead up to finals series I encourage you to stride to the finish line by continuing to work hard on your knowledge of laws and playing conditions.

We are blessed with the content we are provided by our Education Officer and the Examination Committee in questions on the Laws of Cricket, our online database of questions that can be attempted at any time at your leisure, and the education sessions at our Ordinary General Meetings.

When it comes to the Laws of Cricket, I am constantly challenging my own knowledge when we receive and review the content of our education resources, and I encourage you all to continue to strive for excellence with your own knowledge on knowing the laws and your PCs to the best of your ability.

The date for the NSWCUSA Annual Dinner has also been confirmed for April 15 and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible for our end of season awards evening, which promises to again be a great night for the Association.

Best wishes to you all you prepare for and enjoy the remainder of this cricket season.



Bill Battese, Doug Trigg, Keith Griffiths, Chen Tay and Graham Rose together at the Bradman Cup

EXECUTIVE OFFICER UPDATE

TROY PENMAN

Dear Members and Affiliated Associations,

As we move into the back end of the season, finals for many competitions are fast approaching, it's always a time for anticipation to see how the season concludes, but it's also a time where we need to be vigilant as players will be pushing the boundaries to do anything they can to assist their team in winning. In advance I wish all members the best for the end of the season, and I look forward to seeing the appointments from affiliated association finals series in the next edition.

Since the last edition of our Association Journal there has been plenty of cricket and matters to keep members abreast of or updated on.

In previous editions I've touched on Association spirit and highlighted members who have gone out of their way to assist management or fellow members and in this edition, I'd like to acknowledge Robyn Sanday. On the Friday 13 January I received a message from Toni Lorraine who advised that she had become unwell and was unable to fulfill her BBL appointment that evening and also in Coffs Harbour in four days' time. I called Robyn to see if she was prepared to travel at such short notice. Within 30 minutes she had booked herself on the train and was available to step in. The Representative Scorer Selection Committee are very grateful to Robyn.

Whilst on scoring, the BBL season has come to an end and the Representative Scorer Selection Committee would like to thank all members who officiated in the competition.

Two finals series matches were played in New South Wales and we congratulate Toni Lorraine and Ian Wright who scored The Eliminator and The Challenger.

Cricket NSW Foundation

The Cricket NSW Foundation is the charitable arm of Cricket NSW that exists to enrich communities and improve lives through cricket by enabling access to the game for all within NSW.

The Foundation focuses on four key areas:

- **Thriving Cricket Communities:** increasing access to cricket across NSW.
- **Youth Development:** increasing youth social connection and development through cricket.
- **Health and Well Being:** increasing awareness and providing education amongst grassroots cricket communities.
- **Female Engagement:** providing opportunities and development across NSW.

NSWCUSA has partnered with the Foundation on a number of occasions in recent years and we are grateful for the financial support they have provided to our members. This support has provided the Association with the ability to subsidise registration fees for umpire training courses conducted in regional areas, financial support to members who have travelled to Sydney for matches in NSW Premier Cricket as a way of enhancing their umpiring and funding for guest speakers to attend our Annual Convention in Tamworth and in advance for the 2023 Convention.

The latest initiative to raise funds for the Foundation is the 'Purchase a Picket' campaign, which allows supporters to have their name engraved on to a plaque mounted at the new, picturesque Cricket Central Oval.

To show our appreciation for the generous financial support in recent times, the Association will be purchasing a Tier 1 picket which is \$500.

Information on the campaign was provided to all members on Wednesday 8 February and more information is available here: www.purchaseapicket.com.au.

I'd like to reflect on inclusivity and the part the Association can play in helping Cricket NSW achieve their purpose and it's WIG (Wildly Important Goal). I'm proud that as an Association we have a diverse and multicultural membership that includes people from all walks of life. Members should feel welcome to be who they are in a safe environment and in recent years we have made excellent progresses in this space.

Members in attendance at the Convention in Tamworth will remember during my update to members that I highlighted Cricket NSW's purpose to inspire everyone to play and love cricket and the WIG which is to grow the number of 5-12-year-olds and their families playing and watching cricket.

During my update I stressed the importance of us as an Association and members individually doing what they can to help with this. I'd like to remind members of the impact we can have in providing an enjoyable experience for all stakeholders and the part we can play. Small acts of kindness, showing empathy and understanding can go a long way.

An update on the commemorative off-field polo which will be a gift for all members recognising the Association's 110th year.

Following the confirmation of the design by Directors, we reached out to our manufacturer Beastwear for a sample design prior to approving the production. We are currently awaiting samples on various materials before commencing production. The next stage of the process will be to circulate a JotForm to all members to allow for the correct sizes to be ordered.

The date for our Annual Dinner and Awards Presentation has been confirmed, to be held on April 15 at the Bankstown Sports Club. We look forward to seeing many members and guests in attendance.

The Social Committee led by Michael Meehan are working hard behind the scenes to provide events and opportunities for members to engage and interact to foster Association spirit. Following the success of the NRL and AFL tipping competitions last year they will again be running both competitions for all members. I'd encourage members to get involved as it's a way to stay engaged with colleagues across the off season. Thank you to Michael and the Committee for this work.

In the education space I'd like to thank Ben Treloar and Claire Polosak for their continued efforts, an umpires training course commenced at Cricket Central on Tuesday 7 February and we look forward to seeing some new members join the Association post this course.

We also look forward to recommencing our education sessions held on Zoom. The feedback from the two previous sessions, **Introduction to Sports Psychology**, which was conducted on Monday 24 October and **Nutrition** with Sally Anderson on Wednesday 14 December has been excellent and we'll continue to use the resource in a positive fashion.

I'd like to acknowledge the work of State Umpiring Manager, Darren Goodger, across the festive period he spent six weeks on the road travelling from carnival to carnival to support and assist our members to enable them to perform at their best. His work in appointing umpires, preparing playing conditions, managing logistics and then delivering pre-carnival workshops was of the highest standard and ensured that members just had to focus on their officiating.

Many long days and late nights were required across this period and I know these efforts are appreciated by the umpires, Country Cricket NSW and NSWCUA. We are very fortunate to have Darren in this role, thank you Darren.

An issue that has impacted cricket across the state has been PlayHQ and in turn OfficialsHQ. I would like to thank all members who have done their very best in learning the new system to ensure statistics and other records are as accurate as possible. I'd like to highlight and thank Bede Sajowitz for his efforts in this space, Bede has been the main point of contact for all members and affiliated associations given there is only one person in each state that has the permissions necessary to assist everyone else.

Bede was not provided with any additional training that was above and beyond what was provided to secretaries and other administrators and only through his tech savvy nature and his ability to trial and error matters was he able to assist so many. In a recent meeting with PlayHQ staff their praise of his efforts was wonderful see and on behalf of many members and affiliated association secretaries I sincerely thank him for his efforts.

We have much to look forward to in the off-season and I forward to providing further details as they come to hand, but in the meantime, best wishes to all members for their upcoming fixtures, enjoy your time on field, in the scorer's box or watching beyond the boundary.



Paul Olsen & Dave Cullen

STATE UMPIRING MANAGER UPDATE

DARREN GOODGER

So much cricket has been played State-wide since the last edition of our journal, with plenty still to come across the next two months.

At the professional level of the game, we have had Sharad Patel and Claire Polosak make their on-field debut in the BBL, and Troy Penman became NSWCUA first-class umpire (number) 85 when he stood in the Victoria v Queensland Sheffield Shield match at the MCG. Troy performed to first-class standard in what was an excellent debut, as did Sharad and Claire in the BBL.

Sharad became NSWCUA first-class umpire (number) 86 when he walked onto Bellerive Oval to officiate the Sheffield Shield match between Tasmania and Western Australia starting on February 21. We wish Sharad the very best for his first-class debut.

Troy and Sharad will shortly have their names added to the honour board in the Ted Wykes Room at the Sydney Cricket Ground which recognises all members who have officiated at first-class level. They sit their comfortably, and deservedly, among the rest.

Congratulations to Sharad, Troy and Claire on their respective debuts.

Claire is currently in South Africa where she will umpire six preliminary round fixtures in the Women's T20 World Cup, four on-field and two as TV Umpire. By the end of this World Cup, Claire will have officiated in more than 120 international fixtures. She is an inspiration to our members and a wonderful representative of the NSWCUA and Cricket NSW.

Congratulations to Paul Wilson and Gerard Abood on their appointment to the BBL Final played at Perth Stadium. In a cracking final which saw Perth Scorchers defeat Brisbane Heat by 5 wickets in a last over victory, Paul was one of the on-field umpires, standing with Sam Nogajski, while Gerard was the TV Umpire. All three national panel umpires deserved their appointment from Cricket Australia on merit having performed to a consistently excellent standard during BBL | 12. All were exceptional role models for less experienced umpires throughout the series, they earned the respect of their colleagues by way of their actions, behaviours, performance and teamwork.

A men's second XI fixture between New South Wales and Queensland played at Rosedale Oval commenced on February 20. Roberto Howard and Bede Sajowitz have been appointed to umpire the 4-day match, with David Gilbert the match referee. This is Bede's second XI debut, we wish him and Roberto well - both have been performing strongly in Men's Premier Cricket.

There were two WNCL matches played in Orange with New South Wales hosting ACT in both fixtures. The first match was umpired by Daniel Moran and Bede Sajowitz, the second match by Andrew Hamilton and Roberto Howard. Our State Panel umpires represented the Association with distinction.

Domestically there has been so much cricket and we wish to sincerely acknowledge those umpires who have been standing in Cricket NSW pathway programs, Country Cricket programs and State Challenge matches. Since our last edition the Country Colts has been played in Queanbeyan, the Bradman Cup in Lake Macquarie, Youth Championship carnivals in Armidale, Dubbo, Grafton, Raymond Terrace and Singleton, along with the Cricket NSW State Challenge being played across four days in Dubbo.



Rod Porter & Bill Battese

Thank you to the many umpires and scorers who have been involved, these are wonderful opportunities for our members who serve the game and represent our Association with excellence.

We have been well represented at Cricket Australia national championships:

- Daniel Moran at the U19 Female National Championships in Perth where he was appointed to umpire the Final.
- Andrew Hamilton, Roberto Howard and Bede Sajowitz at the U19 Male National Championships in Adelaide where Roberto was appointed to umpire the Final.
- Alicia Humphrey at the U16 Female National Championships in Canberra.
- Mitch Claydon at the U17 Male National Championships in Hobart where he was appointed to umpire the Final.

The National Indigenous Cricket Championships will be played in Alice Springs February 22-28; NSWCUA will be represented by Andrew Coates, Patrick Jackson and Andrew Yarad. We acknowledge their commitment to premier cricket and wish them well.

On the domestic scene, Mitch Claydon, Andrew Hamilton, Roberto Howard, Bob McGregor, Daniel Moran, Sharad Patel, Troy Penman, Bede Sajowitz were appointed to umpire the First Grade Limited Overs Cup quarter-finals, with the semi-finals umpired by Greg Davidson, Sharad Patel, Bede Sajowitz and Ben Treloar.

Sydney CC has won the Kingsgrove Sports T20 Cup, defeating Sydney University in the final at Drummoyne Oval. Congratulations to Roberto Howard and Troy Penman on their appointment to umpire the final.

Parramatta defeated Hawkesbury to win the final of the AW Green Shield at Merrylands Oval. Congratulations to Daniel Moran and Andrew Yarad on their appointment to umpire the final.

The U16 Country v City Challenge will be played on February 26 at Pasterfield Sports Complex with Newcastle hosting Parramatta. Daniel Moran and Rodney Porter have been appointed to umpire this representative fixture. We wish them well.

Old Kings Oval will host the final of the Poidevin-Gray Shield on March 5 between Parramatta and Randwick Petersham. Congratulations to Daniel Moran and Bede Sajowitz on their appointment to umpire this final, we wish them the best.

Umpire exchanges are an exciting concept which have resumed this season. NSWCUA has an exchange partnership with Cricket Tasmania and Cricket Victoria. Bede Sajowitz has already been to Melbourne standing in the VCA First XI two-day match between St Kilda and Northcote at Junction Oval. Mitch Claydon will travel to Hobart to stand in a CTPL First Grade match on February 25-26.

Sam Burns (CTAS) and Malcolm Wood (CVIC) were welcomed to Sydney to stand in a Men's Premier Cricket First Grade fixture over the weekend of February 18-19. Sam stood with Ben Treloar at Drummoyne Oval where Sydney hosted Sydney University while Malcolm stood with Troy Penman at Hurstville Oval where St George hosted Randwick Petersham. Both were well received by players, stakeholders and NSWCUA Members.

In January I sent a note to our State Panel umpires in our WhatsApp group which was shared with the NSWCUSA Board. The Board asked this to be shared in the next journal for all members..

G'day All

The importance of hard work must not be underestimated. Ted Wykes (we owe much to those in the NSWCUSA who've gone before us – remember them and their contribution, they dug the well) so often said, "There's plenty of room at the top, but none for lying down."

You may all be well pleased with the opportunities and experiences you've had so far this season, along with your performances. More about this in an email some time soon, but keep the culture strong, yourselves process focused, your on and off field standards of preparation, presentation and behaviour high, with an authentic focus on self-assessment. How do you wish to be perceived, in particular in terms of character? What legacy do you wish to leave? You are a person before you are an umpire, it is the person you are, your actions, and how you make others feel for which you will be remembered.

Each of you has made a positive start to the season, you are thoroughly deserving of your respective positions in Australian Cricket, the best is yet to come. Each of you has an on-field presence, to me, that is of quiet confidence and a real interest in what you're doing. It's that appetite / search for information and the desire to be accountable for absorbing all you can that will propel your progress. Forget the destination, stay in the moment and, as you each look to be doing, enjoy the journey. Continue to be dedicated, professional and mature in your approach.

The principle is competing against yourself (not to impress or be loved by others); it's about self-improvement and being better than you were the day before.



Jeff Egan receives his Country Umpire Cap from Neil Findlay

John Wooden wrote so aptly, "Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are."

We have some wonderful leaders and role models in Australian umpiring who set the standard with culture and a sincere approach to learning, feedback and self-review. Observe them carefully, to me they stand out. Each are understated and humble people, umpires who do not embellish and they do things at all times for the right reasons, with a very strong focus on team, culture and proper behaviours. They respect their partners, their families and their place in the game. They take nothing for granted and value all they have received from the game, and they give back. Each leads by example through their actions and are worth following. As Neale Daniher said, "Your team mates know."

High-performing teams, and this is what we are striving for, promote and live a culture of honesty, authenticity, safe conduct and safe conflict.

The message to our State Panel was for three primary reasons:

- A reminder of the need for maturity and professionalism. Don't let others compromise your personal and professional standards ... you have all worked too hard to get where you are.

- We are all privileged to do what we do ... very few get the chance ... grab opportunities, each and every one.
- This is not about short cuts ... it's about genuine commitment to the continuous improvement process (as opposed to keep doing what we're doing)

Basic (not to be confused with simple) themes (as Simon Taufel wrote) of responsibility, accountability, humility, maturity and professionalism. If these were simple, more people would be where you all are. It's about choice, hard work and commitment.

Thank you to all umpires and scorers for your incredible commitment so far this season. Your contribution to the vast amount of cricket played has been outstanding. To all involved across New South Wales in finals series cricket matches in the coming months, congratulations and enjoy the experience. Preparation, knowledge and composure will stand you in great stead.



Harpreet Singh & Sue Woodhouse before the first match at Cricket Central



Peter Done & Ian James with captains at the U14 Male State Challenge

EDUCATION OFFICER UPDATE

BEN TRELOAR

Education items of interest continue to be rolled out since our last edition of **In Black and White**.

We have seen monthly law questions and answers shared during November, December, January and February – we continue to receive positive feedback, so continue to keep an eye out in your inbox for further editions. We'd also like to encourage everyone to keep sending through your match day experiences so that we may continue to utilise 'real life' scenarios – thanks to all who have been in contact to share what's been happening around the grounds to benefit of all.

In addition to this, the Examination Committee, under the leadership and guidance of Andrew Coates, have continued to lead the way at our Ordinary General Meetings with their scenario-based law questions. The Association's collective knowledge and experience with the laws and their application continues to grow on the back of this initiative – thanks to the NSWCUSA Examination Committee!

December saw an online education lead by Advanced Sports Dietitian & Exercise Physiologist – Sally Anderson. Those who attended benefitted greatly from the experience and expertise provided by Sally, helping us navigate our way through the festive and new year periods. We look forward to continuing our online education sessions throughout the 2023 calendar year.

Our Scorers delivered an in-person course held at Cricket Central for the 14 registered attendees. Thanks are offered to the Scorers' Committee for facilitating this – in particular to Adrian Tham, Sue

Woodhouse and Ian Wright. We look forward to seeing many more scorer members joining the Association in the near future.

Throughout February, the education and training team will be facilitating a Level 2 Laws Course, again to be held at Cricket Central, Silverwater. Over 20 people are registered, and we look forward to the positive and engaging experience. Thanks are offered in advance to Chris Beecher, Laurie Borg, Roberto Howard, Elizabeth O'Dwyer and Bede Sajowitz for facilitating this course and to the Exam Committee for supervising the exam.

The end of the season is fast approaching. With this we will soon be placing our focus on the winter training program. During April and May, we will be requesting expressions of interest from Affiliates who wish to host any Level 1 or Level 2 Laws of Cricket training courses or professional development workshop. Information will be shared directly with affiliate secretaries, with further information for members placed on our website once dates and venues have been confirmed.

Finally, preparations are beginning on the 2023 Annual Convention, this year to be held in Sydney (dates and venue to be confirmed) – always one of the biggest events on the NSWCUSA education and training calendar – we look forward to making this the biggest and best yet!

Wishing everyone well for the remainder of the season – finish strong.



Claire Polosak, Alicia Humphrey with captains before the first match at Cricket Central

FIRST-CLASS DEBUT FOR TROY PENMAN

CHRIS GRANT | CRICKET AUSTRALIA

Cricket Australia (CA) Supplementary Umpire Panel (SUP) member Troy Penman stepped on to the Melbourne Cricket Ground on 9 February for his debut First-Class match.

Penman's cricket umpiring journey began in 2010 when he joined the New South Wales Cricket Umpires & Scorers Association (NSWCUSA) and began standing in Premier Cricket and Shires matches across Sydney over the coming seasons. Penman made his First-Grade debut in January 2015 and has gone on to stand in over 150 Sydney Premier and Shires matches.

From 2016 through to 2019, Penman progressed through the CA Umpire pathway officiating at each major underage tournament. Penman was appointed to each of those tournament Finals along the way. Penman had a busy representative 2016-17 season, first elevated to the NSW State Umpire Panel (STUP) then making his respective debuts in the WNCL and Second XI competitions. Leading into the 2017-18,

Penman travelled to Brisbane to complete the invite only CA High Performance Officiating program. In December 2017, Penman made his WBBL debut, then travelled to Melbourne to officiate two matches in the Under 19 One-Day International Series between Australia and Pakistan. In 2019, Penman was appointed on-field for the traditional Prime Minister's XI match at Manuka Oval featuring the PM's XI and the touring Sri Lankan side.

Prior to the 2019-20 season, Penman was elevated to the Cricket Australia Supplementary Umpire

Panel for the first time and went on to stand in the WNCL Final at North Sydney Oval. In 2020-21, Penman made his List-A debut in the Marsh One Day Cup match between New South Wales and Victoria at the North Sydney Oval.

Last season, Penman made his KFC BBL Debut when the Perth Scorchers played the Sydney Sixers at Metricon Stadium on the Gold Coast. Through his representative career, Penman has combined each of his appointments with his Premier Cricket commitments in Sydney.

Off the field, Troy's contribution to umpiring extends to his professional life where he is the Executive Officer of the New South Wales Cricket Umpires and Scorers' Association, a role he has held since September 2019.

Penman stood in the Marsh Sheffield Shield match between Victoria and Queensland with CA National Umpire Panel member Phil Gillespie, with Shawn Craig taking over after day one.

In doing so, Penman became the 85th umpire from New South Wales to officiate a First-Class match. National Match Referee Panel member Bob Parry will oversee proceedings.



Phil Gillespie and Troy Penman take to the field on Day One // Getty

THREE BBL DEBUTS OVER FESTIVE SEASON

BEDE SAJOWITZ

The festive season always gives us plenty to celebrate, but for three NSW/CUSA members, this year was extra special as they made debuts in the KFC BBL.

Scorer Sarah Berman and umpires Sharad Patel and Claire Polosak have each officiated in the competition for the first-time in recent weeks.

Berman sat in a BBL scorers' box for the first-time on Boxing Day as the Sydney Sixers hosted the Melbourne Stars at the SCG, having scored her first Sheffield Shield match at the same venue in November.

In officiating this match, Berman has now officiated in each of Cricket Australia's domestic competitions this season, the first time she has achieved this feat.

She also recorded the recent Sydney Smash at Sydney Showgrounds on 8 January and was one of the scorers for the SCG matches on 15 & 21 January.

Patel was involved in the BBL for the first time when he stood in the match between the Brisbane Heat and the Adelaide Strikers on 23 December at The Gabba.

In his first season as a member of Cricket Australia's Supplementary Umpire Panel, his appointment came having also made his Men's List A debut in October, also in Brisbane.

He was also in the middle on 28 December at the SCG as the Sixers hosted the Melbourne



Sarah Berman, Sharad Patel and Claire Polosak

Renegades and was Third Umpire on New Year's Day in Melbourne when the Renegades hosted the Perth Scorchers.

Patel was also the Third Umpire on 15 January when the Hobart Hurricanes hosted the Thunder at Blundstone Arena and on 17 January in Coffs Harbour where Sixers hosted the Strikers.

Claire Polosak made her first on-field appearance in the BBL at the SCG on 22 December as the Sixers hosted the Hurricanes.

The debut was not her first men's T20 fixture, earlier this season having umpired six Men's T20 World Cup Qualifier matches in Vanuatu.

She also appeared on-field on 10 January in Adelaide when the Strikers hosted the Renegades in addition to three matches as Third Umpire throughout the tournament.

Cricket Australia have appointed Polosak to officiate in the upcoming women's international series against Pakistan, which will see her on-field for two ODIs and two T20s and TV umpire for one ODI.

REED AND WATSON AWARDED AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

BEDE SAJOWITZ

NSWCUSA Life members Graham Reed and Arthur Watson have both been recognised in this year's Australia Day Honours for their contribution to cricket and the community over the last seven decades.

The pair were two of the 506 individuals across the country awarded Medals in the General Division (OAM).

Reed's service to cricket began as an umpire in the 1960s, officiating 161 SCA matches in addition to two women's Test matches, 13 men's first-class matches and two U19 men's Test matches.

In speaking to the North Shore Times, he spoke to his pride in receiving the award, "I am humbled but proud to receive the OAM award.

"My proudest moment was being elected as Patron of the NSWCUSA.

"My other proud moments include umpiring NSW in First-Class cricket from 1987 to 1992 – NSW had a wonderful team and it was a pleasure to umpire them.

"None of this would have been possible without the help and support of my darling wife Jo of 64 years."

Whilst committed to the Association on the field, he was, and continues to be, a dedicated member off-field, with 15 years as a member of the Executive Committee as well as time on the Training and Examination Committees.

He has been a Men's Premier Cricket Observer since 1992, now past 30 seasons working with our active umpires around the grounds.

Reed was made a Life member in 2000, was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2016 and has been a Co-Patron since 2017.

He spent time working with Cricket Australia as an Umpire Coach and over a decade working as a Match Referee, overseeing domestic and international fixtures.

Away from cricket, he is also a Life member of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.

Watson was recognised for his services to the community through a range of organisations, including cricket associations and clubs.

Since joining NSWCUSA in 1969, he has umpired in excess of 800 SCA matches, including 365 in men's First Grade – as well as three men's and one women's ODI and ten men's first-class matches and a men's U19 Test match.

He continues as an active umpire to this day, providing guidance to newer and experienced umpires alike.

In speaking to The Parramatta Advertiser, he spoke of what keeps him coming back each weekend, "I love the camaraderie of meeting people and putting something back into the game.

"There's a certain amount of pressure involved in umpiring, but I guess with experience you cope with the pressure.

"I've had many of my decisions over the years questioned, but you survive and get on with the job. "I have a very supportive family and a supportive wife; without her support it wouldn't be possible."

Beyond the boundary, Watson spent close to 30 years as a member of the Executive Committee across two tenures, and 22 years as Honorary Treasurer, as well as significant time on the Examination, Technical and Social Committees.

He is a Life member of our Association, the Sydney Cricket Association, the Fairfield-Liverpool Cricket Umpires' Association, the Fairfield-Liverpool Cricket Club, the Guidford Leagues Cricket Club and the Probus Club of Holroyd.

Watson has been involved as an umpire with Blind Cricket NSW since 1995 and the umpires room at Rosedale Oval was named after him in 2017.

The Association extends congratulations to both Graham and Arthur and fellow recipients who were recognised for their service to cricket:

Member (AM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia

Ms Susan Dorothy Crow
For significant service to sports administration.

Ms Belinda Duarte
For significant service to the Indigenous community, and to sports administration

Mr Walter John Edwards
For significant service to cricket administration

Medal (OAM) of the Order of Australia in the General Division

Mr David Sutton Crow
For service to cricket

Mr Ivo John Havard
For service to cricket and football

Mr Kent Mayo
For service to the community of Uralla

Mr Henry Meskauskas
For service to the community of Maitland

Mr Brian Joseph O'Malley
For service to the community through a range of organisations

Mr Graham Edward Reed
For service to cricket

Mr Marshall Frederick Rosen
For service to cricket

Mr Alexander Gregory Ross
For service to the community through a range of organisations

Mr Arthur George Watson
For service to the community through a range of organisations

Mr Glenn Wilbur Wright
For service to the community of Leongatha



Arthur Watson & Graham Reed

AUSTRALIA V REST OF WORLD

CHRISTIAN RAYNER

When I received an email in search of umpires for a friendly five over match/PR activation, for a \$300 match fee, that was going to involve supersize stumps, different colour balls and questionable decisions, I thought well obviously I would like to apply for that.

Thankfully my appointment with Alicia Humphrey at Kensington Oval was confirmed and the PR company reached out to inform us it would be a fun Australia vs Rest of the World match. The captain of Australia would be Glenn McGrath and Australia will be heavily disadvantaged. Wow I thought, could this get any better!

Alicia and I arrived at the ground and we sat watching the big man Glenn receiving pleasantries. Our pre-match discussion mainly involved how we could influence the game heavily towards the Rest of the World team. Then the potentially horrific decisions we could make, which was a real brainstorming session!

We went out for the toss holding the double sided \$1 coin, which interestingly cost \$40. I showed the coin for integrity, mainly to the Rest of the World skipper saying tails, then flipping it in my palm saying tails again. Unsurprisingly he called tails much to Glenn's bemusement.

We lined up ready for the Australian anthem. I stood next to the big man, looked UP! at him (bearing in mind I'm 193cm tall) and said "Are you going easy on us?" "No. Are you?" he said, "Definitely not" I replied. We sang the anthem which was a very surreal experience lined up next to him. After hearing Glenn sing I thought well at least that's one thing I can do better than him.

The game commenced with Australia bowling first and Glenn fielding at mid on in our ears. We bowled just from one end as the cameras were set up on one side out of harms way. Lots of chaos ensued, particular highlights included:

Alicia calling a great boundary 4 when Glenn had stopped it a good 20 meters in from the fence. Plus a Not Out when he took a clean catch from a top edge. I sent off four Aussies, including the wicket keeper of course.

As Glenn came up to bowl the last deliveries while I was at the bowler's end. I called Alicia over as being English there is no way I could deny my Aussie partner the opportunity to say she has umpired Glenn McGrath. Alicia did say she would return the favour if we ever ended up umpiring Jimmy Anderson together.

This turned out perfectly for both of us, as I headed off to square leg I was handed a set of miniature stumps about 20cm tall. As he bounded in Alicia shouted "Dead Ball!"

There was a look of confusion and shake of the head as I swapped out the regulation stumps for the miniature ones.



Glenn McGrath, Christian Rayner and Alicia Humphrey

Going into the Australia innings the sense was Australia would have an up-hill climb no matter how well they played. Wickets tumbled from the outset. Great LBW decisions given, ticking all the boxes of course, pitching outside leg, impact outside off and missing the wickets!

My personal favourite was giving every incoming batters guard closer to the return crease than centre stump - this was the closest I got to a usual Saturday in Premier Cricket!

Miniature bats were given to the Australian team which snapped in half when they middled it followed by two-metre tall stumps that were swapped in.

Finally Mr McGrath came out to bat. Here was an opportunity of a lifetime. After a couple of cautious shots defending the giant stumps behind him, the ball struck him high, but not even halfway up the huge stumps. It also may or may not have been clipping leg stump, I definitely didn't count to four and the finger went high up in the air.

As I bothered him for a picture at the end I told him what an honour it was to umpire him. I thanked him for all the pain he caused me growing up watching him tear up English batting lineups.

He was such a humble man and a true gentleman, happy to talk to anyone and do the rounds with autographs and pictures after the game. It was so great to see, a legend in every way.

Reading this you may wonder the purpose of this match. The message behind this ad was to highlight the disadvantages Aussie brands and made in Australia products have, in getting into Australian supermarkets. This is a real issue with approximately only 15% of supermarket products coming from Australian owned brands.

This was such a wonderful experience and something I'll never forget. Thank you NSWCUA for this opportunity!



Glenn McGrath & Christian Rayner at Kensington

TUCKER BECOMES NSWCUSA'S MOST- CAPPED TEST UMPIRE

BEDE SAJOWITZ

In officiating the Second Test match between Australia and the West Indies at the Adelaide Oval, NSWCUA member Rod Tucker becomes the Association's most-capped Test match umpire.

With 79 Tests now to his name, only Daryl Harper (95 matches) will have more experience as an Australian umpire on the international stage.

Rod made his men's Test debut in Hamilton in 2010, umpiring the only Test when Bangladesh toured New Zealand.

With the pandemic allowing for umpires to officiate on home soil, last summer was the first time he officiated a Test match in Australia, being on-field for four of the five Ashes Tests matches, including the New Year's Test at the SCG.

Cricket NSW's Head of Competitions & Officiating Darren Goodger said of the milestone, "Rod is an outstanding person and international umpire who has enjoyed a wonderful career. He possesses excellent people, communication and match management skills, and is one the best decision makers in world cricket.

"He has a great sense of humour which is appreciated by his peers and the players as well as being an umpire with strong and exemplary character.

"Rod is a principal member of the NSWCUA and has always been a strong advocate for the Association, CNSW and NSW Premier Cricket, being grateful to all from New South Wales who supported him during his umpiring career."

Having been a member of the ICC Elite Panel of Umpires since 2010, Rod also has extensive experience in limited-overs internationals.

He has been on-field for 89 men's ODIs – including the 2013 Champions Trophy Final between England and India as well as 52 T20Is – including the 2016 ICC World T20 Final between England and the West Indies.

Before turning to umpiring, Rod played 103 first-class matches between 1987 and 1999, making his first-class debut as a cricketer in a Sheffield Shield match for New South Wales against South Australia at Adelaide Oval.

His first-class debut as an umpire in December 2004 featured the same two sides – this time at the SCG.

He was joined on-field at the Adelaide Oval in the Second Test by Kumar Dharmasena.



Aleem Dar & Rod Tucker working together in England // PA Photos

'CROWD WENT BERSERK': WHEN SMITH LAST MET WARNER IN AUS

JACK PAYNTER | CRICKET.COM.AU

Chris Williams looked to his left and right, and all he could do was laugh given the company he was in.

The high school PE teacher was padded up waiting to bat for Sutherland District Cricket Club in a 2018 first-grade match like he had done on countless Saturdays over the previous decade.

Only this time a couple of seats away sat Shane Watson. Next to him was Mitchell Johnson. Out in the middle was Steve Smith on 20-odd not out. Fielding was David Warner and in the adjoining marquee was Steve Waugh.

Coogee Oval was heaving, and Williams was next in.

"I just looked around. I didn't really say anything to the guys, I kind of laughed," Williams recalls.

"As a schoolteacher it was pretty hilarious. "There were all these Australian players there and a couple of others like me who have just got to go to work tomorrow."

Former Australian paceman Mike Whitney was also there in his role as Randwick-Petersham president, a club he has held a lifelong association with since his Premier Cricket playing days began in the late 1970s.

Not since the early days of his career had the 12-Test quick seen the club's famed beachside home in Sydney's eastern suburbs even half-full.

It was of course the famous Smith v Warner grade clash of November 2018, while both were serving their year-long bans in the fallout from the Cape Town ball tampering scandal, that had led to such a packed house.

Estimates of the crowd that day range from 2000-5000 – some had travelled from Ballarat and in Johnson's case, Perth – and Williams reckons it was comfortably double that of the 2000 they had at Glenn McGrath Oval for Smith's opening match of the season.

For the Sutherland skipper and the rest of his regular teammates, the novelty of having to traverse a barricaded walkway to enter the field was not lost, but for Smith, Warner and Watson it barely registered.

"Smithy and Watto were all kind of used to it, they were just talking as normal," Williams tells cricket.com.au.

"The rest of us were sitting around going 'jeez, what's it going to be like to go out and bat with a crowd like that?'"

"The most any of us had ever played in front of was about 200 people the year before when we made the T20 finals which they played under lights at the SCG."



Smith and Warner shake hands after the match // Getty

That 50-over match was the last time Smith and Warner have played against each other on Aussie soil, and Whitney says it was a day the club had earmarked from the moment the fixture was released as it was known the pair would have to return to the top-flight through the grade system.

There have been other Smith v Warner battles since; a quintet of Indian Premier League clashes from 2019 to 2021 and the Bangladesh Premier League not long after that day in Coogee.

But none of those have attracted the fanfare among an Australian audience like that unique match did. On Saturday night, the pair will again suit up on opposing sides in the Sydney Smash.

"When it all happened and they go 'they're suspended and they've got to come back and play club cricket', we went 'that can be a really big deal for our club and we need to make it a big deal'," Whitney says.

"And David was fully involved with coaching the kids, talking at training, doing whatever, and playing.

"Our club was so excited about the whole prospect; we knew it was going to be a big day, we were prepared for it, but it was three or four times bigger than what I ever perceived it to be ... it was insane.

"More people came to watch Randwick-Petersham that year with David playing than ever (before), and we've been around 23 seasons now (since the merger)."

Johnson, a good mate of Watson, was there after concluding a business trip to Sydney, while nine-year-old Sam Williams, a huge Warner fan, travelled from Ballarat in Victoria with his mum Marita to watch his hero in action.

"He hung out with David Warner all day," Whitney recalls. "When David called for gloves, Sam ran them out. When David needed a drink – he only got 13 – but he hung with David Warner all day and now those people are big fans of our club, and we still converse with Marita and Sam.

"Smithy, Watto, David sat there all day when they had the opportunity and just signed autographs and had photos."

Walking out for the toss that day was even a surreal experience for Chris Williams and opposing number Anthony Sams – the brother of Australia and Thunder left-armer Daniel.

Such was the interest in the season and that game, there was even gambling on first-grade cricket for the first time in Williams' memory.

"It was probably the most hyped-up game of cricket that there possibly could have been," he says.



Sam Williams travelled from Ballarat to watch Warner play for Randwick-Petersham // Getty

"Everyone wanted to play because Smithy was playing.

"We had Shane Watson in the side as well, Ben Dwarshuis at the start of the season, Dan Fallins was playing for NSW at the time, so we had this amazing side and consistent first graders all of a sudden were out of the team and pretty disappointed."

Alongside Warner, Randwick-Petersham also boasted an imposing side that day.

Daniel Sams has played 10 times to date for Australia at T20 level. Jason Sangha became one of youngest first-grade premiership captains in NSW history the following season, and has also led the state in the Marsh Sheffield Shield and Sydney Thunder in the KFC BBL.

Riley Ayre – playing against his former club that day – also made his first-class debut for NSW last season, while club legend Adam Semple retired at the end of last season as Randwick-Petersham's all-time leading run-scorer (6505) and wicket-taker (419) in first-grade.

But it was English first-class batter Daniel Bell-Drummond that upstaged his opening partner with a superb 106 (from 130 balls) to lead the hosts to what should have been a defendable first-grade total of 8-267 in 50 overs.

Son-of-a-gun Austin Waugh – who has since taken a sabbatical from the game – was the star of the show for Sutherland with the huge scalp of Warner in his 3-43 before later finishing with 46no, including a six from the third-last ball of the match to seal the win.

"It was a pretty good total, nine times out of 10 in grade cricket that score is going to win you a game," Williams says.

"But with Watson and Smith in your side you just thought to yourself, 'well, we'll get whatever they get', that was just the mentality when we walked off the field."



Chris Williams runs past Warner after he was dismissed by Austin Waugh for 13 // Getty

"Shane Watson, he was a cut above everybody that day," Whitney recalls. "And that's no disrespect to Smudge (Smith) and Davey, but Shane Watson won them the game with his innings.

"He hit five sixes and they were monsters.

"One of them went halfway up the hill at Dolphin St on the north side and the crowd just went berserk, it was amazing."

Williams – who himself made 55 – says it was just like watching a Big Bash game, and it perhaps felt like it too as Watson was the Thunder's captain at the time and Sams, who he crunched for two of those sixes along with three boundaries, their opening bowler.

"He was just pogoing him back over his head," he recalls. "What you can think of Shane Watson as an international one-day champion, he was just hitting balls out of the ground and over the sight screen ... it was exactly how you would expect him to bat.

"I remember him hitting it up on the big hill a couple of times and the ball trickling back down and little kids running to try and get their hands on the ball ... it was just like what you'd see if you're going to a Big Bash game, it almost had that atmosphere."

When Watson departed for 63 (41) in just the 11th over, Smith took over and looked to be steering Sutherland towards a comfortable victory as he had done for Australia many times before.

"He definitely wanted to hit me straight, he kept running at me to try and hit me straight to the short boundary," Ayre recalls.

"We had a good little battle for a bit.

"Obviously, he's a good player everywhere but we were just trying to limit his boundary options and that is pretty tough at Coogee Oval, it's a really small ground straight.

"A big one for me was just using my change of pace and making it hard for him to hit me down the ground."

Ayre conceded just one boundary in his tidy return of 1-37 that day, five balls before he won the biggest battle of his career so far as Smith, after facing two consecutive dot balls, rushed down the wicket only for the left-arm orthodox spinner to slide it past his bat with the former Australian skipper stranded out of his ground on 48.

A photo of that dismissal now holds pride of place on a wall in the new Randwick-Petersham clubrooms at Coogee Oval following a redevelopment in mid-2021.

Ayre says it was "definitely" Anthony Sams' doing as the gloveman who completed the memorable stumping, although the former under-19 Australia tweaker has no qualms about the moment being enshrined for others to see.

He says it's still the best wicket he's ever taken – although he added another four Test-level victims (including Raymon Reifer twice) during the NSW & ACT XI's tour match against the West Indies last November.

"I just really enjoyed the challenge of coming on to bowl against the best in the world," Ayre says.

"It's hard to explain (the feeling of getting him out). It was an awesome experience and to have a good challenge with him and then eventually get one past ... to say that I got Smith out, that's definitely the biggest scalp I've got.

"Just to be part of a grade game like that; the crowd at Coogee Oval was unreal and to play with Davey and against Smith and Watson was pretty special."

Chris Williams also retired at the end of last season as one of the greats of Sutherland District Cricket Club, rating that match alongside winning the T20 premiership that season as one of the "real highlights" of a decorated 12-year career.

"It was an amazing game of cricket, it'd be cool if you could play more of them," Williams says.

"As unfortunate as it was as to how they arrived to be at that ground on that day, it was really fortunate that we got to play with Smithy; it's not something many guys will ever get to do to play with someone as good as him.

"Anyone that popped down for a game of grade cricket on that day was treated to obviously some of the best cricketers in the country and you couldn't have asked for a game to provide you with more entertainment."

Whitney adds: "It will always be one of the great days for Randwick-Petersham Cricket Club at one of our home grounds.

"It was just the people that were there and the atmosphere.

"And when I run into the Sutherland guys, they all say the same, it was just an amazing day of club cricket.

"To see it happen on that day and in front of everybody just solidified my mentality that we need to have these guys back in grade cricket at every opportunity that we can, if they want to play and they're happy to play."

U16 FEMALE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

ALICIA HUMPHREY

The U16 Female National Championships returned this year for the first time since 2020. Held in Canberra from 5 to 12 January, the championships saw nine umpires from six different states and territories officiate. I was fortunate enough to be selected as the NSW representative with fellow NSWCUA members Ben Farrell and Syed Humayun also selected as the Qld and ACT representatives respectively, with Darren Goodger working as the Umpire Coach for the tournament and Kent Hannam being our Tournament Referee.

The tournament provided an amazing opportunity to not only umpire quality players and receive constructive feedback, but also to meet other umpires from around the country and learn from one another.

The group conversations at the end of each day were particularly valuable as we shared our learnings and experiences (as a collective we had pretty much implemented every law by the end of the tournament!). Being able to discuss how others might have handled things or the different intricacies in the law that arose each day was certainly a great way to learn.

On our second rest day, we all attended a professional development session run by Kent and Darren. The session provided many important key take aways, including, but not limited to:

- It is through example that you influence others.
- The mark of a person is what they do, not say.
- We should always be asking how we can lift each other up.



Mel Scolyer & Alicia Humphrey

We were also lucky enough to hear from NSWCUA member Simon Lightbody. Simon spoke to the importance of getting comfortable with being uncomfortable as well as how we each get to choose how we react to things. Hearing about how Simon had navigated the challenges he had faced in his umpiring journey was a great lesson to all present and highlighted just how valuable resilience is in umpires.

The tournament concluded with umpires Kate Holloman (WA) and Ben Farrell (QLD and NSWCUA member) being very deservedly appointed to the final. I was lucky enough to catch the end of their game and both did an outstanding job and represented our umpiring cohort fantastically. NSW Metro finished as the undefeated national champions, defeating Victoria Metro in the final.

Umpiring in the National Championships was an incredibly positive experience and I will forever be grateful to have had the opportunity. I was lucky to meet and umpire with some great people, with the dynamic between umpires one that encouraged honesty, humility and support of one another. It was also buoyed by the detailed feedback we were all able to receive from both Darren and Kent across the games. My biggest learning from the tournament was the importance of being present and enjoying yourself whilst umpiring – and taking that moment to truly appreciate just how lucky we all are to stand out in the middle, whether at tournaments like this or just on the weekend.

SCORING IN THE 2022 T20 WORLD CUP

IAN WRIGHT

The ICC conducted the Men's T20 World Cup in Australia in October and November 2022 with eight matches conducted in New South Wales, all at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

An international panel of Match Referees and umpires were appointed to the matches with four scorers from NSWCUA were appointed to the matches in Sydney: Adrian Tham, Darren Mattison Toni Lorraine and Ian Wright.

Three scorers were appointed to each match, which allowed one of the scorers to do a press call to the media representatives. Toni Lorraine performed this duty with excellent skill - receiving compliments from some press members for her calls.

The press call involves an announcement through the microphone to attendees in the Richie Benaud Media Centre. At the fall of each wicket the method of dismissal of each batter, minutes batted, balls faced and 4s and 6s is read out together with the score and the name of the incoming batter. Announcements are also made for a batter's 50 or 100, team 50s and multiples of 50, and partnership 50s and multiples of 50.

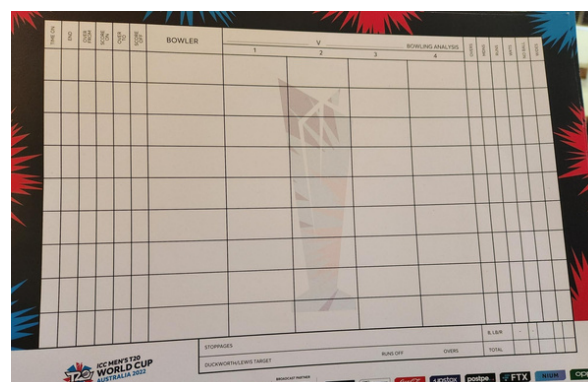
Because of the speed of T20s, a Press Call is now usually only done for 50 over matches, and First Class and Test Matches at the SCG.

The scorers were only required to score on special paper scoresheets. A photo is attached. No scoring was done on MyCricket or PlayHQ. The scoresheets are similar to our usual Cricket Australia scorecards, but were considerably larger and only printed on one side.



For matches at WBBL level or higher, one online scorer sits with the official scorers. They do the ball-by-ball description and commentary and they compile the scores on the Cricket Australia Web site. Normally just one online scorer attends each match, but for the T20 World Cup, three online scorers sat with the official scorers. The online scorer provides considerable assistance to the scorers by identifying changes of bowler, and fielders who take catches or effect run outs.

The matches in the World Cup moved at a slightly slower pace than BBL matches, and much slower than the hectic pace of WBBL matches. It was an enjoyable experience to score the World Cup games, which were all well attended.



UMPIRING IN AUSTRALIA

ALISTAIR DAVIES

My wife Kathy and I landed in Sydney on Thursday 5 January following a few days in Bunbury, WA visiting my daughter and seeing my new grandson for the first time and stayed at Coogee Beach, a two-minute walk from the Coogee Oval (home of Randwick Petersham)

The weather was mid-30s in WA, however, was more like the UK in Sydney (20 degrees and very damp upon arrival). We attended day 3 of the SCG test the following day which just happened to be Jane McGrath Day - always a wonderful event. The whole place and the majority of the crowd wearing pink. Just a shame the day was a wash out, though I was more than little concerned that tomorrow's game would be called off!

The evening was spent at our hotel in Coogee Bay watching the rain fall preparing for my game in the morning. Fortunately we woke up on Saturday to no rain, however there had been some overnight showers. Having not received a message to say the game was called off I made my way to the ground on the 373 bus from Coogee to Waverley (via Bondi Junction)

The game was a Round 9 NSW Premier Cricket Second Grade match at Waverley Oval, home of Eastern Suburbs who were playing Campbelltown Camden - and what a classic it turned out to be. Due to start at 10am we got away at 11.15 (utilising all the additional time available). By 11am the temp had risen to 25 degrees, the day was now warm and we didn't see any more rain.

Campbelltown won the toss and elected to bowl with Easts making 198 all out off 44.4 overs (including a wonderful century from Adam Sidhu).



Jim Harrod & Alistair Davies

In reply Campbelltown were all out for 196 off 48.4 overs, with Easts winning by two runs.

We enjoyed fantastic hospitality, including a tea and a few beers after the game at the captain's meeting with the match being at one of Sydney's nicest grounds.

My colleague was Jim Harrod who has stood in grade cricket for over 20 years and was a great guy to stand with.

My second game was the following day, a NSW Youth Championship match in the U15 Peden competition at Cranebrook Oval, Penrith. Only a mere 49 miles outside Coogee! A bus and then train from Central Station to the ground took in some wonderful sights of the Sydney suburbs over the 1.5 hours of travel. My colleague was Ray Marshall who picked me up at Penrith and we travelled to the game together.

The day was very warm, all the spectators, coaches and parents watching the game in the shade, plenty of drinks breaks for both the players and officials needed throughout the day.

Play got under way at the arranged start time of 10am with North Shore winning the toss and having no hesitation in batting. They made 122 off 46.5 overs, in return bowling Penrith out for 99 off 41.5 overs and winning by 23 runs.

My third game was in the AW Green Shield on Tuesday, again at Waverley Oval between Eastern Suburbs and Gordon, standing with Geoff Garland. On a beautiful Sydney day with a slight breeze off the Pacific Ocean, Gordon won the toss and elected to bat making 235 off their allotted 50 overs and bowling Easts out for 234 off their 50 overs. The game went to the last ball of the game and Gordon won by a solitary run. Unbelievable!

The rest of week was spent discovering Sydney including a day at Manly on my birthday and meeting up with Ben Walkden at the Opera Bar. Ben is in Sydney playing Shires cricket for Strathfield.

Friday night was spent at the BBL game between the Thunder and Scorchers (which the Scorchers won comfortably) having spent the afternoon in the company of Troy Penman and Bede Sajowitz on a guided tour of the NSWCUA offices at the Cricket Central complex in Silverwater.

The final weekend saw my fourth and sadly my last game, Round 10 of the Premier Cricket programme on 14 January at the University Oval between Sydney Uni and St George.

We had an unexpected sharp shower on the morning of the game which lasted until around 10am so we again used up the allotted 75 minutes of additional time and started at 11.15.

It was very humid with the ground drying out rapidly on what became a very hot day. A notable part of the day was the group of Kookaburras in the surrounds of the Oval chattering all day - a very Aussie-like atmosphere!

St George won the toss and elected to bowl, restricting the students to 6/194 off the allotted 50 overs. In reply, they then went on to score 8/196 off 49.3 overs - winning the game by two wickets with three balls to spare. My colleague was Tony Carr who has umpired in the UK and lives in the outback south of Sydney - he had amazing tales of killing brown snakes and of the resident koala bear in his back garden!

The match was filmed and can be seen in its entirety on YouTube thanks to Frogbox.

I think it's fair to say I witnessed some great cricket and some of Sydney's best grounds (and standing with four wonderful colleagues).

My last full day was Sunday which was spent doing the Coogee to Bondi walk in the morning and getting plenty of souvenirs shopping in Sydney CBD - overlooking the Harbour Bridge and Opera House!

We travelled home on 16 January with a lifetime of memories and a hope that I can one day return for a full season in Sydney - fingers crossed!



Alistair Davies & Geoff Garland

POLOSAK NAMED NSW OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

BEDE SAJOWITZ

NSWCUSA member Claire Polosak was recognised as Sport NSW's Official of the Year at the 2022 Champions of Sport Ceremony, held at the ICC Convention Centre in Darling Harbour on 28 November.

The award celebrates a stellar 12 months for Claire including a Test match debut and officiating at the Women's World Cup and Commonwealth Games amongst other men's and women's international fixtures.

Last summer she stood in each of the formats in the women's international series between Australia and India, including her Test debut on the Gold Coast before then officiating ODIs and T20Is between Australia and England.

At the ICC Women's World Cup held in New Zealand, she was in the middle for six matches, including the semi-final between South Africa and England in Christchurch, overseeing a further three matches as TV Umpire.

In Birmingham for the Commonwealth Games, she found herself on-field for three fixtures, and oversaw two as TV Umpire, including the Bronze Medal Match between England and New Zealand.



In Vanuatu in September, she made her Men's T20I debut, officiating at the ICC Men's T20 World Cup East Asia-Pacific Regional Qualifier – standing in six matches at the round-robin tournament.

Claire's impact off field has been just as significant, she continues as an umpire educator, mentor and administrator, working closely with more than 20 female umpires active across New South Wales.

Cricket NSW's Head of Competitions & Officiating, Darren Goodger said of Polosak's recognition, "Claire is an outstanding, humble person and has had a wonderful year with her umpiring.

"She is such an advocate and ambassador for NSWCUSA, CNSW and all match officials, particularly female cricket umpires. We congratulate Claire on receiving this award, a deserving recipient."

The full list of Award winners from the night are:

- Athlete of the Year: Stephanie Gilmore (Surfing)
- Athlete of the Year with a Disability: Lauren Parker (Para-triathlon)
- Young Athlete of the Year: Valentino Guseli (Snowboard Halfpipe)
- Young Athlete of the Year with a Disability: Jasmine Greenwood (Swimming)
- Masters Athlete of the Year: Janelle Delaney (Athletics)
- Team of the Year: Penrith Panthers (Rugby League)
- Team of the Year with a Disability: ParaMatildas – Cerebral Palsy Women's Football Team (Cerebral Palsy Football)
- Administrator of the Year: Baz Wedmaier (Volleyball)
- Coach of the Year: Alex Stewart (Athletics)
- Event of the Year: Netball NSW Senior State Titles (Netball)
- Official of the Year: Claire Polosak (Cricket)
- Organisation of the Year: NSW Rugby League (Rugby League)

RULING THE GAME

CRICKET NSW

Every Saturday morning, the petite Manjinder Sandhu drives down to a cricket match. She parks her car, dons her wide-brimmed hat, and walks on to the field. No one can mistake the fact that she's a force to reckon with. Soft spoken and gentle, Sandhu hardly speaks once on the ground. She rules with hand signals.

Sandhu is a female umpire for men's grade cricket in New South Wales. When she migrated from Punjab in Northern India to live in Parramatta 13 years ago, or even when she started scoring for her son's team matches eight years ago, she didn't know she'd be an umpire. Now, she's been umpiring for five years and loves every moment of it.

Cricket NSW offered her the pathways and Sandhu embraced them. "As an umpire, I get a lot of help. CNSW organises workshops and offers us opportunities to upgrade all the time," she says.

Sandhu's journey into volunteering for cricket started the same way it starts for most mums, her eight-year-old son Manraj Kahlon started playing the sport. Manraj wanted to go to a club in neighbouring Guildford instead of Parramatta because one of his friends played there, and thus began the Kahlon Sandhu family's association with the Guildford Leagues Cricket Club.

Sandhu's partner Daman Kahlon also started playing for senior team of the club. Sandhu and Kahlon realised the club was struggling, and being Sikh, a religion whose inherent values include community service and volunteering, decided to help out as much as they could with their time and energy.



The club had five teams at the time. Now, it has 16 seniors' and juniors' teams. Kahlon coached a few of the teams and is also a CNSW umpire. While Sandhu and Kahlon now work closely with the Parramatta Cricket Umpires' Association, Guildford remains a big responsibility for the family even today.

Sandhu had been a scorer for about a year at Guildford when there was a dire need for coaches at the club. She trained to be a coach and took the mantle of training the U-10 team at the club, where Manraj played. The next year, she decided to train as an umpire. She took her Level 1 and 2 exams and qualified in 2016.

Darren Goodger, Head of Competitions & Officiating, Cricket NSW, says, "Manjinder is a doing a stellar job as an umpire. At Cricket NSW, we are inclusive and proud to provide opportunities for people to umpire. This helps them to remain involved in cricket and make a positive contribution to the game they love. We are grateful to Manjinder and her many colleagues for all they do for cricket. It is a wonderful way to serve and to enjoy the game."

For the last five years, Sandhu has umpired around the state. She started by ruling at Brewer Shield matches and now mostly umpires men's grade cricket. She does this in addition to her day job, Sandhu is a NAATI-accredited translator and offers her services as a Punjabi to English interpreter.

Does she face any challenges? She says that often, especially during the men' cricket matches, it's difficult for her to make players accept her ruling. But she knows how to stand her ground. Sandhu packs a punch and rules on the field with a firm hand.

AROUND THE ZONES

COMPILED BY NEIL FINDLAY

A compilation of highlights submitted by affiliated associations during the season thus far:

Coffs Harbour CUA

A group of members attended and enjoyed the Convention in Tamworth.

Kevin Walker and Bruce Alp have made North Coast Premier League debuts this season.

Kevin Walker umpired five matches at the Over 60s Cricket World Cup on the Sunshine Coast, held in September 2022.

Gary Campbell, Graham Doust, Kevin Walker, Ted Bailey umpired the U15 CNSW Youth Championships carnival in Grafton.

John Pearce umpired in both the Regional Bash and Country Champs.

Not umpire related but Graham Doust was picked in the Australian 070s team that played England in early-February.

Cootamundra District CUA

The Cootamundra District Cricket Umpires Association like many regional associations had a late start to the season because of the wet weather. Our members who officiate in the South-West Slopes Cricket League [SWSCL] did not see the competition commence until round five on November 12. Not a ball was bowled in the opening four rounds.

We welcomed two more officiating members to the SWSCL competition namely, Geoff Irvine and Robert Ryan.

Geoff had previously stood in NSW Premier Cricket (172 matches) while living at Berrima, before relocating to Ungarie last March. Robert Ryan lives at Grenfell having previously officiated in the Lachlan Premier League - Parkes and Cowra teams.

With the addition of Geoff and Robert to our ranks, this has boosted our umpiring ranks to six, though because we only have to appoint one umpire to each of the two A grade matches, in a number of cases, umpires have to be rotated.

Two umpires have stood in NSW Premier Cricket matches with Geoff Irvine and Pat Kerin standing in Round 9, while Robert Ryan is making the journey to Sydney for the final round on March 11.

In representative cricket, Jeff White officiated with Temora umpire Peter Stimson in the first challenge for the Hedditch Cup as holders Temora defeated Cootamundra by 24 runs.

The finals of the South-West Slopes Cricket League will be held in Young on Saturday 4 March.

Newcastle District CUA

The Newcastle DCA Cricket Year commenced with the first ball bowled on 8 October 2022. Disappointingly, most matches were washed out, which has been a theme so far this season.

The season has witnessed a growth in teams for the NDCA in their Masters' competition, women's Competition - resulting in the creation of two divisions and the Suburban Districts competition.

The NDCUA has welcomed a total of seventeen new members to our ranks throughout the season so far. The association now boasts a total of five female members. It has been a very busy first half of the season with substantial opportunity for members.

A selection of highlights include:

- NDCUA membership now stands at 75 in addition to nine (9) inactive members.
- On 15 October, the NDCUA appointed for the first time in its history, two female umpires to officiate in a Second Grade fixture at Charlestown Oval
- Four Junior members are regularly umpiring with the Newcastle Junior Association.
- Debuts:
 - First Grade: Nathan Burg & John Davidson.
 - Other Grades: Blake Brown, Matt Bundy, Colin Coelho, Grahame Danaher, Elisabeth Houston, Daniel Hutton, Jessica Mayers, Rabin Rajbhandari, Shane Raymond, Michael Smith & Aaron Spadaro,
 - Juniors: James Collins, Archie Pola & Alyssa Wharton.
- NDCUA members have been appointed to CNSW Youth (Male/Female) matches held in Newcastle; Raymond Terrace / Maitland; Singleton; Tuggerah; Armidale and Dubbo.
- Daniel Moran has been appointed to the following:
 - Women's List A Debut – WNCL
 - U19 Female National Championships in Perth - appointed to the Final at the WACA.

Newcastle City and Suburban CUA

The Association has been led by the following Executive members for extended periods of time:

- Alfred Ellevsen, President for 27 years.
- Phil Northey, Secretary for 27 years.
- Steve Rafter, Treasurer for 15 years.

After 44 years of umpiring, Noel Lewis is retiring at the end of the season, and he will become a Life Member of the Association at its next AGM.

Sadly, the Association recently lost three esteemed members:

- Jim Brennan, a member for 47 years, after whom the Smith Park Nets in Broadmeadow were named the Jim Brennan Nets, 6 months before his passing.
- Barry Hudson, a member 35 years.
- Noel Bargwanna, a member for 9 years.

Sydney Women's CUA

The Association's excellent working relationship with the SCA Women's Sub-committee and the Women's Competitions Manager, Sean Mantle continued throughout the off-season during which a number of playing conditions were discussed resulting in several amendments for the 2022-23 season.

Following the success of the establishment of an inaugural First Grade Panel in 2021-22, the arrangement was repeated this season with a panel of 20 umpires selected to cover the season's 1st Grade matches.

This season saw the welcome introduction of two regional teams into the Under 18 Brewer Shield competition, namely Greater Hunter Coast and Illawarra. This will necessitate umpires having to occasionally travel some distance to officiate the home games of these new teams.

Monthly General Meetings of members have once again been held at the Bankstown Sports Club as well as via Zoom. A few celebratory drinks were enjoyed at a well-attended function just prior to Christmas.

Regular circulation of quizzes covering the women's playing conditions have been very useful in keeping members abreast of some of the unique PCs that apply in women's cricket.

The Executive Committee decided to expand the committee to eight members. The committee now consists of the following members:

- Kevin McFarland: President.
- Kevin Battishill: Assistant President.
- Aldo Cantori: Secretary and Training Officer.
- John Colwell: Assistant Secretary and Appointments Officer.
- Grahame Bell: Treasurer.
- Sue Gregory: Liaison Officer.
- Michael Schokman: Social and Fundraising.
- Scott Pryde: Social Media Officer.

With the appointment of a Social Media Officer, the Committee aims to improve the profile of the Association via social media over the course of the next few seasons.

For the first time, the start of the season saw the presentation of a pre-season gift pack to all members. This comprised a few useful items including a set of heavy bails, sanitiser, sun cream, microfibre cloths, pocket notebooks and a customised field record booklet. The Committee intends to continue with a similar arrangement in future seasons.

The Association has participated for the first time in the Toyota Raffle to assist in the raising of funds that will go a long way towards keeping membership fees as low as possible.

Sincere congratulations are offered to the following members,

- Alicia Humphrey for her appointment to officiate in the U16 Female National Championships in Canberra.
- Claire Polosak for being announced as winner of Sports NSW Official of the Year.
- Sue Gregory and Elizabeth O'Dwyer for their active participation as educators on the Laws of Cricket on behalf of NSW/CUSA.
- Shekinah Lowe for becoming our first (and currently only) Junior Member.



Carnival Referee Kim Norris and umpires at the Bradman Cup

CRICKET NSW PARTNERS WITH AMERICA IN NEW T20 LEAGUE



AAP | CRICKET.COM.AU

Several NSW stars could soon begin playing cricket in the USA after the state signed a landmark deal with the Major League competition and a founding franchise in Washington D.C.

Under an agreement seven months in the making, Cricket NSW will become partners with Major League Cricket and assist with the sport's development in the USA.

The state will also become high-performance partners with the Washington-based side and assist with roster management and coaching, with IPL franchises expected to fill similar roles with the league's other five clubs.

Set to kick off in July, the cashed-up tournament will feature teams from Dallas, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Washington D.C, Seattle and New York City.

The prospect of playing in America would be an appealing option for several players, along with the compact schedule of 19 games in 18 days.

Steve Smith is among players known to have an affinity with the USA through New York.

The tournament's timing means Australia's Test players could not feature this year due to the Ashes, however it could be attractive for white-ball stars with July a quiet month for franchise cricket.

It is also already expected several IPL players could come across into the tournament, with a heavy overseas contingent likely.

"The opportunities for all our players is going to be brilliant," Cricket NSW CEO Lee Germon said.

"Steve has made no secret he loves New York. But there are also two or three other players I have spoken to who would love to play cricket in the United States.

"We will look to use the players within the Cricket NSW ecosystem to not only highlight the T20 competition and MLC, but cricket in the United States as well.

"Put it this way: I don't think we'll be short of players putting their hands up."

Cricket NSW will prioritise the Washington DC franchise, but will also promote the idea of players turning out for other clubs to help grow the tournament.

The move is the first from any Australian state association, but Cricket NSW have not ruled out pursuing similar partnerships with other overseas teams and leagues.

The ICC has identified USA as the sport's No.1 development market, with part of next year's men's Twenty20 World Cup to be played there.

Players from the USA will also be given the chance to feature in grade cricket, with pathways tours to NSW and a coach exchange to be set up.

"This is the time now to help grow the sport in the United States," Germon said.

ON EXCHANGE IN MELBOURNE

BEDE SAJOWITZ

In January, I had the privilege of umpiring Victorian Premier Cricket as part of the first exchange with Cricket Victoria and the NSWCUSA - and the first exchange to occur since COVID with any state. This meant travelling down Friday and back on Monday with a two-day Saturday/Sunday match in between - whilst it was also our first exchange, I found out that the match was to be the first red-ball Premier Cricket match in Melbourne in close to 1400 days.

Being a Northern Beaches boy, travelling to Melbourne this time around was a different experience to the usual, having spent the week in Dubbo at the U14 Male and U15 Female State Challenges observing umpires and lending a hand around the carnivals. With Thursday being the final day of play I drove halfway home and spent the night in a town called Oberon with my grandparents before driving the rest of the way on Friday morning for a 10am flight - all this meant my bags were packed on the top level of the terminal carpark at the airport swapping my Cricket NSW gear for my umpiring gear.

A non-eventful flight and Uber later and I settled into the hotel in the heart of Melbourne CBD, and on a sunny afternoon spent a bit of time sending text messages cancelling your matches in what was apparently a rainy Sydney! Was able to spend a bit of time reading through the playing conditions for the weekend which are presented a bit differently to what we're used to up here - their rules are interspersed throughout one book with some general rules to be applied whatever the format such as pitch maintenance with the format specific rules much shorter than what we deal with in our Game 1 - 5.

This season has seen the Vics reduce their day to 90 over days which start at a very civilised 11am with lunch and tea both being 30 minutes each and finish at 5.40. They lose 3 overs for a change of innings and have a compulsory close at 100 overs, everything else is pretty similar to up here in First Grade.

My partner for the weekend was Daryl Brigham, a member of the Victorian state panel with a number of years of experience, I was fortunate to have stood with him in Adelaide prior to Christmas at the U19 championships where we saw Joel Davies score 185 against the Northern Territory. We worked well together that day and were both looking forward to standing again together so soon. He picked me up from the hotel and took me on the relatively short journey down St Kilda Road where we caught up and talked through how to best work together across the weekend striving for a well-managed match.

I was fortunate to be appointed to the game of the round for the weekend with St Kilda hosting Northcote at Junction Oval with the hosts in 4th place and the visitors defending 3rd place as they began the red ball part of their season. This clash is a special day on the calendar for both clubs with First Grade facing off for the Toom-Nangi, Ngaga Ngargga & Mundagat Trophy which translates to Learn, Understand and Respect. It's a unique weekend for the clubs as St Kilda host all four grades and all players and umpires attend Junction Oval for a barefoot ceremony before play.



Local Uncle Shane Clarke performed a moving Welcome to Country which was followed by a smoking ceremony where all 94 players from St Kilda & Northcote and eight umpires participated in before going their separate ways the day's play with lower grades playing 50 over fixtures. Uncle Shane spoke about the significance of cricket as an occasion for people to gather and the local significance of Junction Oval as a historical gathering place.

The ceremony meant that our day was due to get underway at 11.30 and we walked out for the toss 45 minutes before play was scheduled to start – though with no set time in the playing conditions or custom we were joined by the captains around 5 minutes later when it was convenient for them. Those of you who have been around for a few years would remember Adam Crosthwaite who captained St Kilda, who was very pleased to see an NSW shirt at the coin toss – with Northcote captained by their wicket-keeper Blayde Baker.

As the players donned the whites for the first time in a long time, Northcote elected to bowl sending the home club in on a pitch that looked like it would offer a bit early with the new ball before being easier to bat on later on. Australian and Victorian opener Marcus Harris strode to the crease with Victorian U19 player Harry Dixon. It was a slow first session with ball on top as the batters adjusted to red ball cricket for the first time since 2020 with a few appeals at each end putting us under pressure early on. Marcus Harris played a magnificent innings, strong through the off-side and off the back foot putting together 109 off 180 odd balls whilst everyone else around him struggled to build any momentum.

Tom Russ was the only other batter to get past 30, finishing with 42. Left arm wrist spinner Joe Medew-Ewen, who has one Shield match for South Australia to his name was the pick of the bowlers, taking wickets regularly to finish the day with 6/97 off 24 overs. Metronomic seamer Michael Topp toiled all day bowling 20 overs for 8 maidens and a return of 1/39 – though he did not help the over

rate, coming off what felt like a close to 40 metre run up for each delivery. St Kilda finished the day at 9/280 off 90 overs, with the day finishing at around 6.40, only half an hour behind schedule.

The Victorian State Umpire Manager Geoff Joshua had been around for most of the afternoon, providing me with some observations and feedback on my performance and after play and a quick shower took me on a tour of the Cricket Victoria headquarters, based at Junction Oval – which was roughly the inspiration for the facility we're sitting in this evening. For the weekend we weren't using the same dressing rooms and pavilion as they use for Cricket Australia matches, the facilities we did have access to in the old grandstand were of a high-quality. It might be the only Premier Cricket venue in Australia where you get replays on the big screen after wickets, boundaries and appeals, which was certainly something new – the players certainly enjoyed it, even if it made things a bit awkward for us in the middle. An interesting novelty for the weekend was using ZING stumps for the match, which was just as exciting, if not more exciting for the players than the fluoro yellow bails that Shires umpires have been using this season.



With Daryl Brigham

After the tour, a few of the umpires from the lower grade matches, Daryl, Geoff and myself made the trip up the road to Richmond where we were joined by a few other First Grade umpires and Jarrad Buscall from Western Australia, who was also in Melbourne umpiring on exchange for the weekend. Was an enjoyable evening with like-minded people getting to know each other and talking cricket, discussing recent events and the day's play for many of them. There was discussion of a change of venue and the evening continuing well into the night, but the more sensible heads prevailed as the crowd dwindled and the night wound up as focus shifted to the next day's play for those of us on duty again.

Sunday morning was filled with coaches and players reacquainting themselves with rules around declarations and the overs that would remain in the day at certain stages as St Kilda kept everyone guessing as to whether they would in fact declare or continue their innings which Adam kindly informed everyone that they would bat on around 15 minutes before play was due to start.

The first ten balls of the day were frantic as the 10 and 11 swung wildly, left a couple and then bunted a few straight down with the last wicket eventually falling as the debutant number 11 glanced one straight to first slip and took off which oddly enough saw his colleague run out by a direct hit leaving Northcote 87 overs to chase 288 for the six points.

The bowlers were again on top with the new ball with runs hard to come by and I got involved very early in the second innings, getting my one and only LBW for the weekend in the opening over giving Victorian seamer Zak Evans the first wicket. The last over before lunch saw a well-executed plan reap rewards with Crosthwaite giving his off-spinner the ball for an over and placing himself at leg slip and after being no balled for three behind square, which apparently everyone had forgotten about - the fourth ball of the over was glanced right to Adam leaving Northcote 3/57 at lunch, with it all to do and me confident of being at the tennis in time for the opening point.

The wickets fell regularly in the afternoon session with St Kilda taking another four wickets, including the debutant Luke Gandy taking a wicket with his first ball in First Grade, bowling very well for 2/18 off 11 overs. With only three wickets to take in the last 30 overs of the day and leapfrog into second place, the Saints had encountered resistance in Josh Sundberg who fought his way to a well compiled 74 off 150 balls being the 8th wicket to fall at 172 with still around 20 overs left. They persisted with spin at one end and the opening quick at the other, with six and seven fielders around the bat as Tom Russ looked to clean up the tail from my end, which was a great contest between bat and ball, challenging me and the batters pretty much every ball with heads turning to the big screen regularly with Tom managing to finish with 3/55 off 24 overs. Again it was Medew-Even and Topp who led the way for Northcote, with Joe facing 150 balls for 30 and Michael 50 balls for 9 runs as they held on through the new ball period to prevent St Kilda from taking any points as both teams walked away with a hard fought draw and no points.



Even with the half an hour earlier start on day 2 we still finished at around 6.30 – neither team was interested in their over rates across the weekend as they both had their 16 credit overs up their sleeve and only three two-day games in which to burn them without losing any points. At this point there was no chance of making the tennis on time, even with no post-match meeting in Melbourne.

With no obligation to meet skippers, Daryl and I sat in the room to sit down and relax and discuss the weekend, as players walked past and popped in for a chat about anything and everything. Eventually we left the ground, Daryl dropped me back to the hotel and I strolled down to the tennis – not that I missed much, showing up half way through the first set of the five set thriller between Tsitsipas and Sinner. In hindsight, with a gam flight home, hanging around until 2.30 in the morning watching Azarenka and Zhu may have been my worst decision of the weekend.

All up the trip was a great experience, I was fortunate to have been well hosted by the Victorians, stood with a great partner and got a challenging match of cricket on a first-class venue. I'm looking forward to being a part of the return journey when Malcolm Wood visits us for our Saturday/Sunday round in a few weeks' time as well as Sam Burns from Tasmania. Being the first time running the exchange with our southern neighbours, it is something I hope both NSW and Victoria are keen to continue for the long term, there's a lot to gain for anyone who gets to experience it and be part of it either as an umpire or by welcoming a visitor.

A sincere thank you to everyone involved, both at NSW/CUSA and Cricket Victoria for all the effort that went in behind the scenes in getting the weekend together and allowing me to have such an enjoyable experience.



AUS & NZ POLICE CRICKET CHAMPS

TOM COOPER

The Australia and New Zealand Police Cricket Championships is held every two years with this year's carnival organised by Queensland Police and held on the Gold Coast.

The carnival was hosted by the Mudgeeraba Nerang – District Cricket Club (MNDCC) with the eight teams competing in this carnival as follows:

- NSW Police (Group A)
- QLD Police (Group B)
- VIC Police (Group A)
- TAS Police (Group B)
- SA Police (Group B)
- WA Police (Group A)
- The AFP (Group B)
- NZ Police (Group A)

Matches were limited overs with a maximum of 45 overs per side with either a 9am or 9.30am start.

There were a combination of travelling umpires and local umpires officiating the carnival, with the visitors as follows:

- Tom Cooper – NSW/CUSA
- Colin Newport – Victoria
- David Gower – West Midlands UK

The Gold Coast CUSA provided another seven umpires to assist the carnival, being: Chad Bridge, Lee Buckingham, Pat Carty, Ian Fischer, J. Mathes, Bob Myatt and Col Pearson.

I was appointed to umpire in five games during the carnival.

The preliminary rounds were played Sunday to Tuesday, with a rest day on Wednesday. The two top teams of Group A & B played in the semi-finals on Thursday as follows:

VIC Police v TAS Police - MNDCC – Ground 1

VIC 9/209 def. TAS Police 162

I umpired with local umpire Mal Pearson

NSW Police Vs QLD Police - MNDCC Ground 2

NSW def QLD.

The final was played on Friday between NSW Police and VIC Police at MNDCC – Ground 1.

Local umpires were appointed to officiate the final, being Lee Buckingham and Pat Carty.

VIC Police batted first and made 260 off their 45 overs with NSW Police bowled out for 168.

T20 Plate matches were played by teams placed 3rd to 8th on the Friday as well.

Overall, the cricket played was around Second /Third Grade standard in our Premier Cricket competition.

A presentation night was held on the Friday evening on the 78th floor of the Q1 building in Surfers Paradise. The guest speaker was ex-QLD and Australian test cricketer Greg Ritchie, alias Mahatma Khot.

The next ANZPCC will be hosted by WA Police in Perth in 2024.



Tom Cooper & Col Pearson

TECHNICAL

BEN TRELOAR

Law 38.3

Non-striker leaving his/her ground early

The Laws of Cricket state the following:

38.3.1 At any time from the moment the ball comes into play until the instant when the bowler would normally have been expected to release the ball, the non-striker is liable to be Run out if he/she is out of his/her ground. In these circumstances the non-striker will be out Run out if he/she is out of his/her ground when his/her wicket is broken by the bowler throwing the ball at the wicket or by the bowler's hand holding the ball, whether or not the ball is subsequently delivered.

38.3.1.1 The instant when the bowler would normally have been expected to release the ball is defined as the moment the bowler's arm reaches the highest point of his/her normal bowling action in the delivery swing.

38.3.1.2 Even if the non-striker had left his/her ground before the instant at which the bowler would normally have been expected to release the ball, once the bowler has reached that point it is no longer possible for the bowler to run out the non-striker under this Law.

The key being that the non-striker can be run out from the moment the ball comes into play (bowler commences their run up) until the bowler would normally have been expected to release the ball i.e. the bowler reaching the highest point of his/her delivery swing.



As witnessed in the Big Bash recently at the MCG the bowler went past the point where they were expected to release the ball and therefore the batter was given not out.

As you can see in the above image, Zampa's arm holding the ball had reached the expected moment of release – the window of opportunity to run out the non-striker has closed.

Cricket and Law - Running out of the non-striker

The action of running out, or attempting to run out, the non-striker is a legitimate form of dismissal under the Laws of the Cricket and is not in opposition to the Spirit of Cricket. The law has been moved in the latest edition from Unfair Play to Run Out, further supporting the legitimate nature of the dismissal.

From the moment the bowler starts their run-up until the arm holding the ball is at its highest point in the delivery stride, the bowler is allowed to attempt to run out the non-striker. The only reason for the non-striker to be out of their crease during the bowler's run-up is to gain an unfair advantage (in other words, shorten the distance they need to run). The law is there to discourage this behaviour and support all those who play within the intent of the law.

It is the responsibility of the non-striker to remain within their ground until the ball has been delivered, otherwise she/he may be run out under the laws. This is no more obvious than how the law is titled – Law 38.3 The non-striker leaving his/her ground early – there is no mention of either the bowler or umpire.

The Laws of Cricket, CNSW and the NSWCUA fully support players and match officials in applying the laws as read and intended. We also encourage the removal of the term “mankading” from cricket lexicon.



Dan Moran gives a run out during the AW Green Shield Final // Ian Bird

ONLINE LAWS QUIZ USER GUIDE

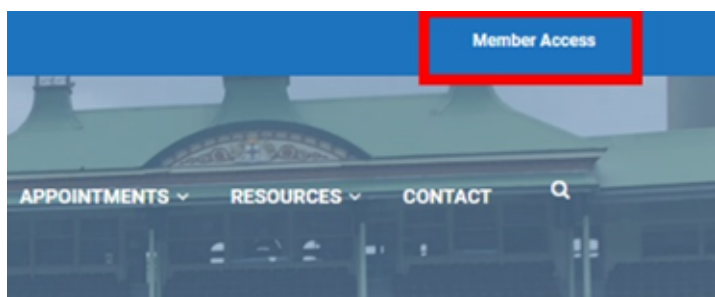
BEDE SAJOWITZ

Near the conclusion of last season, the Association was delighted launch its online Laws of Cricket Quiz to aid the continued education and development of members. The initial quiz available is made up of ten multiple choice questions, with each question randomly generated from the database of 375 potential available questions, with more to be added in the future.

Whilst designed for use on computers, the quiz is mobile-friendly and can be used on all phones and tablets, both Apple and Android. All attempts and responses are anonymous and are not linked to your website account or your membership.

To access the quiz, you'll need to login to the Member Access section of the site, using your email address as the username – the link to login can be found in the top right corner of your screen. Once logged in the Laws of Cricket Quiz will appear under 'Resources' on the main menu.

Alternatively, you can also use this link: nswcusa.cricketnsw.com.au/resources/laws-of-cricket-quiz - though you will still need to login using your email and password.



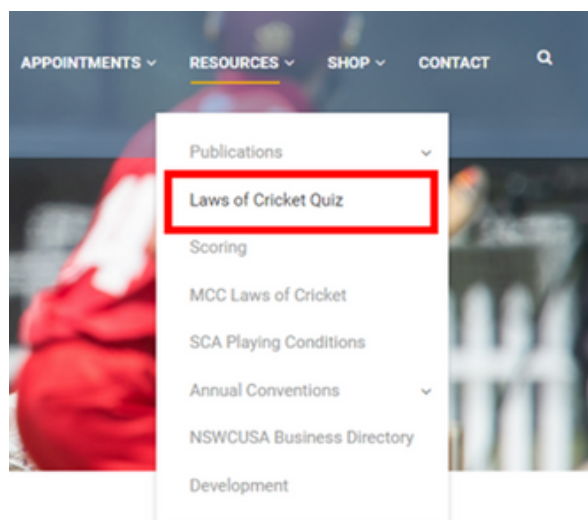
Once you hit 'Start Quiz', navigating the questions is relatively straightforward. Once you choose an answer from the options presented, select the green 'Check Answer' option to receive instant feedback on your answer. You'll then be able to proceed to the next page and be presented with the next question. Once you've completed the set of ten questions, there are two options – to 'Review Answers' or to 'Retake Quiz'.

Choosing to review your answers will provide details of the ten questions that you attempted and will re-present the feedback on each for you to refer to. Selecting 'Retake Quiz' will take you back to Question One of a brand-new set of ten questions for you to attempt.

Thanks to the Association's Examination Committees of recent years for the work that has gone into ensuring the questions and answers are accurate and compliant with the current Laws of Cricket as well as the Board for their support of the project to publish these questions to ensure members are able to access and utilise them.

You can attempt the quiz as often as you like - happy quizzing!

Note. The questions are based on the 2019 edition of the Laws - with work being done to update the database to 2022



CRICKET ARCHIVE PROMO

Cricket Archive are the world's leading authority on compiling cricket data and by building the only source of fully searchable first-class, List A and T20 cricket records from around the globe, their team of distinguished statisticians have created the game's definitive database of professional cricket.

Subscribers have access to:

- More than 300 years' worth of data, containing 1.2 million players, 700,000 scorecards and 14,000 grounds.
- Their exclusive Official Oracle – search and find historical records for umpires, scorers and match referees.
- Archive issues of The Cricketer magazine, dating back to 1921
- Stats for all Australian domestic men and women's cricket, (Second XI), and under-19 state competitions for men and women.
- A thoroughly searchable, definitive database of professional and amateur cricket across the world.
- Player records from junior grassroots to Test arena.

The platform are offering NSWCUA members a special discount for a year's subscription to the platform and its database, with a **20% discount** available.

To redeem this discount, visit cricketarchive.com/subscribe, choose the Annual Plan, and enter the coupon code **TCM20**.

THE MAN IN THE MIDDLE

JOHN MCMULLEN

I look at the poster up on the wall
Urging the people to come one and all-
Enlist as an umpire – come have a ball-
Society needs you – come heed the call

It has a face with only one eye
There are no ears – it can't hear a cry
And its general appearance – I tell no lie –
Looks like an ogre and that makes me sigh!

The caption inscribed that was written
Says enlist now if you fit this description
"Are you one-eyed, biased and deaf –
Enlist now in your Association."

So off I go feeling quite smug
Feeling quite sure that I'll be no mug-
Made to feel welcome- bitten by the bug
And a copy of the rules back home did I lug

Don't get me wrong – I'm no mug at this game
I've got trophies to prove I'm a respected name
But as umpiring and playing are not quite the same
It's like learning the game all over again.

At umpires' school, so it is said
You could learn the rules by having them read
Or may be watch a video instead
And then promptly forget all that is said.

Back at home after getting some rest
I resolved to myself to be better than the rest
I'll study hard so I'll pass my test-
A pass so good they can't call second—best.

I sat for the exam with ruler and pen
The answer to paper from pen I did send-
Flowing so easily I was sure in the end
All the right answers were those that I penned.

A light-hearted insight into the pre-requisites
necessary to be a "top-class" umpire.

The result of the test said I had top marks
And have now qualified for the top class
So I read in the appointments hoping for the brass
But instead find that I am in second class

I say to myself "I think they're wrong
To put me in seconds when I do no wrong
The players all thank me for being "on-song"
And to all their matches please come along."

The appointments committee they finally decide
To try me in firsts as I've served my time
That performance was poor, but, hey I tried -
Vowed to improve if there was a next time.

Now back in seconds thinking how to improve
Find the right key to get in the right groove
Make minor adjustments to the way that I move
Add concentration – that's found the groove

To a second match in firsts I did go
A second chance I vow not to blow
Out on the field – relaxed I will go
Adjudge when needed - blow by blow

At the end of the day I thought that I'd be
Given favourable comment by the captains, you see
For their body language had expressed to me
That very same thing they were yet to set free.

Still more games in firsts – I shall not jest
The captains had voted me one of the best
Now that I've progressed and doing the tests
I'll remember my time back in second – best.

CRIC-O-KU Number 19

Clue: Renowned player, respected NSW umpire, Borwick award recipient, Billy

	R	H		N	S		I	D
			R			H		
D							S	
E		C					R	I
			I	K	R			
I	H					D		K
	D							E
		N			I			
S	C		K	H		R	D	

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 word.

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

Enjoy!

CRIC-O-KU No 18: Solution

L	S	H	U	G	T	O	A	N
T	U	O	A	S	N	L	G	H
A	G	N	H	L	O	U	T	S
S	O	G	N	H	A	T	U	L
H	A	T	O	U	L	S	N	G
N	L	U	G	T	S	H	O	A
O	N	S	L	A	U	G	H	T
U	H	L	T	N	G	A	S	O
G	T	A	S	O	H	N	L	U

**FEBRUARY 2023 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.

Season 2022-23 sees NSWCUSA continue its sponsorship agreement with global fast food chain McDonald's. The sponsorship deal with McDonald's is in conjunction with a larger deal between Cricket NSW and McDonald's. McDonald's are continuing on the back of the Association's field shirts.

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 2022-23. The Association looks forward to continuing this partnership into the future and ensuring members are provided with quality on and off field wear, including a polo-shirt for all members which is currently in the works.

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 – will be continuing its support of the Association and its members in season 2022-23. All members will receive 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 into season 2022-23. Discussions with McDonald's and Cricket NSW before the season saw a three-year deal finalised for CNSW and NSWCUSA. The funds received during the period will be used to improve the experience for all members.



**2022-23
REPRESENTATIVE
PANELS**

ICC ELITE PANEL OF UMPIRES

RODNEY TUCKER (AUS.)

PAUL REIFFEL (AUS.)

ICC INTERNATIONAL PANEL OF UMPIRES

PHIL GILLESPIE (AUS.)

DONOVAN KOCH (AUS.)

SAM NOGAJSKI (AUS.)

PAUL WILSON (AUS.)

ICC DEVELOPMENT PANEL OF UMPIRES

HEATH KEARNS (JERSEY)

CLAIRE POLOSAK (AUS.)

ELOISE SHERIDAN (AUS.)

CA NATIONAL UMPIRE PANEL

GERARD ABOOD

SHAWN CRAIG (VIC.)

GREG DAVIDSON

PHIL GILLESPIE (VIC.)

MIKE GRAHAM-SMITH (TAS.)

NATHAN JOHNSTONE (WA)

DONOVAN KOCH (QLD.)

SIMON LIGHTBODY

SAM NOGAJSKI (TAS.)

BRUCE OXENFORD (QLD.)

BEN TRELOAR

PAUL WILSON

CA SUPPLEMENTARY UMPIRE PANEL

STEPHEN DIONYSIUS (QLD.)

SHARAD PATEL

TROY PENMAN

CLAIRE POLOSAK

ELOISE SHERIDAN (SA)

DAVID TAYLOR

CNSW STATE UMPIRE PANEL

ANDREW HAMILTON

ROBERTO HOWARD

DANIEL MORAN

BEDE SAJOWITZ

COUNTRY UMPIRE

REPRESENTATIVE PANEL

GRAEME GLAZEBROOK

BRUCE BAXTER

JOHN DE LYALL

JEFF EGAN

DAVE CULLEN

BRENTON HARRISON

KEIRAN KNIGHT

PHIL RAINGER

**2022-23
NSWCUSA
COMMITTEES**

EXAMINATION COMMITTEE

ANDREW COATES (CHAIR)

DAVE CULLEN

SATHISH KUMAR

MICHAEL MEEHAN

ELIZABETH O'DWYER

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



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