

Highlands District Cricket Association



Annual Report 2022-23

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Directors & Office Bearers 2022 - 23

Chairman	Stephen Wentworth
Deputy Chairman & Director Cricket Operations	Jack Whitfield
Director Cricket Development & Representative Cricket	Sam Nasser
Director Junior Cricket	Scott McKie
Director Womens Cricket	Deb Waltho / Jennifer Kitchen
Director Grounds & Facilities	Hamilton Becher
Director Marketing & Public Relations	Phil Gibson / Randall Walker
Director Umpires	Angus Humphries
Secretary	Michelle Richardson / Emma Savage
Treasurer	Joel Goring
Social Media	Danielle Holgate / Emma Savage
Delegates GIZ	Sam Nasser Jack Whitfield / Paddy Moylan
Code of Conduct Commissioner & Patron	Rodney Cavalier AO
Judiciary	John Morris (chair) Jeff Mitchell Tina Macpherson Valentine Tyson Luke Hanrahan
Administrator	Thomas Walker (CricketNSW)

Premiers

SENIORS

1 st Grade	Hilltop Northern Villages Cricket Club
2 nd Grade	Hilltop Northern Villages Cricket Club
3A Grade	Moss Vale Cricket Club

WOMENS

Tina Macpherson Cup	Bowral Cricket Club
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JUNIORS

Under 16s	Moss Vale Cricket Club
Under 14s	Moss Vale Cricket Club
Under 12s	Robertson Burrawang Cricket Club

Report from the Chair

Stephen Wentworth

Following the challenges of the last seasons wet weather and COVID, we again faced a very wet to start of the season. We should be really proud how all the Association and Club volunteers pulled together and cooperated to ensure we had a cricket season – however disrupted it was.

The 2022/23 has been a season of much progress growing on the initiatives from the 2021/22 season. We thank our sponsors - Mittagong RSL and Ace Internet Services for continuing to support our local cricket.

Among our list of achievements, the Tina Macpherson Cup, our first all-female competition continued to grow expanding to six teams this year – well done on Mittagong CC for your team. Well done to Bowral CC for taking the trophy in a very tight finish against Wingello Tigers CC – a reversal of last season. From initial reports it looks like there will be 8 teams for 2023-24 with Bundanoon entering a team along with a second team from Bowral Cricket Club.

The purchase of additional tablets that allowed for live scoring of 2nd and 3rd Grade this season in addition to 1st Grade and the Tina Macpherson Cup.

Wet weather played havoc from the beginning of the season when we found out from Wingecarribee Shire Council that only 5 out of their normal 14 ovals were open. By the end of the season 2 were still closed. To that end, we would like to thank:

- Tudor House, Chevalier College and Boral (Taylor Avenue) for allowing the Tina Macpherson Cup to play on their ovals on Wednesday afternoons;
- Second and Third Grade for agreeing to initially play T20 so that two games could be played on the same oval on a Saturday afternoon;
- U10's for initially playing on the Welby Hockey fields;
- U12's for initially playing on either Friday evenings or Sundays;
- U14's and U16's for the need to travel more than anticipated at the beginning of the season; and
- All Clubs for their patience as we were not able to finalise grounds until late Friday afternoon.

Unfortunately, due to wet weather the HDCA Academy for junior representative and promising players was not able to go ahead this season under the coaching of former Test spinner Jason Krejza. Also congratulations to those U17s were selected to tour and play in India.

This year saw Highlands Cricket take over from the Bradman Foundation in running the Spirit of Cricket Carnival for U14's during the Easter School Holidays which saw 6 teams from the Highlands, Dubbo, Lachlan Valley, Bathurst, Wagga Wagga and Hornsby compete at Bradman Oval, Welby Oval and Lachy Park. With the final being washed out, the Highlands were declared joint winners with Lachlan Valley.

In the Junior game, this season saw the addition of teams from Crookwell, Goulburn and Yass to the U14's and U16's. Highlands based Club teams had to travel south more often than we had anticipated as a result of the weather havoc which we thank all those concerned. If not for the Yass, Crookwell and Goulburn U16 teams, the Moss Vale CC and Bowral CC U16's would have played against each other each weekend. There is still more work to be done in retaining U14 players for the U16 competition and seeing more teams compete at this level going on to senior grade formats. The wet weather also saw an end to our planned T20 competition during the week, in particular the U17's who would have played on Monday nights on turf.

As for Seniors, while the overall number of senior teams were down on last year, most Clubs attributed this to the wet start of the season and players facing the uncertainty of the season in regards to being able to play cricket. I'd like to thank all eight senior clubs and volunteers for their efforts. The standard of cricket continues to grow and while the grading process is never perfect.

As disrupted as the season was, it was also a challenging one for the Board in regards to communications and secretarial functions. Throughout the season we lost Michelle Richardson as Secretary and Danielle Holgate as Social Media. It took some time to replace Michelle, during which we would like to thank Tahlia Wellington for stepping in in the background until Emma Savage initially came on as Secretary before adding Social Media to her responsibilities. I would like to thank Michelle and Danielle for their commitment and service as well as Tahlia for helping out in the gap – she continues to be a wonderful servant of the local game.

Joel Goring in the role of Treasurer has continued to do a sterling job in organisation and maintenance of our Association accounts. Right from the budgetary process, to managing periodical payments and reporting on our financial position regularly. A great deal of work went into digitising the accounts onto MYOB which allowed the Board to make decisions mid-season with the knowledge on how it would affect the bottom line.

I'd like to recognise individually our Board members. Jack Whitfield as deputy has been a pillar of support and offered some excellent wise counsel when required. This was in addition to putting in a mountain of work managing the senior cricket committee, grading of the players, wet weather, draws, ground allocations and playing conditions (not to mention also playing and being part of a premierships winning side). Thank you to Jack.

Sam Nasser continued with his passion, commitment and enthusiasm for our local game in driving the representative competitions, the Academy which unfortunately did not proceed due to wet weather. I would also like to thank Sam for taking on managing the Spirit of Cricket Carnival in his typical “never say no” approach to local cricket. Sam worked tirelessly with Board to organise what was a highly successful awards night which all those who attended can attest to.

Angus Humphries and like Jack provided some excellent wise counsel when required. A big thank you to Angus for running the review of the Code of Conduct.

Scott McKie for running the Junior competition, in particular with his past knowledge of Juniors and working to include U14 and U16 teams from Crookwell, Goulburn and Yass – no easy feat given the number of grounds in the middle that were closed by Council due to the wet weather.

Hamilton Becher joined the Board in a baptism of fire as Director of Grounds, which with the weather made allocating grounds etc rather interesting when Council would only advise him at 3pm on Friday afternoon what was available the next day. Also worked with Council to try and get ovals mowed more often and lower.

Randall Walker joined the Board mid-season in the role of Director for Marketing and Public Relations, Corporate and Volunteers following Phil’s resignation. Phil was instrumental in maintain our Sponsors – Mittagong RSL and Ace Internet Services. Unfortunately the predicted wet weather at the beginning of the season saw some prospective sponsors hold off for this season. Phil was instrumental with promotional and media opportunities in order for us to get our messages out into the community which Randall will be taking over going forward assisted by Emma Savage who has taken over social media for the Association.

Deb Waltho continued in her role as Womens Director with the Tina Macpherson Cup going from strength to strength. She has also been instrumental in the development of a pathways for Womens cricket in the Highlands into the future. At the end of season Deb stepped down due to family issues with a big thank you for your efforts in developing the Tina Macpherson Cup into what it is today. I and the rest of the Board look forward to working with Jennifer Kitchen who took over as Director of Womens Cricket following Deb’s resignation.

The Highlands Cricket Umpires Association has served our local game with distinction. They have supplied a record number of appointments across the senior and Stage 3 competitions. While not all may agree with their decisions from time to time, no one can dispute how welcome their officiating is every Saturday and how much smoother the matches are conducted in their presence. Well done to Byron Kaufline (HDCUA President), Angus Humphries (HDCUA Secretary and HDCA Umpire of the Year), and all the umpires for their service.

We thank the Bradman Foundation and acknowledge the contribution of Andrew Leeming who took over from Rina Hore (and has also recently retired), who saw our match fees reduced as well as handing the running of the Bradman Spirit of Cricket Carnival to the HDCA to run. We wish Andrew all the best in his retirement and look forward to working with Phil Kerr more closely. The HDCA is fortunate to have access to Bradman Oval for grade and representative matches and we look forward to the Under 17's T20 being played their next season on Monday nights (fingers crossed).

To our Patron and Code of Conduct Commissioner, Rodney Cavalier AO, we extend our appreciation for his continued service to cricket. Fortunately, Rodney had little work to do this season given that we only had a couple of breach of Code to process, up from one last season. Thank you to the members of the HDCA Judiciary. Their wisdom and experience are essential when dealing with reports, evidence and submissions. We acknowledge John Morris, Jeff Mitchell, Tina Macpherson, Valentine Tyson and Luke Hanrahan. A special thank you to John who has decided to step down from the Judiciary going forward and to Jeff who has agreed to take on the Chair.

A big thank you to our three groundsman Phil Kerr at Bradman, Dale Young at Lackey and Matt Butler at Welby who continued to improve the playing surfaces and ensured that cricket could be played despite inclement weather when the Ovals had not been closed by Council.

Thank you to the ongoing support from CNSW. To our local support personnel in Sean Barrett, Martin Gleeson, Luke Olsson and Thomas Walker. In particular, Thomas in his role as Competition Administrator who was responsible for the administration around running of the Competition and the Judiciary, along with the migration from MyCricket to PlayHQ. In general, it has been comforting to be able to call on you all when something difficult or new has cropped up and this role has been an enormous benefit to both the Board and the Clubs alike. While Thomas has moved on from CricketNSW, CricketNSW continues to provide administration while they recruit a permanent replacement for Thomas. The replacement could potentially be located closer with other nearby associations of South Coast, Shoalhaven, and Far South Coast all signing up to the CricketNSW Administrator model.

Lastly, I'd like to thank our Past Chair Simon Taufel for always being available when required as a sounding board and his efforts as Chair to grow the game locally.



Stephen Wentworth

Chair

Highlands District Cricket Association

Report from the Deputy Chair – Director of Cricket Operations

Jack Whitfield

The 2022-23 season presented many of the same challenges as our previous few seasons. Huge amounts of rain made many of our fields unplayable leaving council with no choice but to leave them closed.

With the help of the SCC the decision was made to begin the season two weeks later than our usual start date in the hope that the weather would clear up and our normal cricket competition could resume. Unfortunately, this didn't happen and the committee organised T20 competitions for 2nd and 3rd Grade to get us underway. Given the severe shortage of grounds I believe the T20 start to the season was a reasonable success saving for a few ground allocation issues.

As we moved into November and December the summer came back to us and we managed to get quick a bit more cricket in than many of us thought at the beginning of the year.

A big congratulations goes out to this years winners.

1st Grade – Hilltop Northern Villages CC

2nd Grade – Hilltop Northern Villages CC

3rd Grade – Moss Vale CC

The senior competition could not happen each year without the input of a lot of our club volunteers. I would like to thank them for their patience throughout the season dealing with late night phone call and last minute changes. I would also like to thank the members of the Senior Competition Committee who donate a huge amount of time to making sure we move our cricket forward for the benefit of all HDCA cricketers.

With a bit of luck and a bit of sun maybe a “normal” season is just round the corner for the HDCA. I look forward to working with everyone again in the coming season, no matter the weather.

Jack Whitfield

Director of Senior Cricket

Report from the Director of Representative Cricket

Sam Nasser

Season 2022/2023 is now at a close. Despite the wet grounds at seasons start, I would say the rep season overall has been a good season for Highland's Cricket. Communication continued to be a challenge for the HDCA with continued changes amongst the various volunteer roles and these challenges naturally flowed down through the rep program. We have filled the roles that were vacant and continue to be grateful for the volunteers that step up to help in our time of need. Without volunteers we don't have a game and I want to thank all those who helped with Coaching, managing, organising, scoring, umpiring and administering our rep teams, program and Highlands Academy. I want to especially thank my wife Nasrine Nasser for assisting me with the administration of rep cricket as she does this with great commitment and without much recognition.

One point of reflection I would like to share with you all is this- when asking a volunteer to assist you with something, especially volunteers who are not part of the parent group of a team, please consider they are doing this without pay and are giving their time generously to support and help us run our Highlands cricket program. At a time when volunteers are hard to find we continue to ask so much from them. Please put yourself in the volunteers' shoes before asking.

The Highlands Rep program is now one of the most respected programs in Country Cricket for junior development. We continue to innovate and try new things and look for ways to improve our current setup.

An initiative for example this year was, holding a spin clinic for our senior cricketers who can then pass those skills on to juniors they play senior cricket with and the feedback we got from the 3 sessions was awesome. We added to this a batting to spin element with level 3 coaches at both ends of the Bradman Nets. This initiative was such a great success that we will do something similar for seniors again next season. This is part of our continued overall objective to improve our spin bowling skills as bowlers and as batters in the Highlands.

Another initiative was to introduce Hayden Willebrand, James Smith and Hugh Hansen into the rep coaching program under the supervision of Jason Krejza and Steve Davies. Developing our coaching skills to bring through the next generation of good players is key to our future success.

Reps Merging GDCA and HDCA.

Following on from the Highlands and Southern Tablelands juniors cricket competitions coming together. The centre piece of the season was to be the T20 Junior U17s comp on turf played which was washed out, this was a real disappointment, however the U16s and U18s saw players from Southern Tablelands included into our Highlands rep squads and this went relatively smoothly. This will now include U14s moving into next season.

Academy

Again, the weather wreaked havoc with our scheduling for our academy this season. We held 3 of the washed-out sessions from September in the January holiday break which was not ideal but under the circumstances it was the best we could do. The Highlands Academy continues to give us a head start on the season and our increased representation at higher levels shows we are on the right track. Thanks to Jason Krejza, Steve Davies and the coaching team for a great job in challenging weather.

Rep Uniforms

Again, we had uniform drama with supply chain issues resulting in Highlands being let down on a few occasions such as uniforms not arriving in time for our U18s 1st game.

Rep teams performances

U12s - Big thank you to Coach Paddy Moylan, Manager Josh Loader and Luke Hanrahan for scoring. U12s played in January where the weather was much more favourable than goodness. Paddy Moylan to his credit organised several trial matches for our u12s in the lead up to the tournament which had them in prime condition to take on the Zone and their results show this worked well. The team won all 4 matches and won the right to host the final which was played at Tourist Oval on Sunday 26th February. Best performers with the bat were Oliver Lach-Newinsky and Hugh Hanrahan and with the ball were Hugh Hanrahan and Jude Webb.

U14s - Big thanks to Robert Cockburn and Martin Butcher for assisting me with the team and to Nasrine Nasser for organising our scoring. Our U14s had a very limited preparation with washed out training and trial games. The team won 1 and lost 2 and had 1 washout. We missed the final, but we gained some great learnings. Best with the bat we're Noah Nasser and Mackenzie Perry and with the ball Noah Nasser and Case Cassar.

U16s - Big thank you to Darren Torr and Jason Harwood for coaching the team and to Tim Mattick for scoring. Our U16s performed strongly winning 2, losing 1 and had 1 washout. We missed out on the final but in my opinion, we were unlucky, and I think but for the washed-out game we could have made a much bigger impact on the competition. Best with the bat were Liam Barlow and Brock Fahey and with the ball were Sam Harwood and Darcy Kent.

U18s - Big thank you to Craig Willebrand and Craig Thomson for coaching again this year and members of the parent group for scoring. Due to rain our u18s only played 2 x T20 games. Our team performed well and would have benefited greatly from more cricket. Best with the bat we're Hugh Hansen and Oscar Knight and with the ball were Oscar Knight and Joe Quilty.

Higher Honours

We had a record number of players chosen for higher honours.

Youth Championships saw Highlands smash the previous record with an awesome 15 players selected for the carnival.

- U13s -Cameron Grace, Nathan Butcher, Case Cassar and James Moylan
- U14s-Patrick Cockburn, Sam Barret-Lennard, Mackenzie Perry and Noah Nasser
- U15s- Sam Harwood, Fred Jones, Ben Searle, Josh Mattick, Rohan Day, Myles Magill, Ed Kettlewell, Henry MacMahon

Our Girls continued to Dominate the Zone with U19s Highlands girls bossing the Zone with 5 players selected. Also well done to Charlotte Kent for her selection in the Margaret Peden team.

- U16s Country Championships selection for Maeve Kauflin and Annalee Watson
- U19s Country Championships selection for Keira Hol, Caitlin Appleyard, Neve Wallace, Annalee Watson and Beth Zupp

Bradman Cup U16s – Well done to Brock Fahey and Liam Barlow on their selections and we could easily have had 3 more players picked who can consider themselves very unlucky.

Colts U18s – Well done to Willoughby Watson and Hayden Willebrand on their selections as they continue to showcase the complete players coming out of the Highlands reps pathway.

State Challenge U14s – Mackenzie Perry, Isaac Roxburgh, Noah Nasser

A very special Mention to Annalee Watson on her selection representing NSW Country at the U16 National Championships

Congratulations to all of the players above on their achievements and for doing the Highlands Proud.

Zone Pathway Change for next season will be as follows (Draft Only)

The Highlands Clubs have made the decision to leave the Greater Illawarra Zone and Join the new Southern Districts Zone. The pathway changes are below.

The junior boys pathway will now be;

- Highlands District Teams in U12s, U14s, U16s and U19s
- Southern Copperheads Youth Championship Teams U13s, U14s and U15s
- Southern Districts Zone Bradman Cup u16s Team
- Southern Districts Colts u19s Team
- CNSW State Challenges u14s, u17 and U19s
- CCNSW Open Mens to play in Country Championships
- CCNSW Open Mens District Knockout competition that is against all of NSW Districts.

Junior female and Open Women's pathway will remain as is within the Greater Illawarra Zone until the new Southern Districts Zone can review properly the player depth within the local competitions.

Bradman Letter Tour

Both Cootamundra and Bowral claim the Don as their own and the winner of this annual match gets bragging rights for a year. Highlands travel to visit our cricket brothers in Cootamundra each year in what always promises to be an enjoyable trip and has done for over 40 years. A read of David Woods book the history of the Bradman Letter reads as a who's who of Highlands cricket with the score cards sending one back down memory lane!

This great tradition continued this year with Darren Torr and Jason Harwood taking our 16s to Cootamundra for this very special battle to win the Bradman Letter and bragging rights for the season. Unfortunately, we went down to a spirited Cootamundra team, but the experience of the players and parent group was very enjoyable, and Highlands will return to play for and win back our letter next season.

Bradman U14s Spirit of Cricket Carnival April 2023

This 2023 tournament was the 25th anniversary of this great carnival hosted here in the Highlands with visiting teams from Dubbo, Wagga Wagga, Lachlan Valley, Bathurst and Hornsby coming up for the week April 11-14 and all competing for the Bradman Spirit of Cricket Trophy. I'm pleased to say Highlands finished 1st on the table (to break a 13 year drought) Highlands decided to share the trophy with Lachlan Valley who finished second on the table after the Final was washed out.

Cricket Tours Initiatives

This is a new initiative to nominate players to the International Cricket Academy League. This is to give those players looking for more cricket in the off season the opportunity to add to their experience and skill base by competing against very high standard international teams in competitions with players in their age group. This year's tours and those who are below.

- ICAL U17s India Tournament update - Sam Mackay, Hugh Hansen, James Smith, William Torr, Liam Barlow, Ethan Hunt and Sam Harwood.
- ICAL U15s Sunshine Coast Tournament - Mackenzie Perry, Cameron Grace, James Moylan, Jack Gett, Jason Maloney, Nethal Nandesana, Henry McMahon and Noah Nasser.

Yours in Cricket

Sam Nasser

Report from the Director of Junior Cricket

Scott McKie

The past season was challenging to say the least.

On the whole the season was fairly successful with a few minor issues along the way.

Along with the change back to the U16, 14, 12 and 10 age groups came the addition of the teams for the U16 and U14's competitions from Goulburn, Crookwell and Yass. Which provided a lifeline to our U16's competition which would of fallen to the wayside without those teams.

I put my hand up and admit that I made a few mistakes with ground allocation during the first part of the season by sending teams to an unusable field or having 4 teams show up to a field. With the extenuating circumstances regarding the availability of fields and that availability changing at 5pm on a Friday we did well to avoid more issues.

The possibility of more teams from Goulburn, Crookwell or Yass is looking likely for the coming season and the way in which the season will be played needs to be discussed ASAP. All clubs need to attempt to work out playing numbers / teams to allow us to decide on the structure of the competitions early and adjust if need be.

Special thanks to David Mackay and Southern Highlands Hockey for allowing us to hire the synthetic pitches and get the U10's cricket started. Special mention to Brett McAulay for the idea.

Congratulations to the winners of each competition:

- U16's –Moss Vale CCU
- 14's Moss Vale CC
- U12's Robertson Burrawang CC

Thanks as always to the club committee's, coaches, scorers, managers and parents for the hours of work that goes in across the season.

Thanks to the Umpires for covering the games when possible, always great to have you guys officiating.

Also thanks to Sean Barrett and Tom Walker for their guidance and help throughout the season.

We as an Association, including all clubs, coaches and parents need to work together to build the environment around the competitions, show respect towards everyone else involved. There was a couple of issues brought to my attention throughout the year and these are not going to be tolerated.

I'm looking forward to the coming season which (fingers crossed) may be the first real summer of cricket for a few years.

Yours in cricket

Scott McKie

Director Junior Cricket

Report from the Director of Womens Cricket

Jennifer Kitchen

The women's cricket had another fantastic season during 2022/23. The Tina Macpherson Cup was a great success with 6 teams coming together to create a great competition. Teams from Bowral, Moss Vale, Mittagong, Robertson Burrawang, Wingello, and Hilltop Northern Villages Cricket Clubs all contributed to the success of the ever growing Women's competition in the Highlands District Cricket Association. The 22/23 season was won Bowral Cricket Club in a very competitive final against Wingello Tigers Cricket Club. The final was played at Welby oval and saw approximately 200 people there to support the Tina Macpherson Cup final. This shows the devotion, spirit, and support for women's cricket in the highlands.

I would like to give a massive thanks to Deb Waltho for her constant contribution to the growth of Women's Cricket. Deb has provided a great path for me to follow in the future for the Women in Highlands District Cricket Association. Deb has done a great job in setting up all the fundamentals needed to assist me in continuing the growth of women's cricket. Without Deb, stepping into this role wouldn't have been easy. I would just like to say that I have a passion for Women's cricket and am committed to making Women's cricket a lasting competition in the Highlands District Cricket Association.

The 2023/24 competition is looking at growing from 6 teams to 8 teams. The Bundanoon Cricket Club has expressed interest in joining the competition, Bowral Cricket Club have expressed interest in expanding their team by potentially submitting a second team. I have also had contact from Marulan Cricket Club expressing their interest in potentially submitting a team or getting their girls to join a team for the Highlands Competition as there is no women's competition in the Goulburn District.

I'm still not quite across all the junior training squads/ opportunities however, I will continue to pursue all avenues already in place. The Hill Cup will still go ahead next year, more than likely in Feb 24. With the Association now in the new Zone I will follow up with the rep competitions to make sure we have a competition this year for our Juniors and Women's.

Jennifer Kitchen

Director of Women's Cricket

Report from the Director Grounds & Facilities

Hamilton Becher

The 2022-23 season was my first as Director of Grounds and Facilities and presented some unusual issues from the start.

The main issue being the weather.

With almost unprecedented amounts of rain falling in the lead up to and during the first few weeks of the season we were not sure we would play any cricket before Christmas.

- In regards to the turf pitches, We lost Jacob Moore, the curator for Welby in the first weeks of the season, luckily we were able to find a replacement, Matt Butler, in a short space of time.
- Unfortunately, Chater Oval was washed out for the season, both Lackey and Welby were too wet to prepare turf pitches before Christmas.
- The synthetic ovals were not in much better shape than the turf with all grounds being closed for the first 2 weeks of the season.

There was also issues with damage to some grounds when the Council tried to mow with large ruts being left in some ovals.

Pretty much all ovals except Tourist and Hampden were then closed for the next couple of months with very few exceptions which caused the run around with 20-20 cricket and all the other options that the Board came up with to try and get some cricket in for the clubs.

The weather abated a bit in the second half of the season and we were able to finally get turf grounds up and running and synthetic grounds started to re-open in numbers.

At this point we started to have another problem with council having 2 of its mowers break down leaving grounds unmown or mown days before so the grass re grew, as well as an ongoing issue at Bundanoon with the clippings being left on the ground.

Towards the end both Lackey and Welby turf pitches were worst for wear due to lack of real drying time and the amount of use however they were still going strong.

I would like to specially thank both Dale and Matt for the effort they put in to get both these pitches playable for as many games as they did.

Despite all these issues the competition played more cricket this season than in the last 2 years combined.

I would like to thank Chevalier College and Tudor House for the help that was provided throughout the year in providing grounds for use.

I would also like to thank the other members of the Board who made my first year in the job not be the nightmare we all thought it would be. Also for all the Board members who would travel to grounds each week in their own time, to see if we could get onto the ground or if it had been mown in time etc.

For the coming year we have a new booking system to navigate with Council, trying to get Chater Oval back up, as well as the usual repairs and maintenance that need doing each year.

I look forward to this next year with a bit of forward knowledge as to what to expect and the hope that the excellent communication between the board members and the clubs can continue as it did this year as the feedback I have had from the majority of clubs was very good in this regard.

Hamilton Becher

Grounds & Facilities

Report from the Director Marketing & Public Relations *Randall Walker / Phil Gibson*

Marketing

- HDCA continued to promote 'Highlands Cricket' as the phrase that can be commonly used by the HDCA, clubs and affiliates to promote the game in the Highlands
- The *@highlandscricket.com.au* email addresses that were created last year have been a huge benefit, in particular for changing Directors being able to have the email history
- Emma and Danielle have been a huge assistance in marketing the HDCA via Facebook
- Work still needs to be done with CricketNSW to set up the new website following the migration from MyCricket to PlayHQ

Sponsorship

- Sponsorship was hard for the 2022-23 season following the wet 2021-22 season and forecasted start to the season. We had sponsors lined up for the U17 T20 competition, but unfortunately this competition was washed out from the start and never got up and running
- The HDCA secured the following sponsors for the 2022-23 season all received recognition at the Presentation Night and will be followed up for the upcoming season
 - Ace Internet Services and Vocus
 - Mittagong RSL
- For the 2023-24 season, we will be looking for sponsors for:
 - Men's competitions sponsor(s)
 - Women's competitions sponsor(s)
 - Junior competitions sponsors
 - U17 T20 competition
 - Highlands Cricket Academy sponsors

Randall Walker / Phil Gibson

Marketing & Public Relations

Report from the Highlands District Cricket Umpires Association
Angus Humphries – Director HDCA and
Byron Kaufline HDCUA President

The season started with a struggle to get enough ground for all grades to commence.

Local competition

First grade managed to get underway on time however 2nd /3rd grade made a staggered start. HDCUA were fortunate to have 12 umpires this season.

We managed to cover all bar one first grade game this season and a number of 2nd grade games. (70 matches plus semis and finals)

This season the 1st grade team that had the bye covered some lower grade games which worked quite well.

HDCUA cover the Under 14 and Under 16 Semi-finals and Finals locally.

We also covered all the local Women's matches this season, 30 in total, plus the semi and Final.

Women's Grand Final Appointment:

Iain Greaves and Mark Coles

Senior Grand Final Appointments

1st Grade: Iain Greaves and Aiden Hughes

2nd grade: Byron Kaufline and Bill Croese

3rd Grade: Julius Borbely and Tony Capps

Representative Games

Local umpire numbers increased slightly as we welcomed Jeff Charlesworth and Frank Fabris joining us for some representative games this season plus a guest appearance by John Bourgoyne.

HDCUA managed to cover all the inter association games played in the highlands including the T20 club matches.

George Lunt and Dennis Purcell also covered 2 Rounds of the youth championships locally.

ISA matches

During the season local umpires covered the schools games and also hosted the last game of their Seasons 1st XI at Bradman covered by Byron Kauflin and Mark Coles

Spirit of Cricket Carnival

This year saw the return of the Under 14 Spirit of Cricket Carnival which involved 6 Associations around the State. The HDCUA was involved in covering this Carnival, together with Umpires from the NSWCUSA. A big thanks to Mark Coles who ensured all matches were covered, and to Sam Nasser for organising this tournament.

Player behaviour was not quite where we wanted it to be and unfortunately 4 players were placed on report this season – the highest number in a long time.

In the off season there has been a review of the Code of Conduct, and subsequent to this there are some changes to the Code which places greater emphasis on the responsibility of the Captain in maintaining player behaviour. Hopefully we will see improvements in Season 23/24

Congratulations to Robertson Burrawang Cricket Club for being the winners of the Spirit of Cricket for Season 2022/23.

Congratulations to Dale Wellington, from Wingello Cricket Club for winning the David Wood Player of the Year award.

I would like to thank all the umpires especially Angus Humphreys for managing local appointments

Kind Regards

Byron Kauflin

HDCUA President



Report from the Code of Conduct Commissioner *Rodney Cavalier AO*

Cricket is a beautiful game. I am honoured to have been able to serve it at many levels. Being a code of conduct commissioner is not elevating. Fulfilling the duties of commissioner takes a toll.

Some of which follows is because I am compiling this report in the midst of an Ashes series in which conduct on and off the field of play has drawn the attention of two nations and the cricket world beyond.

Inactivity by this office is a sign of good health for our game on and off the field. The number of matters that came before me was very few. Receiving none is what our game and the District Association seek.

A key principle of advancing cricket has been bringing the Spirit of Cricket to a central tenet of our game. The Spirit must be as central to player conduct as the Laws of the game. The Spirit of Cricket is part of the Laws. Each is enforceable. But. Be warned: what exactly constitutes the Spirit does not ever mean overruling the express language of the Laws of Cricket.

Those who were booing in the Long Room at Lord's – a place in which I have stood for some part of the day in the five previous Ashes series – should have remembered it is fundamental that the umpire cannot be wrong. Even when he may appear to be wrong or was wrong, the umpire is right. The Association and our judiciary will stand behind that principle. We will always support an umpire.

Reported dissent has declined markedly. Disputes that reached the stage of formal complaint tended to be about abusive language, threatening behaviour, basic boorishness. These reports are not the place to name names. Players and officials must contain ire and disappointment however understandable it might be. Abuse and foul language are never acceptable.

One aspect of discipline the Association might examine is the formality of procedures. The complaints form does not provide sufficient space. I recommend the form be reconstituted so it can also serve as a template, a guide to what the complainant must set out. The same principles should apply to the response.

One matter in which I have acted unilaterally is sending advice of a complaint in my own words by electronic mail to the captain or chairman of the club of the accused. My memo complies with all that the official form requires. Otherwise, to despatch the official form with handwriting and signature requires scanning. One then has to attach the scanned document to a memo advising the parties who need to be advised. My alternative is so much quicker, so much less demanding and so much more comprehensive. This was my practice in the year past. Complaints nil.

Labelling the forms with the prefix "NOT" is the opposite of sensible, another reason to move away from forms.

The By-Laws and Regulations will benefit from renumbering from 1 paragraph by paragraph. Ignore sub-sections and multi-clause regulations. Let the numbers run. That is how well drafted legislation appears.

Penalties should not expire over time. If they must expire, make the expiry date more like five years after each offence.

Again I remind all who are involved in the affairs of the Association that the time expended by officials at all levels is their gift to us. No one is paid for the hours volunteered.

In conclusion, I thank the members of the judiciary for their contribution, a devotion above and beyond. I thank players and officials in our clubs and representative teams for supporting the Association in respecting the Spirit of the game and its laws.

Rodney Cavalier
COMMISSIONER

Report from the Treasurer
Joel Goring

HIGHLANDS DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL REPORTS

For the period

1st June 2022 to 31st May 2023

Prepared by: Joel Goring

HDCA Treasurer

Treasurer Report – 2022/2023

1. A solid year returning a net cash flow deficit of \$29,228 compared to a budgeted deficit of \$33,504.
2. Reduction in fees for the year was a large contributor of this deficit.
3. Large representative cricket expenses however the majority of this is now stock we have on hand.
4. Umpiring costs have increased which is largely due to more games being covered.
5. Bank account balances as at 31/05/2023 sitting at \$13,626.90 and \$105,071.95 with cricket balls and a significant amount of rep clothing, stock on hand and the written down value of plant and equipment.
6. Accounts receivable as at 31/05/2023 were \$1,703 with Moss Vale Cricket Club and Bowral Blues Cricket club still owing money.
7. Surplus funds have been injected back for the benefit of the clubs via the purchase of tablets and ground equipment to enable more cricket to be played.
8. A strong position for the organisation to be in now and into the future.

Kind regards



Joel Garing

Cash movement report

Cash mode
 01 Jul 2022 - 31 May 2023

	Actual	Total Budget	Variance \$	Variance %
4-000 Income				
4-1303 Team fees and memberships	74,952.00	70,114.00	(2,204.00)	-4
4-1340 Cricket ball sales	22,012.50	10,000.00	12,012.50	170
4-1400 Academy (Inc of NSW fees)	10,983.80	13,401.00	(2,317.20)	-17
4-1450 Representative clothing sale	650.00	0.00	650.00	-
4-1422 Greater Illawarra Council claim	750.00	750.00	0.00	0
4-1423 Sponsorships	12,500.00	12,500.00	0.00	0
4-1435 Interest	1,422.33	470.00	1,002.33	214
4-1466 Other income	2,875.00	3,500.00	(525.00)	-15
4-1457 Split of Crickex Cricket	16.50	0.00	16.50	-
Total Income	142,756.05	118,627.00	24,129.05	20.30%
Gross Profit	142,756.05	118,627.00	24,129.05	20
6-000 Expenses				
6-1111 Academy expenses	17,077.35	20,021.00	(13,093.65)	-63
6-1120 Advertising & Marketing	3,618.54	6,576.00	(957.46)	-15
6-1160 Business Card Hire	10,419.75	11,850.00	(1,430.25)	-12
6-1162 Ground Hire	2,441.00	0.00	2,441.00	-
6-1210 Council fees	10,205.10	14,875.00	(9,669.90)	-65
6-1262 Cricket ball purchases	1,579.72	7,411.00	(2,166.70)	-29
6-1275 Coaching expenses - External	7,430.00	6,884.00	15,436.00	224
6-1300 Depreciation	2,181.00	0.00	2,181.00	-
6-1676 Legal fees	0.00	50.00	(50.00)	-100
6-3022 Printing & Supplies	10,427.00	8,500.00	1,927.00	23
6-4245 Representative cricket expenses	28,020.00	0.00	28,020.00	-
6-4350 Superbooks	513.40	9,710.00	(9,196.60)	-94
6-4350 Administration expenses	13,644.00	5,932.00	9,052.00	153
6-4400 Sundry expenses	379.00	0.00	379.00	-
6-4440 Subscriptions & Memberships	649.00	680.00	(19.00)	-3
6-4450 Sundry Expenses	0.00	1,311.00	(1,311.00)	-100
6-4755 Split of Crickex Cricket Expenses	6,853.60	0.00	6,853.60	-
6-4800 Fuel/Preservation	12,828.34	15,000.00	(2,171.66)	-15
6-4820 Uniforms	10,710.00	10,000.00	710.00	8
6-4550 Equipment	3,437.45	20,055.00	(14,597.55)	-73
6-4231 Movement to donations	0.00	2,200.00	(2,200.00)	-100
Total Expenses	171,964.04	152,131.00	19,833.04	13.00%
Operating Profit	(29,207.99)	(33,504.00)	4,296.01	13
Net Profit	(29,207.99)	(33,504.00)	4,296.01	13
1-000 Assets				
1-1000 Current Assets				

	Actual	Total Budget	Variance \$	Variance %
1-1000 Accounts Receivable	0.00			
Total Current Assets	0.00			
1-2100 Property, Plant & Equipment				
1-2110 Plant & Equipment	446.00			
Total Property, Plant & Equipment	446.00			
Total Assets	446.00			
2-0000 Liabilities				
2-0010 Current Liabilities				
2-1140 Accounts Payable	0.00			
2-1110 Provision for Bond Interest & Business Policies (Council)	0.00			
2-1534 Provision - Maintenance Payment	0.00			
Total Current Liabilities	0.00			
Total Liabilities	0.00			
GST Movement	0.00			
Net Cash Movement In (Out)	(79,874.01)			
Opening Balance	148,372.86			
Cash Movement				
1-1110 DDCU Cheque account	19,905.40			
1-1115 DDCU Savings account	1,300,677.46			
1-1116 Bank of Montreal Cheque Account	1,576,263.00			
1-1117 Bank of Montreal Savings Account	105,007.95			
Total Cash Movement	(29,674.01)			
Closing Balance	118,698.85			

Profit and loss report

Accrual mode
 01 Jun 2022 - 31 May 2023

	Total
4-0000 Income	
4-1300 Team fees and memberships	76,326.00
4-1350 Cricketer Ball sales	9,225.40
4-1400 Academy (incl of OHS&S fees)	10,463.00
4-1430 Representative clubbing fees	926.00
4-1754 Sponsorships	12,500.00
4-1755 Licenses	1,422.45
4-1435 Other Income	31,250.00
4-1437 Spirit of Cricket Carnival	15,370.00
4-1420 Stock on hand movement	270,500.00
Total Income	151,581.53
Gross Profit	151,581.53
6-0000 Expenses	
6-1111 Academy expenses	17,817.25
6-1120 Advertising & Marketing	5,282.54
6-1160 Bradman Oval Hire	10,418.77
6-1165 Ground Hire	3,441.00
6-1710 Licence fees	10,205.70
6-1245 Cricketer ball purchases	9,551.72
6-1245 Coaching expenses - External	1,430.00
6-1300 Depreciation	4,181.00
6-3020 Prize money & trophies	5,720.85
6-4320 Representative cricket expenses	28,925.69
6-4350 Spare trucks	215.50
6-4350 Administration expenses	9,841.50
6-4400 Snacks expenses	375.35
6-4400 Subscriptions & Memberships	600.00
6-4475 Spirit of Cricket Carnival expenses	9,853.50
6-4480 Turf preparation	17,828.34
6-4520 Umpires	15,760.00
6-4530 Equipment	5,487.45
Total Expenses	156,861.66
Operating Profit	(5,280.13)
Net Profit	(5,280.13)

Balance sheet report

Accrual mode
 31 May 2023

	Total
1-000 Assets	
1-1000 Current Assets	
1-1100 Bank Accounts	
1-1161 Bendigo Cheque Account	13,628.90
1-1162 Bendigo Savings Account	105,071.35
Total Bank Accounts	118,699.85
1-1200 Accounts Receivable	1,703.20
Total Current Assets	120,403.05
1-1400 Stock on hand	2,161.00
1-2000 Property, Plant & Equipment	
1-2100 Plant & Equipment	2,014.00
Total Property, Plant & Equipment	2,014.00
Total Assets	140,376.85
Net Assets	140,376.85
3-0000 Equity	
3-0000 Retained Earnings	14,433.00
3-3000 Current Year Earnings	65,390.14
3-9999 Historical Balances	60,553.71
Total Equity	120,384.15

Report from Greater Illawarra Cricket *Sam Nasser / Paddy Moylan*

HDCA clubs and the board have unanimously voted to join the southern districts cricket zone for the forthcoming season following the decision of CCNSW

Our delegates Sam and Paddy convened a zoom with parents, players and stakeholders about the change. There was overwhelming support for the move

Communication remains key and we shall continue to advise all progress and keep everyone informed of developments

Through negotiation by the HDCA Chair and Delegates the new zone agreed that the Highlands would have our own member on the rep committee. The other associations share a delegate. That is a terrific outcome for Highlands players, coaches and administrators.

Paddy Moylan is our rep on the steering committee and that committee continues its work pending the AGM in mid July where the zone will officially commence with a structure in place.

Importantly we have a focus to ensure all our players have more opportunity. Work is being done to determine how the rep comps might look and there is a focus to minimise travel yet ensure a great comp for the players. Work will also need to be done to grow female cricket across the zone and this is a priority.

It should be remembered that youth champs players this year appear, on balance to have the option to play with the new zone or the old zone. Pleasingly almost all of the players have chosen the new zone. Although there is dispensation this year to play in the old zone it can be expected that the new zone will not allow such dispensation in the future in accordance with the direction of CricketNSW. For a player to play in the GICZ after the youth champs they would presumably need to qualify to play for that zone by virtue of playing club cricket there, been selected for rep etc. They should not expect further dispensations.

Finally we note that CricketNSW originally made clear that they wanted all HDCA players to play in the new zone and they did not want "Highlands players passing each other on the highway going up or down the hill to different zones"

We look forward to seeing how the new zone goes over the next 12 months noting that CricketNSW have indicated the matter is up for review after 12 months as part of the overall review. Should things go well it should be expected that the new zone will continue to remain in place

Sam Nasser and Paddy Moylan

HDCA Delegates to GICZ

Report from CNSW Community Cricket
Sean Barrett – Cricket Manager: Shoalhaven Region

See separate attached file

Regards
Sean Barrett
Cricket Manager- Shoalhaven Region



MittagongRSL



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PTY LTD

Supporting our community