OVERVIEW OF KEY PLAYER WELFARE INITIATIVES FOR 2006-2007

This is the third year of the Player Welfare program at Cricket NSW. The program has evolved from a position of reacting to player issues as they arose to leading each player through a process which enables them to plan for their life after cricket.

The objective is for the player and Player Welfare Manager to work together on an individual plan which incorporates employment, work experience, tertiary study and networking via player appearances.

The Player Welfare Program also addresses a wide range of issues which have the possibility of impacting negatively on performance.

1. Academic Studies/Employment.
Cricket NSW’s representative players benefited from the support of a number of Universities and Training providers in 2006/07. Macquarie University, University of NSW, University of Western Sydney, Sydney University, Australian College of Physical Education, APM Training Institute and the Fitness Institute of Australia are all acknowledged by Cricket NSW for assisting our its elite athletes to combine the demands of their sport with the pursuit of a tertiary qualification.

These institutions supported both male and female state contracted cricketers with academic tutoring, course flexibility and scholarship assistance.

The highlight of the academic year was Greg Mail winning the prestigious Sydney University Academic Award for Excellence at the 2006 NSW Institute of Sport Awards Dinner. This award acknowledges athletes who excel academically as well as in their chosen sport.

Aaron O’Brien, Peter Forrest, John Hastings, Stephen O’Keefe, and Martin Paskal from the SpeedBlitz Blues squad each graduated from university this year. The 2006/07 squad now boasts 10 university graduates which will rise to 19 in the near future.

In the 2006/07 season the SpeedBlitz Blues squad had 16 players studying at University; and a further five players completed either a Certificate III, Certificate IV or Diploma in Fitness and/or Marketing.

The Rookie contracted group were informed that they had to either “earn or learn” as a non-negotiable requirement of accepting a contract. In 2006/07 six players studied and one was employed.

Four of the group studying graduated from university in 2006 after being supported by Cricket NSW financially with their studies for three years through the Education and Training grants scheme.

The NSW Breakers also have a number of players that have, or are about to, complete academic studies including Charlotte Anneveld, Kate Blackwell, Sarah Aley and Leah Poulton who will graduate at the end of 2007.

Both senior squads have benefited from the generous support of the NSW Cricket Board through the Education and Training grants, which offer contracted players a $4,000 a year incentive to study.

The highlight of SpeedBlitz Blues Player Employment was the employment of six players in primarily part time roles. Cricket NSW would like to thank those employers who have shown flexibility and understanding with our players. We would like to acknowledge James Patterson from CB Richard Ellis who employed Nathan Hauritz as the first cricketer to be involved in their Elite Sports employment opportunity program. This was very exciting for all involved.

2. Induction Program for Rookie and Newly Contracted Players
A Cricket NSW Induction Program was presented to all newly contracted players. This was warmly received as an innovative and informative introduction to life as a professional cricketer in NSW. This Program also served to outline the expectations of Cricket NSW in the areas of player behaviour both on and off the field.

3. Presentation to U/17 & U/19 male and female players
An Education Seminar was held which included presentations on the following subjects:
- Player Welfare Role
- Sport Scholarships
- Apprenticeship and Traineeship programs,
- Importance of preparing yourself for a life outside of cricket,
- A presentation on Gambling and How Alcohol Effects Performance.

Parents also attended appropriate sessions.

4. Illicit Drug & Alcohol Education Forum
Paul Dillon from Drug and Alcohol Research and Training Australia presented to the squad on the following key areas:
- Alcohol and Safety
- Alcohol and performance
- Illicit Drug Use

The Forum discussed how the SpeedBlitz Blues squad can be role models to younger players in highlighting the dangers of alcohol and illicit drugs. It was decided that players would be involved in delivering an education seminar to junior squads and parents.

Subsequently, a presentation on alcohol and illicit drug use was made to the Cricket NSW U/17 & U/19 teams and their parents by SpeedBlitz Blues squad members Edward Cowan, Peter Forrest, John Hastings and Stephen O’Keefe. The presentation was well received by all, but especially applauded by the parents.

5. Grade Clubs
The Player Welfare service was extended to Grade clubs over the past year. This resulted in a number of meetings with clubs or individually with players to outline employment and/or study options. The end result was that Cricket NSW either secured employment or gained entry to tertiary institutions for a number of Grade players.

The highlight in this area is the progress made toward the University of Western Sydney aligning with the Western Sydney Grade clubs with a number of meetings between the interested parties taking place, facilitated by Cricket NSW. A Memorandum of Understanding is being prepared to include agreements on entry to university courses, tutoring, work experience, and access to the University’s sports science expertise and facilities.

6. Player Welfare Sessions
During 2006/07 individual and some small group sessions were held on the following subjects:
- Taxation Advice and Support with PKF Charted Accountants
- Financial Advice from ‘Future Plus’
- Personalised budgets
- Eye sight testing
- Sun exposure screenings
- Public Speaking
- Cricket NSW and Cricket Australia Education Program
- Compulsive Behaviour.
- “Boys can Cook” sessions
- Individual Psychologist and Sport Psychologist sessions
- IQ testing and Career planning
- Diet

Tony Lewis
Player Welfare Manager
STATE LEAGUE CUP
The State League Cup competition’s second season was a successful one, culminating in a Final at the Sydney Cricket Ground. It assisted the NSW Country and ACT teams to prepare for their respective national competitions and provided an early-season opportunity for fringe-NSW players to press their claims for SpeedBlitz Blues selection.

Greg Mail (374 runs), Jarrad Burke (317 runs) and Grant Lambert (307 runs) were the competition’s leading batsmen, while Grant Roden (12 wickets), Doug Bollinger (10 wickets) and Aaron O’Brien (9 wickets) were its most successful bowlers. Daniel Christian scored two centuries during the first four rounds to force his way into the SpeedBlitz Blues’ limited-overs team.

In the Final, Sydney West defeated minor premiers and defending champions, Sydney South East. Peter Forrest and captain Ben Rohrer shared a title-winning 97 run partnership, displaying the form that would earn both of them State selection only a few months later.

Thanks are expressed to all participants and match hosts for their contributions to the competition’s success, in particular, to the Parramatta CC which hosted two pre-season matches.

Round 1: ACT 4/193 def NSW North 192 at Old Kings; Sydney-West 8/233 def NSW Country 167 at Joe McAleer; Sydney South East 237 def Sydney Central 188 at Bankstown.

Round 2: Sydney-West 4/244 def ACT 134 at Rosedale; Sydney Central 2/163 def NSW Country 159 at Old Kings; Sydney South East 6/144 def Sydney North 143 at Caringbah.

Round 3: Sydney North 4/217 def NSW Country 216 at Stockton; Sydney South East 6/201 def ACT 9/196 at Alan Davidson; Sydney-West 3/252 def Sydney Central 9/246 at Raby I.

Round 4: Sydney Central 2/234 def Sydney North 229 at Killara; Sydney West 9/238 def Sydney South East 8/237 at Waverley; ACT 7/291 def NSW Country 173 at Manuka.

Round 5: Sydney Central 3/252 def ACT 8/248 at Chisholm; Sydney South East 8/318 def NSW Country 9/191 at Wollongong University; Sydney North 4/330 def Sydney West 6/327 at Manly.


Competition Table: Sydney South East 19, Sydney West 18, Sydney Central 14, Sydney North, ACT 9, NSW Country 0.

BLACKTOWN OLYMPIC PARK
Planning continued on the construction of brand-new facilities at Blacktown Olympic Park comprising two grounds, outdoor turf and synthetic practice pitches, indoor synthetic practice pitches, lighting, parking and associated spectator, media and office accommodation. Completion is now scheduled for March 2009 at a cost of $28.5 million with great benefits for western Sydney and the NSWCA’s many elite cricket programs.

FACILITIES UPGRADE PROGRAM
This program provides for NSWCA expenditure of $6.0m during the four-year period 2006/2007-2009/2010, on NSW-wide improvements to cricket facilities. To date, the sub-committee has approved funding for five projects proposed by affiliates, of which four are in metropolitan Sydney and one in regional NSW. Funding ranged from $90,000-$500,000 per project. The five grants amounted to $1.533m, towards projects valued in total at $6.468m.

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MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Sydney Cricket Association’s sixty-one Delegate Members were: Messrs B F Freedman, M H Klumpp (Bankstown CC), J Hanshaw C Michie (Blacktown CC), A Connolly, T Ray (Campbelltown-Camden CC), R E Horrell, R Wilson (Eastern Suburbs CC), R F Cook, P Scuglia (Fairfield-Liverpool CC), A J Falk, M Rosen (Gordon CC), I Forrest, T Jacobs (Hawkesbury CC), A Fraser, L Gould (Manly-Warringah CC), I Finlay, C Hambleton (Mosman CC), D H Cole, B O White (North Sydney CC), M Langford, C Stubbs (Northern District CC), G Monaghan, R Wright (Parramatta CC), G Gavin R Hudswell (Penrith CC), R Stafford, P Wright (Randwick Petersham CC), J Hunter, M Jobson (St George CC), R Brennan, T H J Iceton (Sutherland CC), B W Collins QC, M O’Sullivan (Sydney University CC), G F Lawson, M Sanders (University of NSW CC), G K Harinath, T Smith (UTS Balmain CC), D O’Neil, I Willis (Western Suburbs CC), D Rose (Auburn CC), T Murphy (Burwood Briars CC), G Baird (Epping CC), B Somerville (Georges River CC), J Lloyd (Lane Cove CC), S M Hamman (Lindfield CC), M Schaafsma (Macquarie University CC), D Lewis (North West Sydney CC), A Nichkawde (Pennant Hills CC), M Annis-Brown (Roseville CC), R Wilcoxon (South Sydney CC), J Miller (Southern Districts CC), D Chappelow (Strathfield CC), L Hincksman (Warringah CC), J Russell (City & Suburban Cricket Association), B A Planner (NSW Churches’ Cricket Union), D Dilley (NSW Cricket Umpires’ & Scorers’ Association), CW Booth, J Evans, E Myatt (NSW Districts Cricket Association), Ms J Henry (Sydney Women’s Competition).

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

At its 20th Annual General Meeting on 7 August 2006, the Association elected a Committee of Management comprising Messrs B W Collins QC (Chairman), R F Cook (Deputy Chairman), A Connolly, A J Falk, B F Freedman and S M Hamman. On the same evening, the Association also approved the Committee’s nominees of Mr C W Booth and Ms J Henry to serve as Appointed Members of the Committee.

NEW AND RETIRING MEMBERS

New Delegate Members were Messrs C Stubbs, A Fraser, C Hambleton, J Lloyd, A Nichkawde, J Miller and D Dilley. They replaced Messrs J D Barrett, S Cleary, P Philpott, S Flynn, D Boughton, H Le and P Hughes, respectively. During the year Messrs A Nichkawde and L Hincksman resigned from the Association and were replaced by Messrs P Blake and H Drew respectively. The Association wishes to record its appreciation of the efforts of all retiring Members and to welcome all new Members.

DELEGATES TO THE NSW CRICKET ASSOCIATION

Twenty-three of the Association’s Members were also Delegates to the NSW Cricket Association. They were: Messrs Freedman, Hanshaw, Connolly, Horrell, Cook, Rosen, Jacobs, Gould, Finlay, Cole, Stubbs, R Wright, Hudswell, P Wright, Jobson, Iceton, Collins, Lawson, Harinath, O’Neil, Hamman, Dilley and Evans.

SHIRES COMPETITION SUB-COMMITTEE

The Association’s Committee of Management formally delegated specific duties to the above sub-committee, comprising the following persons elected by Shires clubs: Messrs S M Hamman (Chairman), D Chappelow (Deputy Chairman), A Lewis, J Lloyd, B Whitehouse, R Wilcoxon and M Wood. The Committee thanks those persons for their contribution to the successful conduct of the Shires competition.

WOMEN’S COMPETITION SUB-COMMITTEE

The Association’s Committee of Management formally delegated administration of the Women’s Competition to the following sub-committee members: Ms J Henry (Chair), Ms O Thornton (Deputy Chair), Ms D Koski and Messrs G Koschel and R Smith. The Committee thanks those persons for their contribution to the successful conduct of the Women’s competition.

A W GREEN SHIELD SELECTION SUB-COMMITTEE

The Association’s Committee of Management formally delegated the selection of this competition’s two representative teams to the above sub-committee: Messrs R Brennan (Chairman), R Cook, G Cooper, I Gill, D McCoy, W Playle, I Willis and A Wilson. The Committee thanks those persons for their contribution in that regard.

CODE OF CONDUCT COMMISSIONERS AND JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

The NSW Cricket Board again appointed Messrs J McGruther and M Bonnell as the Association’s Code of Conduct Commissioner and Assistant Code of Conduct Commissioner, respectively. The Judiciary Committee for the season comprised Messrs R Browne (Chairman), G Farmer (Deputy Chairman), G Beard, G Bensley, P Blanchard, J A Chapman, R Collins, R Green, P Toohey and D A Tribelet. The Committee thanks those persons for their assistance, when required, in considering alleged breaches of the Association’s Code of Conduct. During the 2006/07 season, the Association’s Code of Conduct Commissioner and Assistant Code of Conduct Commissioner considered 19 alleged breaches of the Association’s Code of Conduct. The Commissioners offered a caution to one person, who accepted that offer. The Judiciary Committee found one person not guilty and 17 persons guilty of breaching the Code, imposing penalties ranging from a censure to a six match sentence.

CRICKET AUSTRALIA

Cricket Australia again demonstrated its direct commitment to club cricket by allocating $312,257 and $18,571 to the NSW Cricket Association for the development of Men’s and Women’s Grade cricket, respectively. The NSW Cricket Board distributed that grant amongst all clubs to facilitate projects such as ground improvements and coaching programs.
**BBM AWARD**

The Committee again presented a BBM Award (formerly Big Brother Movement) allowing a promising young Grade cricketer to play for the Formby CC in England’s Liverpool & District League. Gian Scuglia (Fairfield-Liverpool CC) enjoyed a successful 2006 winter with that club, while Stephen O’Keefe (Hawkesbury CC) was the winner of the award in 2006.

**FUNCTIONS**

Separate presentation nights were conducted during May 2007 for the Grade, Shires and Women’s competitions. These were attended by a total of approximately 1,000 guests. The three functions were a fitting way in which to end a very successful season and to congratulate all premiership winning teams and award recipients.

In addition, the Association conducted a Grade Final Cocktail Function and Shires Final Breakfast in the week prior to the Grand Finals. The Grade function provided the subsequent First Grade final with valuable publicity.

**MEDIA**

The Association’s competitions enjoyed regular media coverage, in particular from daily metropolitan newspapers, suburban newspapers, and the Association’s websites linked to www.sca.cricketnsw.com.au. In addition, Cricket Australia’s website provided live ball-by-ball coverage of the entire First Grade final.

The Association again offered the Phil Tresidder Award, in memory of the late sports journalist, Randwick CC member and NSW Cricket Association Life Member. Entries were numerous and of a high standard, emphasising the support that Grade cricket receives from suburban print media. The following three award-winners each received a cheque for $500:

Best Season Coverage: Mr Scott Warren (The Hawkesbury Gazette)
Best Feature Article: Mr Paul Haigh (The Liverpool City Champion)
Best Photograph: Mr Aaron Brown (The Bankstown-Canterbury Torch)

**umpires**

Thanks are extended to the NSW Cricket Umpires’ and Scorers’ Association which again appointed accredited umpires to officiate in Grade competition matches. The NSWCU&SA also assisted the Sydney Shires Cricket Umpires’ Association and the Sydney Women’s Cricket Umpires’ Association make similar appointments for their respective competitions.

**state challenge**

**Sydney Cricket Ground, 26 February 2007.**

The Bankstown CC and Newcastle CA qualified to represent the SCA and the NSW Country Cricket Association respectively in the annual match between the premiers of each Association’s limited-overs competition, with Newcastle enjoying a comfortable victory.

Bankstown 4/206 (M Littlewood 79 S Moore 68 T Goodwin 31no D Ettridge 2/51) def Bankstown 204 (C Gane 50 D Magee 48 M Hogan 3/35 N Foster 3/38)

**Sydney XV Shires XI**

**Sydney Cricket Ground, 18 December 2006.**

Sydney XI- Tony Clark (c, CC) Chris Gane, Dean Magee (Ban) Andrew Maher (Bl) John McKell (CC) Dylan Connell (Gor) Elliot Bullock (Mos) Greg Davidson Alex Murphy (Par) Dan Rixon (Sut) Peter Burkhart, Vaib Rastogi (WS).

Shires XI- Adrian McCaffrey (c, PH) Ben Donaldson (Aub) Hilal Dannaoui (BB) Ian Wheatley (Epp) Tom Holt (LC) Ian Foster (Lin) Kristian Griffiths-Jones (MU) Damien Drououx (NWS) Phillip Keene (Ros) Shane Pargeter (SS) Gavin Atkin (SD) B Chappelow (Str).

Umpires- Martin Edgell (NSWCU&SA) and Stephen Blomfield (SSCUA).

This annual fixture was played at the SCG on 18 December 2006. The Sydney XI, boasting a team of regular First Grade players, defeated a Shires XI by five wickets. Batting first, the Shires XI posted a competitive 214 from its 50 overs, with Donaldson and Pargeter combining for a 73-run partnership for the third wicket. Despite losing a wicket in its second over, the Sydney XI achieved its target in only 35.1 overs, thanks largely to a well-compiled century by Chris Gane.

**U/16 STATE CHALLENGE**

**Sohier Park, Ourimbah, 4 March 2007.**

Campbelltown-Camden CC and Central Coast CA qualified to represent the SCA and the NSW Country Cricket Association respectively, in the annual match between the premiers of each Association’s U/16 competition. Campbelltown-Camden proved too strong on the day to win by seven wickets.


Both this match and the NSWCCA’s competition are sponsored by the Bradman Foundation.

**U/16 REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS**

At the completion of the AW Green Shield’s preliminary rounds, the competition’s Selection Sub-Committee named two teams to play a match against teams representing the NSWCA’s annual Country Coaching Class. The following teams were named prior to being amended as a result of player unavailability:

**AW Green Shield (1):** Steve Colley (c, Gor) Tim Burns (Ban) Joshua Clinghan (FL) Robert Edwards (Gor) Brett Jones (Haw) Jarrod Walter (MW) Sean Abbott (Par) Ben Betros, Josh Clarke, Tim Cummins (Pen) Nick Charlwood (RP) Nick Sharman (Sut).

**AW Green Shield (2):** David Paterson (c, WS) Nathan Brain, Corey Evans (CC) Jacob McCann (FL) Jamie Cruickshank, Dale McKay (Haw) Edward Burgess, Adam Gummer (MW) Charith Mayadunne (ND) Luke Stanton (StG) Ben Marcicante (Sut) Anton Panucci (WS).

Reserve players - Ben Bourke, James Broadbent (CC) Alex Campbell (Gor) Tom Christensen (MW) Tom Cooper (ND) Nicholas Bertus, Alex Graham (Par) Daniel Smyth (Pen) George Thomakos (StG) Eriq Parsons (UNSW) Stephen King (UTSB).

The matches took place at Mona Park No 1 & 2 on 24 January 2007, and results were as follows:

**AW Green Shield 1st XI 6/161 (S Colley 42 J Walter 35 A Abbott 29 B Betros 20no M Cook 3/24) def Walters XI 9/139 (B Richards 59 J Clinghan 3/43) at Mona 1.**


**APPRECIATION**

The Sydney Cricket Association wishes to record its appreciation of the contribution of the following persons and bodies to the success of its 2006/07 season:

- The Sydney Morning Herald, sponsor of the O’Reilly Medal for First Grade Player of the Year
- BBM, especially Executive Director Eddy Steele, sponsor of the BBM award program
- Toro Australia, sponsor of the Grade Ground of the Year awards
- Kookaburra Australia Pty Ltd, supplier of balls for finals series matches
- Cricket Australia for its Grade club funding program, and internet coverage of the First Grade final
- The Australian Associated Press (AAP) for its promotion of the Association’s competitions
- The Bradman Foundation, sponsor of the annual U/16 State Challenge match
- NSW Cricket Umpires’ and Scorers’ Associations Executive Officer, Mr Peter Hughes, the Executive Committee, and the Association’s officiating umpires and scorers
- Messrs Dean Bennison and Bruce Whitehouse, Records Officers for the Grade and Shires competitions, respectively
- SCA Statistician, Mr Adam Moorehouse
- The First Grade scorers for their valuable contribution in providing timely online match scorecards
- Managers and coaches of all AW Green Shield competition teams
- The Ground Staff and ground authorities of the SCG and all clubs, particularly those that hosted competition finals and representative matches.
The Sydney Grade competition again comprised 20 clubs in 2006/07 with 19 rounds scheduled for First Grade and 15 rounds for the lower grades. Those grades, together with the Poidevin-Gray Shield and AW Green Shield competitions, contributed to the Club Championship.

THE SYDNEY SMITH CUP - CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

St George won its 22nd Club Championship and its first title since 1996/97, finishing 61 points clear of Sydney University and Penrith. UTS Balmain held the lead for seven consecutive rounds during the season but was unable maintain its strong performance in the latter rounds, finishing fourth. St George took the championship lead in Round 13, holding on until the end of the season by winning 13 of their last 16 matches in all grades. The Club was ably supported by the success of its Poidevin-Gray Shield team which remained undefeated during the season.

The most improved clubs were St George (6th to 1st), Randwick Petersham (16th to 5th), Sydney University (11th to 2nd), UTS Balmain (13th to 4th) and Penrith (9th to 3rd). In all, seven clubs managed to advance their previous season’s performance by five or more positions. In contrast, Manly-Warringah (1st to 9th), Sutherland (2nd to 10th) and Campbelltown-Camden (3rd to 11th) were unable to maintain their stronger performances of the preceding season.

Table: St George 1550, Sydney University 1489, Penrith 1414, UTS Balmain 1394, Randwick Petersham 1292, Gordon 1288, Western Suburbs 1277, Mosman 1266, Manly-Warringah 1262, Sutherland 1251, Campbelltown-Camden 1245, Fairfield-Liverpool 1218, Bankstown 1174, Northern District 1157, Eastern Suburbs 1006, University of NSW 917, Hawkesbury 873, Parramatta 857, North Sydney 677, Blacktown 561.

THE BELVIDERE CUP - FIRST GRADE

For the sixth time overall and the first time since 1999/2000, the Belvidere Cup was won by Bankstown. Finishing third in the regular season, they defeated Minor Premiers Fairfield-Liverpool in the Final.

The Final, played at Bankstown Oval following a request by the higher-seeded clubs, was a low-scoring contest that ended in a draw. The Bulldogs were rocked by an inspirational performance from Bankstown allrounder Brett van Deinsen. He followed his 2/18 in the first innings with a punishing 80 runs, and then took 5/32 to clinch the Benaud Medal as Player of the Match.

Batting first, Fairfield-Liverpool was in disarray at 9/88. However a fighting last-wicket stand between Doug Bollinger (17) and Matt Betsey (22*) lifted the total to 127. In reply, Bankstown slumped to be 5/32 before van Deinsen dashed the Lions’ hopes with an attacking innings. Scott Thompson (25) and James Allsopp (20) then guided the Bulldogs safely to a stumps score of 7/157.

When play resumed on Day Two, Bankstown battled to 198 for a handy 71-run lead. Despite a forceful 43 from Mark Liddell and a watchful 39 not out from Ryan Snape, the defending champions could only muster 140 in their second innings. Thompson claimed 3/63 and Van Deinsen 5/32 from 11 overs.

This left Bankstown a target of just 70 runs for the title. An opening stand of 28 runs between Darren Ertridge and Corey Richards got the home side off to a flying start before State players Lambert and Bollinger triggered another dramatic collapse as Bankstown lost 4/18. Aaron Bird and van Deinsen then guided their team home, with Bird clinching victory with a well-struck six.

Premiership winning captain Scott Thompson spoke for all Bankstown players and supporters when he dedicated his team’s victory to Mrs Bankstown Cricket, the late Rosie Freedman, who had passed away eight months earlier.

For the Premiers, Corey Richards scored 1,051 runs, Danny Waugh scored 673 runs and took 19 catches, captain Scott Thompson scored 417 runs and took 40 wickets, and Simon Keen took 39 wickets and scored 579 runs. James Allsopp took 31 catches and effected nine stumpings. Fairfield-Liverpool’s Russell Wilcoxson was the competition’s most successful wicketkeeper with 45 dismissals.

Fairfield-Liverpool’s Grant Lambert scored a competition-record 1,527 runs at an average of 95.94, including 6 centuries and 5 fifties, and a highest score of 206. He overtook former Petersham batsman Bill Alley, who had held the record since scoring 1,413 runs in 1943/44. Lambert also won the prestigious O’Reilly Medal for Player of the Year, based on officiating umpires’ assessments. Team-mate Ben Rohrer capped an impressive season of 1,157 runs at 57.85 by scoring a century on First-Class debut for the SpeedBlitz Blues.

UTS Balmain’s Grey Hayne also set a new record for most runs in First Grade career. Hayne’s tally now stands at 12,354 runs in 363 games, surpassing the old mark of 12,116 runs, held by Warren Bardsley since 1933.

Other highlights included Sutherland’s Phil Jaques making the competition’s second highest individual score ever, compiling 321 against North Sydney. In Round 11, Penrith’s Nathan Saville and Jarrad Burke shared a 303-run partnership.

The competition’s most improved clubs were St George (10th to 2nd), Western Suburbs (12th to 4th), Bankstown (9th to premier) and Parramatta (20th to 13th). In contrast, Manly-Warringah (minor premier to 20th), Sutherland (4th to 18th) and Gordon (5th to 15th) were unable to maintain their stronger performances of the previous season.

Table: Fairfield-Liverpool 94 St George 91 Bankstown 83 Western Suburbs 76 Sydney University Eastern Suburbs 75 Hawkesbury 70 Northern District 66 Mosman 62 University of NSW Campbelltown-Camden 60 Randwick Petersham Parramatta 56 UTS Balmain Gordon 54 Blacktown 49 Penrith 36 Sutherland North Sydney 34 Manly-Warringah 20.

Qualifying Finals: Fairfield-Liverpool 320 (A Clark 64 M I Williams 57 M Liddell 54 M Betsey 47 D Kelley 36 M Abbott 6/48) drew with Eastern
Suburbs 7/209 (A O’Brien 107 L Kirk 31 P Hangyasi 3/32) at Rosedale; Sydney University 2/172 (G Mail 127) def St George 124 (S Cazzulino 34 M Cameron 4/33) at Hurstville; Western Suburbs 3(dec)290 (P Hughes 142 P Burkhardt 61 S Phillips 39) drew with Bankstown 8/177 (C Richards 65 C Barry 3/32 P Cantlon 3/47) at Bankstown.

Semi-Finals: Fairfield-Liverpool 6/231 (B Rohrer 105no G Lambert 44no M Henriques 5/69) def St George 228 (L Zammit 91 M Henriques 33 A McNamara 31 P Hangyasi 5/78 M Betsey 4/53) at Rosedale; Bankstown 8/254 (C Richards 113 S Keen 78 M Cameron 5/68) def Eastern Suburbs 7(dec)252 (L Kirk 47 D Warner 41 B van Deinsen 2/17 D Burns 2/35) at Bankstown.


**First Grade Limited-Overs Competition**

Bankstown won the First Grade Limited-Overs competition for the third time, and the first time since 1997/98, by defeating Minor Premiers Randwick-Petersham in the Final. For the Premiers, Chris Gane (483 runs, including three centuries in only eight innings) was the competition’s leading batsman, while team-mate Brett van Deinsen (18 wickets) was the competition’s most successful bowler. Randwick-Petersham’s Usman Khawaja (474 runs), Fairfield-Liverpool’s Grant Lambert (436 runs), Penrith’s Jarrad Burke (431 runs) and Western Suburbs’ Colin Barry (17 wickets) also enjoyed success during the competition.

Randwick-Petersham earned the right to host the Final by defeating Fairfield-Liverpool in a Semi-Final, a closely-fought match decided by the Duckworth-Lewis method following rain interruptions. In the other Semi-Final, Bankstown comfortably defeated Eastern Suburbs.
THE ALBERT CUP – SECOND GRADE

For the fifth time overall and for the first time since 2003/04, the Albert Cup was won by Mosman, who came from fifth place to defeat Minor Premiers Sydney University in the Final. For the Premiers, Cameron Guthrie scored 766 runs and captain Martin Haywood scored 734 runs, while team-mate Clint Holland (46 wickets) was the competition’s leading bowler. Sydney University captain David Butchart (1,019 runs) was the competition’s most successful batsman, surpassing St George batsman A Emery’s record for the most runs in a Second Grade season. That record had stood since 1918/19. UTs Balmain’s Cameron Lane (41 dismissals) was the competition’s leading wicketkeeper.

Mosman’s season began slowly, suffering four losses before Christmas. However they built momentum after the break, winning 10 of their last 11 matches to claim the title. Sydney University lost only four matches during the season, two at the hands of Mosman.

In the Final, veteran captain Martin Haywood (62 and 91) led by example, while Cameron Guthrie (89) helped his team to a competitive first innings of 259. Paceman Michael Wagner (6/25 from 11 overs) then destroyed the Sydney University’s hopes and effectively sealed victory for his team.

Table: Sydney University 82, UTs Balmain 81, Penrith 76, Manly-Warringah 73, Mosman 68, Randwick Petersham, Eastern Suburbs 60, Bankstown 57, Campbelltown-Camden 46, Gordon 45, St George 44, Northern District 40, University of NSW 36, North Sydney 34, Sutherland, Western Suburbs, Hawkesbury, Parramatta 30, Blacktown 18, Fairfield-Liverpool 12.

Qualifying Finals: Sydney University 6/131 (B Hunter 3/42) def Randwick-Petersham 87 (T Ley 4/13 T Kierath 3/10 G Matthews 3/36) at University 1; Mosman 3/108 (C Guthrie 61 no N Mundy 28no) def UTs Balmain 102 (V Stithoo 46) at Drummoyne; Manly-Warringah 5/171 (L. Cameron 56 D Smith 53 M Mclnnes 31) def Penrith 161 (R Smith 44 W Buttigieg 35 J Blake 30 A Lindsay 5/45) at Howells.

Semi-Finals: Sydney University 175 (P O’Halloran 41 D Ward 32 R Colbran 3/38 A Moncrief 3/65) def UTs Balmain 72 (T Ley 7/24) at University 1; Mosman 8/188 (N Mundy 68 M Mclnnes 45 D Reynolds 3/38) def Manly-Warringah 136 (R Hamman 41 N Gordan 6/35) at Manly.


THE MITCHELL CUP - THIRD GRADE

The Mitchell Cup was won by Sutherland from third position, for the sixth time overall and for the first time since 1998/99. They defeated Minor Premiers Gordon in the Final. For the Premiers, captain Jason Packer scored 563 runs, Matthew Bradley scored 498 runs and Chad Gilmour took 33 wickets. Matthew Morgan took 31 catches and made 3 stumpings, while Western Suburbs’ Gavan Twining (1.149 runs) was the competition’s leading batsman, breaking North Sydney batsman E R Bubb’s competition record which had stood since 1925/26. Mosman’s Phillip Melville (64 wickets) was the competition’s most successful bowler and Northern District’s Greg Marks (35 dismissals) its leading wicketkeeper.

Only two points separated Gordon, Western Suburbs and Sutherland in the Minor Premiership, with Gordon prevailing in the final round. Penrith also enjoyed some measure of success with a consistent season of ten first-innings victories and only two losses. Unfortunately, a drawn Qualifying Final match prevented them from progressing further in the competition.

In the Final, Sutherland posted a competitive 9(dec)258, with Josh Zywietz adding 54 and Jasem Rafique (89) top-scoring. Gordon appeared to have one hand on the trophy when it reached 4/172 in reply, but a spirited fight back by Sutherland, in which they claimed the last six wickets for just 33 runs, saw them claim the premiership.

Table: Gordon 77, Western Suburbs 75, Sutherland 75, Penrith 69, Manly-Warringah 64, UTs Balmain 62, St George 55, Campbelltown-Camden 53, Randwick-Petersham 52, Mosman 51, Sydney University 50, Northern District 46, Fairfield-Liverpool 40, Bankstown 39, University of NSW, Parramatta 30, Eastern Suburbs 25, Blacktown 13, North Sydney, Hawkesbury 12.


Semi-Finals: Gordon 2/178 (M Kelly 74 A Sherman 70) def Western Suburbs 176 (N Carruthers 64 G Twining 35 C Archer 4/51 J Holmes 3/27) at Chatswood; Sutherland 246 (D Studholme 57 J Zywietz 36 S Pickering 31 M Lindsay 5/59) def Manly-Warringah 100 (C Boss 35 C Gilmour 7/46) at Carlingbah.

Final: Sutherland 9(dec)258 (J Rafique 89 J Zywietz 54 E Richtor 3/56) def Gordon 205 (A Sherman 96 K Jones 33 R Shepherd 3/38) at Chatswood.

THE REID CUP - FOURTH GRADE

Sutherland won the Reid Cup for the seventh time, and for the first time since 2001/02, by defeating Randwick-Petersham in a closely-contested Final. For the Premiers, captain Joel Burnett scored 453 runs and Matthew Earley scored 373 runs, while Blake Miller (37 catches and 3 stumpings) was the competition’s leading wicketkeeper. David Crawford and Jason Dunbar each took 26 wickets, Gordon’s Mitchell Kleem (559 runs) was the competition’s leading batsman and Eastern Suburbs’ David Dunne (37 wickets) its most successful bowler.

Following hard-fought Semi-Final victories, Randwick-Petersham and Sutherland earned the right to contest the Final at Coogee Oval. It was to become two incredible days of cricket. In perfect conditions, Randwick-Petersham made a controlled start of 0/29 before four quick wickets were followed by a recovery, and eventual score of 123. In reply, Sutherland slumped to 7/45 as Steve Bidwell-Brown (4/37 from 31 overs), Steve Hurworth and Chris Singh ripped through the visitors’ batting. Some lusty hitting by Aaron Phillips saw the score climb to 9-122 before a straight-forward catch was spilled. Sutherland was eventually dismissed the following morning for 147, a handy 24-run lead. The tenth-wicket partnership between Phillips (84) and Blake Miller (7*) yielding 48 valuable runs.

With little to lose, Randwick-Petersham batted aggressively in its second innings, in the hope of gaining outright victory. They declared at 4/144 from just 30 overs, a lead of 120 with 48 overs remaining. Alex Sciascia contributed a quick-fire 77 not out.

Sutherland, facing the dilemma of chasing the runs or batting out time, made a solid start of 26 from 15 overs before losing its first wicket. However, as the match’s last hour commenced, Sutherland lost its 9th wicket for just 72 runs. As the pressure grew and time ticked away, no-one anticipated the resolve of the two remaining batsmen, Nathan Whittingham and Blake Miller. They defied everything Randwick-Petersham could throw at them to bat out the remaining overs, despite
a ring of nine close-in fielders and the pressure of finals cricket. Both
teams were commended for the outstanding manner in which the game
was played.

Table: UTS Balmain 79, Sutherland 77, Randwick-Petersham 72, Mosman,
St George 70, Manly-Warringah 67, Penrith 52, Gordon 49, Northern
District 41, Western Suburbs, Hawkesbury 37, Fairfield-Liverpool 36,
Sydney University 35, North Sydney 33, University of NSW, Parramatta
31, Eastern Suburbs 30, Campbelltown-Camden 25, Bankstown 19,
Blacktown 6.

Qualifying Finals: UTS Balmain 7/144 (D Venables 4/43) def Manly-
Warringah 140 (J Mason 38 L Frazer 37) at Ryde; St George 7/174
(M Gilmour 4ono C MacDougal 30) def Sutherland 172 (L Malin 62
A Phillips 32) at Sutherland; Randwick-Petersham 150 (S Sykes 3/13
M Bright 3/37) def Mosman 84 (S Bidwell-Brown 7/41 C Singh 3/31)
at Coogee.

Semi-Finals: Sutherland 121 (M Earley 31 N Whittingham 30 M Baker
4/20) & 1/45 def UTS Balmain 109 (M Whittingham 3/20 D Simpson
3/25 J Dunbar 3/37) & 83 (D Simpson 5/28) at Drummoyne; Randwick-
Petersham 4/172 (T Martin 69 A Sciascia 67) def St George 170 (C Singh

Final: Sutherland 147 (A Phillips 84 S Bidwell-Brown 4/37 S Hurworth
3/40) & 9/98 (C Greenberg 4/26 S Bidwell-Brown 3/31) def Randwick
Petersham 123 (T Griffiths 43 D Simpson 4/37 D Crawford 3/26) &
4(dec)144 (A Sciascia 77) at Coogee.

THE SHERWOOD CUP - FIFTH GRADE

The David Sherwood Cup was won by Minor Premiers Fairfield-
Liverpool for the first time ever, by defeating Sutherland in the Final. For
the Premiers Terry Kennedy scored 545 runs and took 32 wickets, and
captain Jason Gynn took 34 wickets. Adrian Stewart was the competition's
leading bowler with 39 wickets. The competition's leading batsman was
Sutherland's Knut Wilmott (699 runs), while Penrith's Tim Cummins
(30 dismissals) was its leading wicket-keeper.

Fairfield-Liverpool was untroubled in reaching the Final, comfortably
defeating Campbelltown-Camden and Gordon in its Qualifying Final and
Semi-Final respectively. Sutherland’s path to the Final was not as smooth,
having to defend just 157 against Gordon, then making hard work of
chasing Randwick-Petersham’s 131 in a Semi-Final.

In the Final, it seemed Sutherland had all but secured victory after
taking a first-innings lead. However the Lions, led by captain Jason Gynn,
mounted a remarkable final-day comeback. A quick-fire second innings
gave Fairfield-Liverpool a lead of only 130 runs, but time enough to apply
sustained pressure to Sutherland. The Sharks, seeking to bat out the few
remaining overs, crumbled to be all out for just 67. Lions wicketkeeper
Scott Gaal (5/10) starred with the ball, to seal an extraordinary match
taking a first-innings lead. However the Lions, led by captain Jason Gynn,
who was presented with the Shane Lee Medal for Player of the Match after taking 3/21 from 10
overs.

Table: St George 49, Penrith 39, Campbelltown-Camden, Sydney
University 36, Western Suburbs 35, Sutherland 31, Manly-Warringah
28, UTS Balmain 19, Northern District, University of NSW, Parramatta,
Mosman, Fairfield-Liverpool, North Sydney 13, Bankstown, Blacktown
12, Hawkesbury 9, Eastern Suburbs, Randwick-Petersham 6.

Semi-Finals: St George 1/183 (S Cazzulino 90 P Wells 87) def Sydney
University 182 (B Carey 39 B Larkin 37 W Hay 36 S Dean 47) at
Hurstville; Campbelltown-Camden 193 (J Phathanak 45 P McKell
T McKay 43) def Penrith 106 (T McKay 47 D Harding 41) at Howell.

Final: St George 2/91 (S Cazzulino 46no) def Campbelltown-Camden 90
(N Glynn 30 C MacDougal 3/3 S Dean 3/18 B Small 2/31) at Hurstville.

THE POIDEVIN-GRAY SHIELD (U/21)

Undefeated Minor Premiers St George won the Poidevin-Gray Shield for
the third time in the past four seasons, and 15th time overall, defeating
Campbelltown-Camden in the Final. For the Premiers, Steven Cazzulino
(434 runs) was the competition's leading batsman, while team-mate Sean
Dean took 14 wickets. Western Suburbs' Simon Watson (16 wickets) was
the competition's most successful bowler, and UTS Balmain's Nicholas Bull
(15 catches and 2 stumpings) its leading wicketkeeper.

St George, boasting seven players with First Grade experience, easily
accounted for Sydney University in a Semi-Final, passing the Students' 182
for the loss of only one wicket and with 17.1 overs to spare. In the Final,
Campbelltown-Camden could only muster 90 batting first, with Chris
MacDougal, Sean Dean and Brendon Small each taking three wickets. In
reply, St George started disastrously, losing 2/5. Steven Cazzulino (46*) and
Mark Stoneman (27*) then combined for an unbeaten 86-run partnership to
steer their team to victory. St George paceman Brendon Small won the
Shane Lee Medal for Player of the Match after taking 3/21 from 10
overs.

Table: St George 49, Penrith 39, Campbelltown-Camden, Sydney
University 36, Western Suburbs 35, Sutherland 31, Manly-Warringah
28, UTS Balmain Gordon 19, Northern District, University of NSW,
Parramatta, Mosman, Fairfield-Liverpool, North Sydney 13, Bankstown,
Blacktown 12, Hawkesbury 9, Eastern Suburbs, Randwick-Petersham 6.

Semi-Finals: St George 1/183 (S Cazzulino 90 P Wells 87) def Sydney
University 182 (B Carey 39 B Larkin 37 W Hay 36 S Dean 54) at
Hurstville; Campbelltown-Camden 193 (J Phathanak 45 P McKell
T McKay 43) def Penrith 106 (T McKay 47 D Harding 41) at Howell.

Final: St George 2/91 (S Cazzulino 46no) def Campbelltown-Camden 90
(N Glynn 30 C MacDougal 3/3 S Dean 3/18 B Small 2/31) at Hurstville.

2006/07 Poidevin Gray Shield Champion, St George.
AW GREEN SHIELD (U/16)

Minor Premiers Campbelltown-Camden won the AW Green Shield for the third consecutive season, and for the fourth time overall, by defeating Manly-Warringah in the Final. For the Premiers, James Broadbent (291 runs and 31 dismissals) was the competition's leading wicketkeeper, while team-mate Ben Bourke (27 wickets) was the competition’s most successful bowler. Manly-Warringah’s Jarrod Walter (445 runs) was the competition’s leading batsman.

The competition was one of the most closely-contested ever, with nine teams separated by just one win after the seven preliminary rounds. Campbelltown-Camden earned the Minor Premiership by virtue of its superior net run-rate over four other teams. In contrast, Northern District, Sydney University and Sutherland each failed to qualify for the final series owing only to their inferior net run-rate.

Each Qualifying Final and Semi-Final match was hard-fought. In the Final, Manly-Warringah was unable to mount a challenge as Campbelltown-Camden dominated from the match’s first over. Campbelltown-Camden’s Nathan Brain was awarded the Kevin Cunningham Medal for Player of the Match with bowling figures of 4/9 from 10 overs.

Table: Campbelltown-Camden, Manly-Warringah, Penrith, Fairfield-Liverpool, St George 36, Bankstown, Northern District, Sydney University, Sutherland 30, Gordon 24, Parramatta, Western Suburbs, Randwick-Petersham 18, University of NSW, Hawkesbury 12, Eastern Suburbs, North Sydney 6, Blacktown, Mosman, UTS Balmain 0.


O’REILLY MEDAL- PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Fairfield-Liverpool and SpeedBlitz Blues all-rounder, Grant Lambert, won Grade cricket’s most prestigious individual award, the O’Reilly Medal for Player of the Year, his third Medal in 10 seasons. The title carries a gold medallion and a prize of $2,000, and is voted on by umpires at each First Grade match.

Lambert polled 26 points to take the award by seven points from 2004/05 winner Jarrad Burke (Pen). Lambert’s successful season included a record 1,527 runs at a Bradman-like average of 95.44, with six centuries and five half-centuries, including a highest score of 206. He also took 46 wickets at 21 runs apiece. Eastern Suburbs and SpeedBlitz Blues all-rounder Aaron O’Brien polled third with 18 points.

Leading players were: 26 pts Grant Lambert (FL); 19 Jarrad Burke (Pen); 18 Aaron O’Brien (ES); 17 Brett van Deinsen (Ban) Matthew Daykin (ND); 16 Nathan Hauritz (RP) Stewart Heaney (StG); 14 Danny Waugh (Ban) Shane Mott (Haw) Nathan Ball (UTSB).
LEADING FIRST GRADE PLAYERS

**MOST RUNS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Runs</th>
<th>AVE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Grant Lambert (FL)</td>
<td>1,527</td>
<td>95.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg Mail (SU)</td>
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<td>64.47</td>
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<td>Steve Smith (Suc)</td>
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**MOST WICKETS**

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<tr>
<td>Shane Mott (Haw)</td>
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<td>Don Nash (Bla)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nathan Ball (UTSB)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant Lambert (FL)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trent Copeland (StG)</td>
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<td>Anthony Clark (FL)</td>
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<td>Cameron Eve (Mos)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tim Lang (UNSW)</td>
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<td>19.55</td>
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**MOST WICKETKEEPING DISMISSALS**

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<td>Russell Wilcoxon (FL)</td>
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<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Hearm (Par)</td>
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CAPTAIN OF THE YEAR

Fairfield-Liverpool’s Anthony Clark was named Captain of the Year, an award voted on by umpires at each First Grade match. The title carries a prize of $500.

Leading captains were: 8.42 points average Anthony Clark (FL); 8.41 Nick Berry (ES); 8.12 Col Barry (WS); 8.00 Vaughan Williams (Haw); 7.89 Adam McNamara (StG); 7.84 Ryan Nelson (ND).

This award was again made for each lower grade, with leading team captains as follows:

Second Grade: 8.38 points average Mark Grant (Ban); 8.33 Mark McInnes (MW); 8.25 Neil Maxwell (UTSB); 8.20 Rodney Stafford (RP); 8.15 Steve Musgrave (ES).

Third Grade: 8.29 Adam Park (Pen); Hamish Solomons (StG); 7.92 Matthew Kelly (Gor); 7.91 Daniel Bowcock (UNSW); 7.83 Andrew Kemmis (MW).

Fourth Grade: 8.33 David Wilson (StG); 8.21 David Townsend (RP); 8.08 Derek Arnberger (Pen); 8.07 Geoff Tucker (MW); 8.00 Mick Mag (UNSW).

Fifth Grade: 8.21 Ian Russell (Pen); 8.08 David Gray (Gor); 8.00 Jon Orme (UTSB); 7.70 Simon Lyon (MW); 7.62 Jason Gynn (FL).

TORO GROUNDS OF THE YEAR

For the third consecutive season, Hurstville Oval was assessed by officiating umpires to be the First Grade Ground of the Year, an achievement for which groundsman Adam Lewis and his staff were awarded $1,200. The Association also awarded $500 each to David Jepp (runner-up, Village Green), Warwick Starr (third place, Bankstown Oval) and John Cunningham (Lower Grade Ground of the Year, Bensons Lane 3).

Leading First Grade grounds: 229.00 points aggregate Hurstville Oval (StG); 219.60 Village Green (UNSW); 217.60 Bankstown Oval (Ban); 217.15 Waitara Oval (ND); 207.75 Manly Oval (MW).

Leading Lower Grade grounds: 8.99 points average Bensons Lane 3 (Haw); 8.82 Coogee Oval (RP); 8.73 Tunks Park (NS); 8.50 Grath someday Oval (Ban); 8.41 North Sydney 2 (NS).
Fourteen clubs contested the Shires competition in 2006/07 with Holroyd-Hills renaming itself to North West Sydney. The four grades, along with the Frank Gray Shield comprised the Club Championship.

**THE DAVID TRIBOLET TROPHY – CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP**

Burwood Briars claimed their fifth consecutive Club Championship, and their 15th title overall, by a clear margin of 175 points from South Sydney, Lane Cove and Auburn. The eventual winner overtook early pace-setter Auburn after Round 7, then maintained its lead for the remainder of the season.

Table: Burwood Briars 1348, South Sydney 1173, Lane Cove 1100, Auburn 1050, Macquarie University 980, Pennant Hills 883, North West Sydney 878, Warringah 877, Strathfield 751, Lindfield 740, Roseville 640, Epping 519, Southern Districts 448, Georges River 282

**THE RB CLARK CUP – FIRST GRADE**

South Sydney won the RB Clark Cup for the third time overall and the first time since 2000/01, by defeating minor premiers Pennant Hills in the Final. Premiership captain Richard Chee Quee (757 runs) was the competition’s leading batsman in his first season of Shires cricket. Team mates Shane Pargeter (689 runs and 29 wickets), Shannon Lane (583 runs), Michael Chee Quee (552 runs), Grant Parmenter (42 wickets) and Brad Guthrie (41 wickets) all enjoyed successful seasons, while Ian Ebbink (49 dismissals) was the competition’s leading wicket-keeper. Pennant Hill’s Kish Nadesan was the competition’s most successful bowler with 45 wickets.

South Sydney First Grade Captain, Richard Chee Quee.

The most improved club from the previous season was Strathfield who climbed from 10th to fourth while Warringah dropped from second in 2005/06 to 11th in 2006/07.

Table: Pennant Hills 76, South Sydney 74, Lane Cove 67, Strathfield 66, Burwood 56, Auburn 51, Roseville 41, North West Sydney 37, Epping 36, Macquarie University 34, Warringah 28, Lindfield 18, Georges River 6, Southern Districts 0.

Qualifying Finals: Pennant Hills 253 def Auburn 240 at Pennant Hills 1; South Sydney 5/103 drew Burwood Briars 8(dec)154 at Alan Davidson; Strathfield 4/129 def Lane Cove 87 and 4/56 at Tantallon.

Semi-Finals: Pennant Hills 4/242 drew with Lane Cove 236 at Pennant Hills 1; Strathfield 4(dec)254 drew with South Sydney 6/129 at Alan Davidson.

Final: South Sydney 7(dec)272 def Pennant Hills 220 at George Parry.

**SHIRES PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

The Shires Player of the Year award, introduced in 1993/94 and based on umpires’ assessments, again generated considerable interest within the First Grade competition. This season’s award was won by South Sydney’s Shane Pargeter.

The leading players were: 15 points: Shane Pargeter (SS); 13: Cameron Watson (Aub), Kris Griffiths-Jones (MU), Kish Nadesan (PH), Richard Chee Quee (SS); 12: Ian Wheatley (Epp)

**SHIRES CAPTAIN OF THE YEAR**

The Captain of the Year award was introduced to the First Grade competition in 2001/02 to recognise the important role that team captains play in the success of that competition. This season’s award, based on umpires’ assessments, was presented to Ian Wheatley (Epp).

Leading captains were: 8.31 points average: Ian Wheatley (Epp); 8.08: Richard Chee Quee (SS), Adrian McCaffrey (PH); 7.92: Phil Marks (War), Damian Naughton (LC), Kris Griffith-Jones (MU).

**SPIRIT OF CRICKET AWARD**

In 2003/04, Cricket Australia established a series of awards in interstate and club cricket across Australia to promote the Spirit of Cricket, encouraging cricketers at all levels to play within both the Laws, and the Spirit of the game. Officiating umpires and opposing team captains assessed every team in every match, according to its support for the Spirit of Cricket’s values. This season’s award-winner was Warringah.

Leading clubs were: 2.59 points average: Warringah; 2.58: Epping, Lindfield; 2.44 Georges River; 2.36: Lane Cove.

**SHIRES UMPIRE OF THE YEAR**

This season’s Umpire of the Year was Chris Taylor, a member of the Sydney Shires Cricket Umpires’ Association (SSCUA). The SSCUA provide accredited officials to Shires competition matches. The captains assess them on their performances each week to determine the Umpire of the Year.

**SHIRES GROUND OF THE YEAR**

The Ground of the Year was George Parry Oval in Auburn, formerly known as Mona Park 1.

Leading grounds were: 8.44 points average: George Parry (Aub); 8.36: Tantallon Oval (LC); 7.86: Alan Davidson Oval (SS); 7.79: Rothwell Park (BB).
THE SJ MAYNE TROPHY - SECOND GRADE

Minor premiers Burwood Briars won the SJ Mayne Trophy for the 15th time, and the first time since 2002/03, by defeating Warringah in the Final. For the premiers Wayne Grimson (592 runs), Paul Simpson (543 runs) David Willis (485 runs), Gerard Price (28 wickets) and Scott Brennan (26 dismissals) enjoyed successful seasons. Linfield’s Phillip Gillard (751 runs) was the competition’s leading batsman and Warringah’s Hunter Drew (42 wickets) its most successful bowler. South Sydney’s Michael Cooper (38 dismissals) was the leading wicketkeeper.

Table: Burwood Briars 73, Warringah 68, North West Sydney 61, Lindfield 55, Auburn 54, South Sydney 48, Lane Cove 44, Macquarie University 37, Pennant Hills 32, Strathfield 31, Epping 28, Southern Districts 13, Roseville Georges River 12.

Qualifying Finals: Burwood Briars 177 def South Sydney 156 at Rothwell; Warringah 6/176 def Auburn 168 at Manly; Lindfield 8(dec)194 drew with North West Sydney 6/143 at Castlewood.

Semi-Finals: Lindfield 9(dec)260 drew with Burwood Briars 7/210 at Rothwell; North West Sydney 174 drew with Warringah 0/17 at Weldon.

Final: Burwood Briars 123 and 3/87 def Warringah 53 at Tantallon.

FRANK GRAY SHIELD COMPETITION (U/23)

After appearing in four of the past five finals, minor premiers Lane Cove won the title for the first time ever by defeating Auburn in the Final. For the premiers captain Damian Naughton (a record 535 runs and 16 wickets) was the competition’s leading batsman while Matt Mackenzie (217 runs and a record 29 wickets) was its most successful bowler. Burwood Briars’ Andrew Jalalatay and Strathfield’s Patrick Bolster were the competition’s leading wicketkeepers with 12 dismissals each.

Table: Lane Cove 52, Macquarie University 34, Southern Districts 33, Georges River Auburn 30, Strathfield 29, Lindfield 27, Burwood Briars 21, Epping 19, Warringah 15, South Sydney 12, Pennant Hills 9, Roseville 7, North West Sydney 0

Qualifying Finals: Lane Cove 8/119 def Strathfield 117 at Tantallon; Auburn 216 def Macquarie University 75 at University; Georges River 185 def Southern Districts 182 at Greenway.

Semi-Finals: Macquarie University 5/88 drew with Lane Cove at Tantallon; Auburn 4/115 def Georges River 114 at Lance Hutchinson.

Final: Lane Cove 4/170 def Auburn 169 at Airey

THE HARRY CULBERT TROPHY - FOURTH GRADE

South Sydney won the Harry Culbert Trophy for the fourth time in the past five seasons by defeating minor premiers Macquarie University in the Final. For the Premiers, captain Andrew Toohey (886 runs), Craig Pentecost (482 runs) and Joe Duffy (27 wickets) enjoyed successful seasons. Roseville’s Paul Mulvany (663 runs) was the competition’s leading batsman with Macquarie University’s Chris Anstiss (27 dismissals) its most successful wicketkeeper.

Table: Burwood Briars 83, South Sydney 60, North West Sydney 57, Lane Cove 54, Macquarie University 50, Auburn Warringah 48, Southern Districts 47, Lindfield 36, Roseville 27, Pennant Hills 18, Strathfield, Epping, Georges River 12.

Qualifying Finals: Burwood Briars 163 def Auburn 59 at St Lukes; Macquarie University 162 def South Sydney 56 at George Parry; Lane Cove 167 def North West Sydney 138 at Lance Hutchinson.

Semi Finals: Burwood Briars 6/249 drew with South Sydney at St Lukes; Lane Cove 5/135 def Macquarie University 134 at Tantallon.

Final: Burwood Briars 9/207 def Lane Cove 204 at Alan Davidson.

J B HOLANDER TROPHY – THIRD GRADE

Burwood Briars won the J B Hollander Trophy for the fourth consecutive season by defeating Lane Cove in the Final. For the premiers Michael Towells (47 wickets) was the competition’s leading bowler while Jackie Jardim (421 runs and 24 dismissals) also enjoyed a successful season. Roseville’s Paul Mulvany (663 runs) was the competition’s leading batsman with Macquarie University’s Chris Anstiss (27 dismissals) its most successful wicketkeeper.

Table: Burwood Briars 83, South Sydney 60, North West Sydney 57, Lane Cove 54, Macquarie University 50, Auburn Warringah 48, Southern Districts 47, Lindfield 36, Roseville 27, Pennant Hills 18, Strathfield, Epping, Georges River 12.

Qualifying Finals: Burwood Briars 163 def Auburn 59 at St Lukes; Macquarie University 162 def South Sydney 56 at George Parry; Lane Cove 167 def North West Sydney 138 at Lance Hutchinson.

Semi Finals: Burwood Briars 6/249 drew with South Sydney at St Lukes; Lane Cove 5/135 def Macquarie University 134 at Tantallon.

Final: Burwood Briars 9/207 def Lane Cove 204 at Alan Davidson.

THE FRANK GRAY SHIELD – FIRST GRADE

For the premiers Wayne Grimson (592 runs), Paul Simpson (543 runs) David Willis (485 runs), Gerard Price (28 wickets) and Scott Brennan (26 dismissals) enjoyed successful seasons. Linfield’s Phillip Gillard (751 runs) was the competition’s leading batsman and Warringah’s Hunter Drew (42 wickets) its most successful bowler. South Sydney’s Michael Cooper (38 dismissals) was the leading wicketkeeper.

Table: Burwood Briars 73, Warringah 68, North West Sydney 61, Lindfield 55, Auburn 54, South Sydney 48, Lane Cove 44, Macquarie University 37, Pennant Hills 32, Strathfield 31, Epping 28, Southern Districts 13, Roseville Georges River 12.

Qualifying Finals: Burwood Briars 177 def South Sydney 156 at Rothwell; Warringah 6/176 def Auburn 168 at Manly; Lindfield 8(dec)194 drew with North West Sydney 6/143 at Castlewood.

Semi-Finals: Lindfield 9(dec)260 drew with Burwood Briars 7/210 at Rothwell; North West Sydney 174 drew with Warringah 0/17 at Weldon.

Final: Burwood Briars 123 and 3/87 def Warringah 53 at Tantallon.

THE HARRY CULBERT TROPHY - FOURTH GRADE

South Sydney won the Harry Culbert Trophy for the fourth time in the past five seasons by defeating minor premiers Macquarie University in the Final. For the Premiers, captain Andrew Toohey (886 runs), Craig Pentecost (482 runs) and Joe Duffy (27 wickets) enjoyed successful seasons. Roseville’s Usman Qureshi (826 runs) was the competition’s leading batsman and Warringah’s Hunter Drew (42 wickets) its most successful bowler. South Sydney’s Michael Cooper (38 dismissals) was the leading wicketkeeper.

Table: Burwood Briars 83, South Sydney 60, North West Sydney 57, Lane Cove 54, Macquarie University 50, Auburn Warringah 48, Southern Districts 47, Lindfield 36, Roseville 27, Pennant Hills 18, Strathfield, Epping, Georges River 12.

Qualifying Finals: Burwood Briars 163 def Auburn 59 at St Lukes; Macquarie University 162 def South Sydney 56 at George Parry; Lane Cove 167 def North West Sydney 138 at Lance Hutchinson.

Semi Finals: Burwood Briars 6/249 drew with South Sydney at St Lukes; Lane Cove 5/135 def Macquarie University 134 at Tantallon.

Final: Burwood Briars 9/207 def Lane Cove 204 at Alan Davidson.

Frank Gray Shield Player of the Year

This award was introduced in 2004/05 with the winner decided by umpire assessments carried out during the year. The winner of the 2006/07 award was Lane Cove’s Damien Naughton, who polled 13 points out of a possible 21, including three man-of-the-match performances. He scored a competition-record 535 runs at an average of 107, including a highest score of 96. He also took 16 wickets at an average of 10.44.

Leading players were: 13 points: Damien Naughton (Lane Cove); 11: Rob Brindle (War); 10: Chris Hart (BB) Colin Cheer (GR); 9: Matthew Treloar (Aub) Prashant Rai (MU) Louis Hanna (MU).

Lane Cove’s Tim Naughton receives the Frank Gray Shield from Cricket NSW CEO, David Gilbert.

FRANK GRAY SHIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

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In 2006/07 the Women’s competition comprised 27 teams from three open grades and the Brewer Shield (U/17). This represented a slight reduction in numbers on the previous season however, on a positive note, forfeits became virtually non-existent. In addition, the same 10 clubs which participated in the 2005/06 season also entered teams in the 2006/07 competition.

The reduced overall competition size was most evident in the lower grades, resulting in Third Grade and Fourth Grade being combined into one, seven-team competition. The Brewer Shield had one fewer team than the previous season. However this provided a good fit with the competition’s reduced nature enabling its Final to be played in December, prior to the start of the NSWDCCA’s girls representative competitions.

The number of First Grade and Second Grade teams remained steady at six and ten respectively. Both Campbelltown-Camden and Northern District were able to consolidate and improve their Second Grade playing strength to the point where both clubs now intend to enter a First Grade team in 2007/08. This will enable both First and Second Grade to become eight-team competitions.

For the first time in several seasons the First Grade and Second Grade competition Finals were staged on adjacent grounds at Raby No 1 and Raby No 2 in Campbelltown. This concept worked very well, in creating a carnival atmosphere and sizeable crowds were on hand to watch both games.

At the end of the season, the Women’s Competition Sub-Committee held a Recruitment and Development Forum with representatives from the NSWDCCA and Cricket NSW’s Community Cricket Department. The Forum was extremely positive and the initiatives it generated, together with increased funding, should see all clubs build in strength for the coming season.

SPIRIT OF CRICKET AWARD
Campbelltown-Camden was the winner of this award in 2006/07. Officiating umpires and opposing team captains again assessed each team’s support during each match for the Spirit of Cricket, as set out in the Preamble to the Laws of Cricket.

BOB CURTIN MEMORIAL UMPIRES’ AWARD
Northern District’s Claire Jones was the winner of this award, named by the Sydney Women’s Cricket Umpires Association after long serving member, Bob Curtin, who passed away this season.

This award is based on points awarded by umpires in every match, with the award’s winner being the player across all grades who polls the most votes.

MEDIA AWARD
Vera Bertola of the Macarthur Chronicle and Brett Cox from the Hornsby and Upper North Shore Advocate were declared joint winners of this award, which was established in 2005/06.

THE ANN MITCHELL SHIELD – CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP
St George-Sutherland claimed its third consecutive Club Championship, finishing 314 points ahead of UTS Balmain with Bankstown finishing third.

Table: St George-Sutherland 1108, UTS Balmain 794, Bankstown 734, Northern District 652, Gordon 423, Campbelltown-Camden 347, Wallsend 340, Universities 274, Penrith 196, Parramatta 54.

THE RUTH PREDDY TROPHY - FIRST GRADE
Premiers UTS Balmain had a fantastic season, taking out the minor premiership with 11 wins, one tie and one loss. They progressed directly to the Final where they played Bankstown, who had beaten defending Champions Wallsend in the Qualifying Final.

UTS Balmain prevailed by eight wickets in the Final. Wicketkeeper and opening batter Alyssa Healy (57*) guided her team home, while Julie Hayes (3/7) helped to restrict Bankstown to a modest total.

Table: UTS Balmain 80, Bankstown 69, Wallsend 52, St George-Sutherland 34, Gordon 27, Universities 20.


Final: UTS Balmain 2/100 (A Healy 57no L Coleman 32) def Bankstown 98 (C Hall 30 J Hayes 3/7) at Raby 1.

AWARDS
Kingsgrove Sports Centre Player of the Year: Charlotte Anneveld (Gordon), 367 runs @ 33.36, 20 wickets @ 19.05.

Batting Aggregate: Bronwyn Calver (Gordon), 490 runs

Batting Average: Elyse Perry (UTS Balmain), 61.00

Bowling Aggregate and Average: Rene Farrell (UTS Balmain), 23 wickets @ 13.22

Christina Matthews Shield for Leading Wicketkeeper: Jenny Wallace (Wallsend), 15 dismissals

SECOND GRADE COMPETITION
Minor premiers St George-Sutherland took out the Premiership by defeating Northern District Gold in the Final by four wickets. It capped off a remarkable season in which they lost only one of their preliminary round matches. Sam Dillon led her side to victory in the Final with a top score of 51, while for Northern District Gold Rebecca Gray scored an unbeaten 49.
Table: St George-Sutherland 107, Northern District Gold 71, Campbelltown-Camden 68, Bankstown 56, Northern District 50, Penrith 49, UTS Balmain 43, Gordon 27, Wallsend 20, Universities 0.

Semi-Finals: St George Sutherland 7/192 (N Carey 39, H Williams 30, M Penman 3/26) def Bankstown 121 (K Abbott 44, D Elrick 2/17) at Tonkin; Northern District Gold drew with Campbelltown-Camden at Waitara Oval no play.

Final: St George-Sutherland 6/128 (S Dillon 51, K Spurway 3/18) def Northern District Gold 4/127 (R Gray 49no, J Cooper 2/9) at Raby 2.

Awards

Kingsgrove Sports Centre Player of the Year:
Sarah Coyte (Campbelltown-Camden), 933 points, 498 runs @ 62.25, 12 wickets @ 10.25

Batting Aggregate:
Sarah Beard (Campbelltown-Camden), 543 runs

Batting Average:
Sam Dillon (St George-Sutherland), 86.00

Bowling Aggregate and Average:
Di Elrick (St George-Sutherland), 30 wickets @ 6.20

Leading Wicketkeeper:
Sophie Tomarchio (Campbelltown-Camden), 14 dismissals

THIRD GRADE COMPETITION

Going through undefeated, Minor Premiers St George-Sutherland I secured consecutive Third Grade premierships by defeating UTS Balmain in the Final by seven wickets. Belinda Griggs (50no) starred for St George Sutherland with the bat, while the win was set up by the bowling displays of Sue Wymer (4/19) and Donna McCammond (3/10).

Table: St George Sutherland I 106, UTS Balmain 74, St George Sutherland 2 64, Universities 58, Bankstown 53, Northern District 24, Parramatta 18.

Semi-Finals: Northern District Gold drew with Campbelltown-Camden at Waitara Oval no play.

Final: St George Sutherland I 3/87 (B Griggs 50no) def UTS Balmain 9/86 (SWymer 4/19 D McCammond 3/10) at Sutherland.

Awards

Kingsgrove Sports Centre Player of the Year:
Belinda Griggs (St George-Sutherland), 726 points, 436 runs @ 109.00

Batting Aggregate and Average:
Belinda Griggs, 436 runs @ 109.00

Bowling Aggregate:
Mary Johnston (UTS Balmain) and Donna McCammond (St George-Sutherland), 19 wickets

Bowling Average:
Mary Johnston, 5.84

Leading Wicketkeeper:
Charlene Grant (UTS Balmain), 5 dismissals

BREWERS SHIELD (U/17) COMPETITION

Gordon went through the nine preliminary rounds and Final undefeated to win this competition for the first time. They were pushed hard in the Final by Northern District, claiming victory in just the third-last over of the match. For Gordon, Nicole Shaw (22) and Joanna Lawson (20) were handy contributors with the bat, whilst Northern District’s Bianca Lowe took 3/7. Wu-Kwan Wong (32no) led the run-chase for Northern District, but ultimately her team finished 12 runs short of victory thanks to Nicole Shaw’s 2/24.

Table: Gordon 60, Northern District 32, Campbelltown-Camden 25, Bankstown 2.

Final: Gordon 7/135 (N Shaw 22, J Lawson 20, B Lowe 3/7) def Northern District 124 (W Wong 32no, N Shaw 2/24) at Chatswood.

Awards

The Trish Langsford Trophy, Player of the Year:
Lauren Tovey (Campbelltown-Camden), 50 points, 170 runs and 8 dismissals

Batting Aggregate and Leading Wicketkeeper:
Lauren Tovey, 170 runs and 8 dismissals

Batting Average:
Nicole Shaw (Gordon), 40.00

Bowling Aggregate:
Cassie McDonaugh, 15 wickets

Bowling Average:
Keely McKenzie, 2.00

TWENTY20 COMPETITION

The Women’s Competition Sub-Committee introduced a Twenty20 Competition this season. Matches were held whenever the First and Second Grade competitions were in recess for the WNCL. Ten teams entered the inaugural competition which was conducted in two pools with a cross-over last round to determine final placings.

In the Final, St George-Sutherland scored an impressive 6/122, thanks mainly to an excellent innings by Kath Kosschel (61). Wallsend managed only 9/101 in reply with Rosie Birch (35) and Beth Morgan (3/16) performing well.

Table: (Pool A) Wallsend Bears 24, UTS Balmain 19, Bankstown 15, Northern District 4, Gordon 0; (Pool B) St George Sutherland 24, Campbelltown-Camden 18, Universities 13, Wallsend Cubs 8, Penrith 6.

Final: St George Sutherland 6/122 (K Kosschel 61 S Dillon 20) def Wallsend Bears 9/101 (R Birch 35 B Morgan 3/16) at ELS Hall.
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The NSW Indigenous team finally won the Imparja Cup after finishing runners-up for the last three years.

The 2006/07 tournament was held in Alice Springs from the 14-18 February 2007. Teams played five round matches consisting of two Twenty20 fixtures and three 40 overs-per-side matches. The top two sides qualified for the 50 overs-per-side final.

NSW finished the preliminary rounds in second place. Their only loss came in Round Four against Queensland, the team they would eventually meet in the Final.

Queensland batted first in the decider, finishing their 50 overs at 9/162. Bowling his first spell for the tournament, John Duckett was the best of the NSW bowlers with 3/26 while Andrew Gordon took 3/39.

NSW lost early wickets in their chase and when captain Jeff Cook was dismissed the side was reeling at 3/25. Promoted to number three after an injury to Cameron Rosser, Corey Wright held the innings together with an astute 33 however his wicket fell with 90 runs still needing for victory.

Rosser eventually came to crease at number six. He went on to score crucial 42 not out from 69 balls to guide his team to a two wicket victory.

This innings capped off an outstanding tournament for Rosser, who also scored a century (105 not out) against Victoria in round one. He reached his ton in a spectacular fashion, smashing five consecutive sixes in the last over.

Cameron Rosser, John Duckett, Josh Lalor, Farren Lamb and manager Peter Cooley later represented the Australian Indigenous XI at the ICC’s Top End Cup.


AWARDS
Australian Indigenous XI: Cameron Rosser, John Duckett, Josh Lalor, Farren Lamb, Peter Cooley (Manager)

2007 Imparja Cup Honour Squad: Cameron Rosser, John Duckett
2007 National Indigenous Development Squad: Ryan Bulger (captain), Joshua Lalor, Farren Lamb, Cameron Rosser, Peter Cooley (Manager)

GAME SCORES
Round 1: vs Victoria (Twenty20)
NSW 4/178 (C Rosser 105no, J Duckett 34) def Vic 4/92 (F Lamb 2/17 J Lalor) by 86 runs

Round 2: vs South Australia (Twenty20)
NSW 5/84 (J Cook 30no) def SA 6/83 (F Lamb 2/14 A Gordon 2/14) by 5 wickets

Round 3: vs Northern Territory (40 overs)
NSW 7/242 (J Duckett 51 C Rosser 49 A Gordon 40) def NT 121 (A Gordon 3/15 J Manning-Bancroft 2/26 F Lamb 2/43)

Round 4: vs Queensland (40 overs)
Qld 8/194 (A Gordon 2/37 T Madams 2/24) def NSW 9/193 (C Rosser 74no J Lalor 27) by 2 wickets

Round 5: vs ACT (40 overs)
NSW 2/158 (C Rosser 87no D Duroux 50) def ACT 9/157 (J Manning-Bancroft 2/40 C Wright 1/7) by 8 wickets

Final: vs Queensland (50 overs)
NSW 8/163 (C Rosser 42no, C Wright 33) def Qld 9/162 (J Duckett 3/26 A Gordon 3/39)
The Commercial Operations and Communications Department enjoyed a successful summer, with record levels of sponsorship and unprecedented interest in the Ashes series leading to a bumper International season.

The retirement of Glenn McGrath, Shane Warne and Justin Langer created an even bigger buzz around the Sydney Test Match. The SpeedBlitz Blues fought extremely hard in a challenging summer to make the Pura Cup Final, losing the decider to Tasmania. Unfortunately the defending title holders weren’t able to mount a successful defence of their one-day title. The NSW Breakers delivered, winning a tense WNCL Final Series 2-1 against Victoria. The on-field prowess of the SpeedBlitz Blues and NSW Breakers created tremendous interest around cricket in NSW, assisting the Department in many of its activities. The assistance of players and team management in promoting the game is greatly appreciated.

The Department itself underwent some changes with Sudesh Arudpragasam joining Cricket NSW from the NSW Institute of Sport in the newly created position of Corporate Communications Coordinator. Sudesh greatly enhanced the publications and websites of Cricket NSW and raised the profile of the NSW Breakers, serving as a full-time media contact for the squad. Marketing Assistant Scott Manley left Cricket NSW at the end of the season to travel overseas. Scott substantially lifted membership and income of the two main supporter clubs, The Blue Heelers and Davidson Room sponsored by Heinz. Australian Netball Captain Liz Ellis hosted the event and special guests included members of the NSW Breakers, seven time World Surfing Champion Layne Beachley, Australia’s greatest Paralympian, Louise Sauvage, as well as many other well known female personalities. Liz interviewed both NSW Breakers Coach Lisa Keightley and Layne Beachley, and Chief Executive David Gilbert presented Layne with a bottle of 1998 Grange in recognition of the year she won the first of her seven World titles.

ATTENDANCE

The decision to engage Rugby League legend Andrew Johns in Twenty20 cricket proved a resounding success. Almost 30,000 fans came through the gates to watch the two home matches at Newcastle No. 1 Sportsground and Telstra Stadium. The initiative raised $10,000 for Andrew’s nominated charity, the Ronald McDonald House, and also introduced thousands of new fans to the game.

Johns had spectators and team-mates on the edge of their seats. Returning to the scene of his many Rugby League triumphs, his nine runs at Telstra Stadium was a show-stopper. Johns was a valuable addition to the side off-field, with many of the squad’s young players learning from his experiences as a sporting great.

Whilst attendance at the Ford Ranger Cup was down, interest in these matches was enhanced by the live coverage of the games by Fox Sports. Ratings grew through the season and the scheduling of day/night domestic one day fixtures each Wednesday on Fox provided great ratings and interest. The support of Ford in sponsoring this competition is greatly appreciated by Cricket NSW.

The Pura Cup competition was well supported during the 2006/07 season. One of the highlights was the match against Victoria, to mark the 150th Anniversary of First-Class cricket in NSW. Cricket NSW is grateful to National Foods for its support of this competition.

Congratulations and appreciation is extended to the Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust, Telstra Stadium, ACT Cricket Association, North Sydney Council, St George Cricket Club and Newcastle District Cricket Association who hosted fixtures this season.

Crowds at international fixtures increased significantly over the previous season. The interest generated by the Ashes series was unprecedented with Australia’s battle to reclaim the Ashes capturing the imagination. Tickets went on sale two months earlier than usual with all Test Match tickets sold out within two days. Once again, Cricket NSW in conjunction with Cricket Australia conducted theme days at the Test Match with Family and Ladies Day being held on Days Three and Four respectively.

Cricket NSW hosted its first ever International Twenty20 fixture which produced another sellout event. This match proved an outstanding success with the public clearly embracing the concept. To celebrate the Twenty20 fixture, Cricket NSW conducted a Ladies Night in the Alan Davidson Room sponsored by Heinz. Australian Netball Captain Liz Ellis hosted the event and special guests included members of the NSW Breakers, seven time World Surfing Champion Layne Beachley, Australia’s greatest Paralympian, Louise Sauvage, as well as many other well known female personalities. Liz interviewed both NSW Breakers Coach Lisa Keightley and Layne Beachley, and Chief Executive David Gilbert presented Layne with a bottle of 1998 Grange in recognition of the year she won the first of her seven World titles.

THE CRICKET CLUB

Cricket NSW launched its first ever cricket membership, “The Cricket Club”, which provided members with a guaranteed reserved seat in the Bradman Stand to all cricket matches at the SCG. This was a successful initiative managed in a joint venture by SEL and Insite. The Cricket Club membership also includes former players who mingle with club members during the season at post match functions. Improved catering areas and post match functions are a feature of the membership.

RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN – PLAYCRICKET.COM

Cricket NSW continued its highly successful player recruitment campaign – playcricket.com. This campaign, in conjunction with the enormously successful Ashes series, saw Cricket NSW maintain its high participation rates for the 2006/07 season. The campaign featured Michael Clarke, with a television commercial, press ads and bridge banners produced to support the campaign.

SPONSORSHIP

Cricket NSW achieved new levels in sponsorship, achieving over $1 million in cash sponsorships during the year. Cricket NSW’s Major Sponsor, the NSW Roads & Traffic Authority (RTA), continued to be at the forefront, being a leader in sport with the message of education for young drivers. Initiatives included the SpeedBlitz Blues Roadshows and promotions through the RTA website, speedblitz.com.

Highlights for the season included the signing of Fosters as Official Supplier of Alcoholic Beverages, Power Education as the sponsor of the Indoor Centre and High Performance programs and the signing of Classic Sportswear as the official apparel supplier.
Fairfax was a welcome addition to Cricket NSW’s existing media partners. They increased the coverage of Grade Cricket with a regular column every Tuesday throughout the season which included a progressive point score for the Bill O’Reilly Medal. The Fairfax agreement also included advertising and signage components.

Cricket NSW has an extensive sponsorship, supplier and partner program which enables our organisation to invest in the future of the game across NSW. Our gratitude is extended to all our sponsors, suppliers and partners who enable Cricket NSW to achieve its objectives.

CORPORATE HOSPITALITY

Cricket NSW exceeded budget for corporate hospitality during the season. Our official on-site hospitality provider, the SCG Trust, did an outstanding job in not only meeting but exceeding lofty targets that were set at the beginning of the year.

Corporate Sports Australia, Cricket NSW’s off-site hospitality partner entered into a new three year agreement which sees them providing off-site hospitality at the One Day International matches over that period.

Cricket NSW was able to generate in excess of $1.5 million from all of its hospitality programs and congratulates both the SCG Trust and Corporate Sports Australia for the great work they did during the year.

SIGNAGE AND ADVERTISING

An unprecedented $1.7M was generated through signage and advertising during the 2006/07 season. All above ground signage was sold out for the first time and our official agents, Moore Sports Advertising, are to be congratulated on the work they have done with our signage partners. Stadia Media also far exceeded expectations with maximum revenue achieved for perimeter fence and trivision signage.

SUPPORTER CLUBS

Our supporter clubs – the Doug Walters Club and Blue Heelers Club – are a vital part of cricket in this State, providing a strong link between our players and fans. The number of children signed up as members of the Blue Heelers Club increased to just under 3,000. The Doug Walters Club maintained its membership base for the 2006/07 season producing the highest funds raised for junior cricket ever achieved in the Club’s history.

The Test Match Luncheon continues to be the hallmark event for the Doug Walters Club members and for the corporate club members the highlight was undoubtedly the dinner and tour of the SpeedBlitz Blitz Blues dressing room. During this event, Coach Trevor Bayliss, Chief Executive David Gilbert and Doug Walters reminisced about their playing days and Trevor spoke about the modern day players. All money raised through the Doug Walters Club goes to the development of junior cricket via grants administered by the Community Cricket department.

COMMUNICATION

The exploits of SpeedBlitz Blues players received excellent coverage throughout the media.

Cricket NSW was able to once again increase the coverage of the SpeedBlitz Blues throughout the summer keeping our team firmly in the minds of cricket followers. The team’s performance in the Pura Cup and interest in our Australian contracted players ensured media interest remained high. Importantly, a number of our developing players like Beau Casson, Ed Cowan, Moises Henriques and Ben Rohrer were also in demand for feature stories and interviews. It was also pleasing to see an increase in the coverage that the NSW Breakers were able to generate.

A coordinated approach saw the Breakers players featured in the social pages of the Sun-Herald, as guests at the International Twenty20 Heinz Ladies Night Function.

Our biannual magazine “Go Blues” continued to focus on feature-based articles. Copies of the February edition of the magazine were also distributed at a Pura Cup match and were warmly received. A highlight of the year in terms of publications was the match programs. The programs were expanded to include a new-look Breakers program for home matches, which was similar in style and content to those produced for SpeedBlitz Blues’ Ford Ranger Cup matches. A commemorative program for the 150th Anniversary Pura Cup match was done in a historic design, including interviews with the eight players to play 100 matches and a list of all players to play First Class cricket for NSW.

The on-line newsletter continues to be an important component of our on-going communication with cricket fans and its membership once again increased. On-line members of nswblues.com receive regular updates or e-newsletters with information on match fixtures, promotions and the latest news from the SpeedBlitz Blues and NSW Breakers.

Cricket NSW continues to refine and improve its websites, nswblues.com and cricketnsw.com.au. Hits on these sites once again increased, illustrating the importance of continuing the investment in the online capacity of the Association.

Christina Matthews
Manager, Commercial Operations and Communication
The RTA has been the major sponsor of Cricket NSW and the naming rights sponsor to the SpeedBlitz Blues since 2002.

During the season a group of cricket enthusiasts from Manilla, in regional NSW, won the opportunity to play a match against the SpeedBlitz Blues at the SCG after winning the major prize in the RTA’s website promotion, SpeedBlitz Cricket – a competition which delivered road safety messages within the format of an online cricket game.

The RTA’s sponsorship continues to drive the message, specifically to young male drivers, that speed is great on the field but not on the road.

Coca-Cola Amatil has continued to support cricket in the State as the official supplier of non-alcoholic beverages to Cricket NSW.

Coke’s involvement also extends to the grass roots level with exclusive supply rights at all SCA Grade and Shires club facilities.

Season 2006/07 was the inaugural summer of Power Education’s association with Cricket NSW.

Power Education are the major sponsor of Cricket NSW’s High Performance programs including the Emerging Blues, Emerging Breakers and the underage State teams. Power’s involvement also includes the naming rights to Cricket NSW’s state of the art indoor complex – The Power Education Indoor Centre.

Ford has been the official automotive partner of Cricket NSW for the past three seasons.

Their continued support of the Ford Volunteers Program has played an important role in the in the growth of the program in recent years. There are currently 10,000 registered volunteers in NSW.

During the 2006/07 season, the Fosters Group were appointed the official alcoholic beverage supplier of Cricket NSW, the SpeedBlitz Blues, the NSW Breakers, Country Cricket NSW, NSW District Cricket Association and the Sydney Cricket Association.

In an exciting partnership that extends until the end of the 2011 summer, the sponsorship provides Fosters with naming rights to the NSW Breakers. From the 2007/08 season, the team will be known as the Wolf Blass Breakers.

Fairfax came on board last year as a media partner to Cricket NSW until the 2008/09 season, with the Sydney Morning Herald and Sun Herald becoming the official newspapers of Cricket NSW.

The partnership provides Cricket NSW with substantial advertising opportunities never experienced before including a season long promotion that gave readers the chance to win tickets to the 3 mobile Ashes Test Match in Sydney or a corporate box to the Commonwealth Bank Final simply by cutting out a coupon and taking them to any SpeedBlitz Blues Ford Ranger Cup match.

About to enter into its 7th year as a sponsor of Cricket NSW, Kookaburra Sport is the Major Sponsor of the Blue Heelers Club - the junior supporter club of the SpeedBlitz Blues.

Kookaburra also hold the exclusive cricket ball supply rights to the NSW District Cricket Association and preferred cricket ball supply rights to the Sydney Cricket Association.
Custom Fleet have been providing community support vehicles to Cricket NSW since 2004. A tremendous supporter of cricket, Custom Fleet’s sponsorship includes hospitality and prominent signage at the SCG.

In June 2006, Classic Sportswear and Cricket NSW entered into a four year partnership which sees Classic as the official supplier of clothing to all NSW men’s and women’s State teams. Classic’s involvement also includes managing the SpeedBlitz Blues retail program which experienced tremendous growth in season 2006/07.

Fitness First are the official supplier of fitness facilities to Cricket NSW and supply free gym memberships to members of the SpeedBlitz Blues and the NSW Breakers squads.

During the year, Nathan Bracken and Brad Haddin were star attractions at the annual Fitness First Get Active Sydney promotion which attracted more than 25,000 children.

SpeedBlitz Blues and Breakers players were regular guests on the Saturday morning sports program, Whistle and Hooters, in 2006/07.

The show also featured the ‘Hit us for 6’ promo where listeners had to guess the mystery voices of 6 SpeedBlitz Blues players to win a bat signed by the squad.

2UE have been the official AM radio partner of Cricket NSW since 2003. The Sports Today program, headed by John Gibbs and Greg Alexander, held an on-air competition which gave 8 2UE listeners the chance to compete for $1000 cash in a high catching competition during the innings break of a Ford Ranger Cup match at the SCG.

AMP continued their support last summer as the major sponsor of the Women’s Regional Coaching Program. Last season, Jenny Wallace, Charlotte Anneveld and Rene Farrell from the Breakers all participated in AMP’s Personal Best Coaching Clinics targeted at female primary school children.

Heinz signed on as a sponsor to Cricket NSW for the 2006/07 season. They launched the Heinz ‘Big Red’ promotion which was aimed at rewarding cricket clubs across the State with cash as a reward for using Heinz products.

In 2006/07, The Smith Family became the first ever official charity partner of Cricket NSW. Throughout the season The Smith Family heavily leveraged their association with Cricket NSW by conducting raffles at matches, providing cricket tickets to disadvantaged families and advertising through our e-newsletter and Go Blues magazine.

Diageo entered into a long term association with Cricket NSW in 2006/07. The sponsorship, which runs until 2011, sees Johnnie Walker become the official Scotch Whiskey Partner of Cricket NSW.

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Introducing VB Midstrength Lager, the clean, crisp, full-flavoured beer, with only 3.5% alc. It’s available at your local pub, matter of fact, you can get it now.
Following a season of significant progress in 2005/06 where regional boundaries were re-aligned and a grants and scholarships scheme was introduced for the Breakers squad, the past 12 months has been a period of consolidation for the NSW Women’s Cricket Committee.

Based on the re-alignment of the zones, a highly successful Country Championship carnival was conducted in Albury during October 2006. A number of Committee members attended the Championships and used this opportunity to conduct a Forum involving representatives of each Zone. This Forum provided an invaluable opportunity to receive feedback from across the State and will be used to drive the future of the Championships.

Committee Member Rina Hore has continued in her role as NSW representative on the Cricket Australia (CA) Women’s Reference Group. This is an excellent opportunity for NSW to have a say in contributing to CA initiatives designed to increase the profile of Women’s Cricket.

Rina Hore was also instrumental in the Association holding a “Ladies Night” function in the Alan Davidson Room during the International Twenty20 match between Australia and England at the SCG. The function included female Life Members, sponsors, media representatives, and prominent sportswomen such as Layne Beachley, Louise Sauvage, Liz Ellis, and Catherine Cox. The night proved to be a huge success and included food, music, neck massages, Liz Ellis interviewing Layne Beachley, with each participant leaving with a show bag of “goodies”.

Following the conduct of the WNCL Finals Series, the Women’s Cricket Committee took the opportunity to write to CA regarding the support for the premier domestic Women’s competition. In response to the issues raised by the Committee, CA has since developed “Women’s Cricket Minimum Standards” which incorporate the conduct of WNCL matches.

As a result of representations made by the Women’s Cricket Committee, the NSW Cricket Board decided to impose a requirement upon the men’s Grade clubs to spend a minimum of $1,000 of their annual CA grant on projects designed to assist in the development of Women’s Cricket. In addition to the above, CA funding was also made directly available to women’s Grade clubs to assist them with important development initiatives. This increased funding proved to be a real boon for Women’s Cricket at a number of different levels.

The International Cricket Council has awarded CA the rights to host the 2009 Women’s World Cup. A tender process has since been initiated to determine the host State. Cricket NSW has once again shown its commitment to Women’s Cricket by submitting a comprehensive and professionally produced tender response with the full backing of the Committee.

The Sydney Cricket Association’s Women’s Sub-Committee has already started planning for season 2007/2008 conducting a forum for clubs focussed on the key issues of recruitment and development. This day involved representatives from Grade clubs, the Districts Cricket Association, and Cricket NSW’s Community Cricket Department. The Forum proved a huge success, identifying a number of initiatives to be implemented at both association and club level that will drive the women’s game forward in the coming years.

Once again, NSW teams continued to dominate at National Championships, winning all five of the titles on offer during the 2006/07 season. Congratulations are extended to the coaches, players, and support staff of the Breakers, NSW ‘A’s, U19’s, U17’s, and U15 (joint winners) teams on a fantastic achievement in keeping NSW at the forefront of Women’s Cricket in Australia.

Kaye Loder,
Chair, NSW Women’s Cricket Committee

NSW Breakers squad members Leonie Coleman (batting) and Laura Wright (wicket-keeper) during the 2006/07 Sydney Women’s First Grade Final.

NSW won the Ruth Preddy Trophy for Women’s National Cricket League Champions for the 9th time in 11 seasons.
It was another successful year for the Cricket NSW High Performance Department, continuing its dominance as the leading operation of its type in Australian cricket. Highlights for the 2006/07 season included:

- National Championship dominance
- Expanded women’s High Performance programs
- Information technology and performance analysis superiority
- Sustained corporate partners
- High Performance Tour of England
- Expanded coach education strategy
- Increased coach recognition and awards
- The Basil Sellers Scholarship
- High Performance Awards Night

**National Championships**

In 2006/07 NSW teams won every National title with the exception of the male’s U/17 team who finished Runners-Up.

**MALE:**
- NSW U/19 National Champions
- NSW U/17 Runners Up

**FEMALE:**
- NSWIS U/19 National Champions
- NSW U/17 Undefeated National Champions
- NSW U/15 Joint National Champions

**National Selection**

The following players were selected in National Squads/Teams during the Season:

**MALE:**
- Australian U/19 Squad: Daniel Burns, Matthew Day, Phillip Hughes, Simon Keen, Sam Robson and David Murphy.
- Australian U/18 2008 World Cup Squad: Daniel Burns, Kaine Harmsworth, Josh Hazeldine, Phillip Hughes, David Murphy and Sam Robson.
- Australian U/17 Squad: Josh Hazeldine

**FEMALE:**
- Australian Youth Team: Ellyse Perry, Alyssa Healy

**Cricket NSW High Performance Awards**

**MALE:**
- U/17 Player of the Year – Mark Waugh Trophy: Adam Coyte
- U/19 Player of the Year – Steve Waugh Trophy: David Murphy

**FEMALE:**
- U/15 Player of the Year – Julie Hayes Trophy: Kate Waetford
- U/17 Player of the Year – Sally Griffiths Trophy: Ashleigh Endacott
- U/19 Player of the Year – Lisa Knightley Trophy: Alyssa Healy

**Cricket NSW Rising Star Award**

Male Rising Star Award: David Warner
Female Rising Star Award: Rene Farrell

**Cricket NSW Coaching Awards**

These awards honour people who have made a significant contribution to coaching in NSW. Awards were presented to the following people:

- Tom Purcell and Ian Gill

**Talented Athlete Program**

The Talented Athlete Camps again played a significant role in this year’s High Performance Programs, with 80 players provided with specialist skills coaching, video assessment, fitness testing and team building activities. Lectures were held on injury prevention, drugs in sport, nutrition and psychology. The Sydney Academy of Sport at Narrabeen continued to provide an excellent facility for the two camps held during August and September.

This year’s TAP Camps again included Country U/17 and U/19 athletes. This initiative continues to be an outstanding success, exposing 36 regional athletes to new training methods and providing them with further opportunities to push their selection claims for State U/17 and U/19 teams. Our second Camp featured 44 players from our U/13 & U/14 Emerging Blues Squads.

Many thanks to our specialist coaches: Mark Atkinson, Peter Philpott, Craig Simmons, Aaron Bird, Stephen O’Keefe, Daniel Smith and Warren Smith. Thanks also to High Performance Coaching Panel members, Rod Evans and Andrew Sadler, for their efforts in coordinating the U/13 and U/14 Camp. Cricket NSW would once again like to thank the staff of the Sydney Academy of Sport for their continued support.

**Regional Directors of Coaching**

The Regional Directors of Coaching continued to play a role in developing NSW cricket throughout the various country programs. The Directors promote and conduct courses under the National Coaching Plan, selecting and coaching players to participate in the extensive Cricket NSW U/17 Program.

The 2006/07 Regional Directors of Coaching were: Paul Everingham, Neil Coad, Rod Bryant, Graeme Dyball, Ian Daines, David Nichols, Robbie Mackinlay, Tom Purcell, Robert Stewart, Col Tuckett, Matt Fauns, David Tink, Chris Moran, John Brenton, Greg Sparke, Glen Rowlands, John Field, Kelvin Walls, Ian Paxton, Mark Curry, Alan Rees.

Thanks to Roger Boyd, Barry Mayne and Tony Scammell who retired prior to the season.

It is also sad to report the passing of Terry Colston from Southern Riverina who worked so passionately for cricket in the Riverina area and NSW.
**THE BASIL SELLERS FUND**

The Basil Sellers Fund enables the Annual Country Coaching Class and the Annual Regional Directors of Coaching Conference to proceed. It provides intensive coaching for 24 young players and gives them the opportunity to participate in high standard matches against the AW Green Shield teams.

It also provides valuable assistance in identifying country players for future representative fixtures.

The sponsorship has assisted hundreds of young country cricketers since 1985. Its most notable recipients include Adam Gilchrist, Dominic Thornely and Don Nash.

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**THE BASIL SELLERS COMBINED COUNTRY COACHING CLASS**

The 2006/07 Country Coaching Class was held at the University of Sydney's Sancta Sophia College from 21 – 25 January 2007. This was attended by 26 players:

- Tim Armstrong (Western), Amit Balgi (Illawarra), Jack Bennett (Southern), Shannon Bills (Central North), Joel Brockley (Illawarra), Myles Cook (Central North), Ben Cooper (North Coast), Jeremy Cown (North Coast), Dean Crane (Riverina), Justin Ganderton (Southern), Matthew Gawthrop (Newcastle), Jason Hayward (Central Coast), Blake Hutchinson (Southern), Jono Laverick (Newcastle), Tristan McDonald (Central Coast), Dylan McNeil (Riverina), Kristian Mitchell (Central Coast), David Molan (Central Coast), Matt Muir (Central Coast), Brynley Richards (Southern), Michael Rixon (Central North), Craig Rogan (North Coast), Chris Tremain (Western), Nicholas Walker (North Coast), Sam Williams (Southern), Joe Willman (North Coast).

This year’s class benefited from a new format featuring more matches. Frequent communication was also encouraged in these matches between players and the resident coaches, Warren Smith, Rod Evans, Jim Day and Jeff Cook. This player/coach interaction was further enhanced by three excellent presentations by SpeedBlitz Blues stars Daniel Christian, Dominic Thornely and Cricket NSW Performance Analyst Troy Baker.

The players were fortunate to begin the week at the SCG watching the One-Day International between Australia and New Zealand. The week included matches.

**MATCH RESULTS:**

**Forty40 Intra Class Match – Petersham Oval**

Armstrong XII 9/203 (B Hutchinson 56no, J Brockley 32no, C Tremain 2/34) defeated Mitchell XII 8/193 (A Balgi 59no, M Rixon 41no, J Cowin 3/29)

**Twenty20 Intra Class Match – Pratten Park**


**Walters XII v A W Green Shield 1st XII – Mona Park 1**

A W Green Shield 1st XII 6/161 (M Cook 3/24) defeated Walters XII 9/139 (B Richards 59 J Hayward 19)

**Tabor XII v A W Green Shield 2nd XII – Mona Park 2**

Tabor 7/159 (J Ganderton 44no, N Walker 30, S Williams 20) defeated A W Green Shield 2nd XII 7/120 (M Muir 2/15, D Molan 2/39)

**AWARDS:**

Blake Hutchinson of the Southern Zone was named Player of the Week at the conclusion of the Country Boys Coaching Class. He received cricket gear from Screaming Cat.

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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

Thanks are extended to Andrea Taninaka of Sancta Sophia College, Janine Stainer, David McCredie, Peter Hughes and Christina Matthews for their ongoing support. Thank you also to the Randwick-Petersham Cricket Club, Western Suburbs Cricket Club and Auburn Cricket Club for the use of their outstanding grounds and facilities.

Congratulations to all the players whose work ethic, behaviour and general performance was first rate, capped off with a dominating performance by the Tabor XII against A W Green Shield 2nd XII.

Thanks to Resident Coaches Warren Smith, Jeff Cook, Jim Day and Rod Evans whose knowledge and rapport with the players was first class.

Finally, our utmost appreciation to Basil Sellers for his ongoing and extremely generous support.

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**THE ANNUAL COUNTRY COACHES CONFERENCE**

This year’s conference was incorporated into the inaugural State Coaches Conference held in August 2006 at the Sydney Academy of Sport.

Please see High Performance Coach Education Report for details.

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**THE BASIL SELLERS SCHOLARSHIPS**

Mr Basil Sellers has significantly increased his support of Cricket NSW High Performance Programs by establishing a scholarship fund to assist young male cricketers (16-19 years).

The aims of the scholarship are:

- To facilitate the development of a young talented cricketer/cricketers.
- To support a cricketer’s move from regional to city life, if necessary.
- To assist the cricketer with education, training, employment and social skills.
- To retain in cricket, talented young sports people who have considerable ability in cricket and other sports.

Inaugural Basil Sellers Scholarships were awarded to:

- Phillip Hughes, Matthew Day, Tom Cooper, Marcus Hainsworth, Philip Wells, Jordon Magro, Kaine Harmsworth, James Phathanak, Daniel Burns and Usman Khawaja.

Our appreciation is extended to Mr Sellers for his continued generous support of Cricket NSW High Performance Programs.

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**MOBILE HIGH PERFORMANCE UNIT**

As well as conducting Coach Education seminars during the year, the High Performance Department is dedicated to providing players and coaches in regional NSW access to some exceptional cricket knowledge.

The aim of the Mobile High Performance Unit is to provide free coaching services to all identified coaches and players throughout the Cricket NSW Talent Identification and Coaching Structure.

Consequently, the Unit is available for Grade Club coaches and players, as well as all Emerging Blues and talented regional squads and coaches.

Although in its infancy, this Program saw several members of the High Performance Coaching Unit visit regional NSW to impart their knowledge:

- Warren Smith – Far North Coast (Batting Skills Session)
- Mark Atkinson – Wollongong (Wicketkeeping)
- David Freedman – Wollongong (Spin Bowling)
- Peter Philpott – Illawarra (Spin Bowling)

All of the sessions were very well attended and received.
GRADE CLUB COACHES PROGRAM

The Grade Club Coaches Program was expanded this year with members of the Cricket NSW High Performance Coaching Unit attending practice sessions at 15 of the 20 Grade Clubs.

Former Australian Captain and Coach Bob Simpson was once again prominent at Grade Clubs, with players and coaches benefiting from his unmatched experience in the game.

Warren Smith’s infectious enthusiasm was a terrific addition to the program. His innovative and ground breaking batting drills received wonderful feedback from all the Clubs he visited.

Australian baseballer Gavin Fingleson’s knowledge of throwing technique and fielding drills provided excellent benefit to a number of Clubs, allowing players to develop skills not previously given much attention.

Former Australian off spinner Gavin Robertson imparted his knowledge to a number of slow bowling hopefuls.

Cricket NSW Video and Technology Facilitator Troy Baker also assisted several Clubs with fast bowling analysis and psychology lectures.

Several coaching staff from Grade Clubs also attended a number of High Performance Programs. These included Pace Australia with Paul Reiffel and the skills testing of our youth players, conducted by the Commonwealth Bank Academy Sports Science Unit.

Cricket NSW would like to thank the coaching staff from all Grade and Shires Clubs for continuing to support this valuable program and to members of the High Performance Coaching Unit for their commitment to helping develop coaching and playing talent.

HIGH PERFORMANCE COACH EDUCATOR REPORT

The 2006/07 season was the first full year of operation for this newly created position which commenced in March 2006. Since this time there have been a number of major initiatives:

Inaugural Cricket NSW Coaches Conference

This conference was conducted at the Sydney Academy of Sport, Narrabeen on 11–13 August 2006. Coaches invited to attend were:

- Regional Directors of Coaching
- Regional Cricket Officers
- Sydney Grade Club Coaches
- Emerging Blues & Breakers Coaches

The key note speaker at the Conference was Australian Coach John Buchanan. Other presenters included Geoff Lawson (Fast Bowling), Peter Philpott (Wrist Spin), Bob Simpson (Batting), and Andrew May (Strength and Conditioning).

The Conference was held in conjunction with the NSW U/17 and U/19 Pre-Season Camp. This was done for two reasons. Firstly, to allow both players and coaches access to the main presenters and secondly to allow the coaches to view players from their club/region in the Cricket NSW environment.

Level 2 Courses

Level 2 Courses were conducted at the Kinross Wolaroi School in Orange and at the Sydney Academy of Sport at Narrabeen during June and July 2006. 24 local candidates participated in each course as well as two international candidates from Sri Lanka who attended the course in Orange on the recommendation of Kingsgrove Sports Centre Manager, Harry Solomons.

Level 3 (High Performance) Course

The Cricket Australia Level 3 High Performance Course was held at the Centre of Excellence in Brisbane from 22 - 26 May 2006. The candidates from NSW were David Freedman, Russel Grimson and Brett Rankin.

Level 3 (Club) Course

CNSW was invited by Cricket Australia to send four candidates to the Level 3 (Club) course held in Adelaide from April 30 - May 4, 2007. Those who attended were: Michael Wholohan (Penrith), Darren McCoy (Randwick-Petersham), Ben Sawyer (Blacktown) and Glenn Patterson (Campbelltown-Camden).

Cricket Coaches Australia (CCA) and Coach Database

Introduced in conjunction with Cricket Australia, Cricket Coaches Australia (CCA) is a comprehensive database of all accredited cricket coaches. This database allows a more effective communication process and dissemination of information to all of these coaches. At the end of April 2007, this database encompassed 8870 registered coaches in NSW and 22,165 nationally.

Cricket NSW Coaching Awards

As part of the CNSW Strategic Plan to recognize the contribution of coaches, three Coaching Awards were introduced for the 2006-07 season. These Awards were named in honour of people who have made a significant contribution to coaching in NSW. The Awards and their inaugural winners were:

The Bob Simpson Award - Sydney Grade Club Coach of The Year: Gary Crowfoot
The John McMahon Award -
NSW Country Coach of The Year: Glenn Rowlands

The Tom Richmond Award -
NSWDCJA Junior Rep Coach of The Year: Rodney Payne

World Congress of Science and Medicine in Cricket
David Patterson attended this Congress on behalf of Cricket NSW from 4-7 April 2007 in Barbados. The Congress presented a fantastic opportunity for Cricket NSW to stay at the cutting edge of knowledge in these areas, knowledge which can then be passed onto coaches throughout the State. David also met with various West Indian Game Development and Coaching staff during this visit.

Asian Cricket Council
David Patterson, in conjunction with Ross Turner from Cricket Australia, conducted a Level 1 Course Educator’s course in Kuala Lumpur from 11 – 16 February 2007. This course provided an excellent opportunity to develop relevant skills and knowledge about the best methods of training coaches for the delivery of Level 1 Courses.

Cricket Australia Coach Education and Training Committee
Part of the role of the Coach Educator is to sit on the Cricket Australia Coach Education and Training Committee. This Committee meets bi-annually in March and September to determine National policy and directions relating to coach education.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

The Coaches Kit
In conjunction with Kingsgrove Sports, Cricket NSW will be introducing “The Coaches Kit” for the 2007/08 season. Designed for coaches rather than players, the contents are items that are not used during official matches, but instead can be used in practice to assist the development of player skills in an enjoyable and varied environment.

Coaching Skills DVD
The High Performance Department filmed the content for this DVD in April 2007 with Emerging Blues and Breakers squads invited to the SCG for the day. Some 50-60 skill drills, i.e. batting, bowling, wicketkeeping, games and fielding, were filmed for the DVD which will be distributed to coaches undertaking NCCP Courses or by purchase from Cricket NSW. This resource is scheduled for release at the start of the 2007-08 season.

CORPORATE PARTNERS

The Cricket NSW High Performance Department is grateful for the valuable support of its increasing number of corporate partners. Such support is vital to its existence, adds value to the programs and ensures that Cricket NSW remains at the cutting edge of world cricket.

● NSW Institute of Sport (NSWIS)
● AMP
● ClubsNSW
● Basil Sellers
● Power Education

COMMONWEALTH BANK CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Doug Bollinger accepted a full time scholarship to attend the Commonwealth Bank Centre of Excellence in Brisbane 2006.

Skill camp attendees included:
Scott Coyte, Tim Lang (Pace Bowling)
Moises Henriques (Batting)
Luke Dudman, Ben Woolmer (Spin Bowling)
Daniel Rixon (Wicketkeeping)
Coaches included:
Stuart Clark (Pace Bowling)
Gary Crowfoot, Trent Woodhill (Batting)
Greg Matthews (Spin Bowling)
Craig Glassock, Brad Haddin (Wicketkeeping)

VIDEO AND TECHNOLOGY

Cricket NSW again led the way in utilising game analysis technology during the Male and Female U/17 and U/19 National Championship campaigns. No other State consistently apply this technology for the development of its elite junior players.

Players were able to use the system to review their play both during and after games. Each player also received a DVD of their play to review their performance in the carnival. This season the High Performance Department also implemented a player review document with the U/17 Male’s Team to educate players in making best use of the video feedback they received from the carnival.

Players from the SpeedBlitz Blues participated in education sessions designed to help them learn how to independently access the SportsCode game analysis video facilities available in the Players’ Room at Cricket NSW.

The Silicon Coach analysis system was used again this year to analyse the technique of fast bowlers in order to improve performance and screen for the various risk factors associated with the development of injuries. The technique analysis was conducted on fast bowlers in both the male and female programs from the U/15’s through to the State Squad. A feature of this year’s program was the inclusion of instant feedback for bowlers through a delayed video replay on the plasma screen mounted in the Indoor Centre. This was a terrific resource for players making technical changes to their actions.

POWER EDUCATION INDOOR CENTRE

It was again a very busy year in the Power Education Indoor Centre with a variety of activities and functions taking place. All NSW squads right through from the Emerging Blues to the SpeedBlitz Blues and Breakers made excellent use of the facility. With the game becoming more professional, players are having net practice virtually all year round.

Grade, Shires, suburban and social teams also trained in the Indoor Centre. This was a terrific resource for players making technical changes to their actions.

The Cricket NSW Coaching Academy continued to prosper with specialist coaching taking place on most afternoons. SpeedBlitz Blues squad member Murray Creed was the Head Coach for these sessions while other regular coaches included First Grade cricketers Tim Sparkes, Ryan Bulger and Luke Reynolds. Cricket Clinics were held during the school holiday period and once again proved to be very popular. Geoff Lawson, Kerry O’Keefe and Matthew Nicholson were some of the coaches who passed on some tips to the youngsters present at the clinics.
Local schools such as Scots, Sydney Grammar, St Andrews and Reddam often included net sessions in their school cricket program and were most welcome in the Centre. Young cricketers really appreciate it when they can train alongside their heroes.

The Power Education Centre is primarily used for cricket practice but it is often used for other functions and activities. During the last year, NSW Rugby Union rented two nets to set up a temporary gymnasium. As well as being a good source of revenue, this helped to develop a closer relationship between Cricket NSW and NSW Rugby.

NSW Rugby also host regular dinners at the Centre during the Super 14 series. As in previous cricket seasons, very successful Test and One Day Breakfasts were held in the Centre. A highlight of the year was the inaugural Bradman Foundation Dinner, held in November 2006, with over 600 people attending.

POWER EDUCATION EMERGING BLUES PROGRAM

The 2006-07 season was the first with Power Education as major sponsor of the High Performance Programs, including the Emerging Blues. The Program commenced with a series of selection trials at the Power Education Indoor Centre from March - April 2006. Over 500 players attended these trials from which 10 squads were selected.

An introductory evening was conducted in May to inform parents and players about the objectives of the Emerging Blues Program. In particular, emphasis was placed on the role of cricket in their lives in relation to their responsibilities towards their family, friends and education. It also provided an opportunity to discuss the implementation of Twenty20 matches to the program. These matches were introduced at all levels to promote an attacking approach to cricket in all disciplines, highlighting the importance of fielding, running between the wickets while giving the coaches the best opportunity to interact with players in ‘live’ match situations.

The program for each U/13 and U/14 squad consisted of six pre-season training sessions followed by four inter-squad match days in October. Many squad members also attended the Talented Athlete Program Camp at the Sydney Academy of Sport in August.

The U/15 and U/16 programs consisted of one squad of 24 players for each age group. Both these squads trained at the Power Education Indoor Centre. They participated in three squad sessions and three specialist sessions during the pre-season period. The players participated in matches under SCA and Ford Ranger Cup conditions in October.

The professionalism and level of commitment of the squad coaches is greatly appreciated and their efforts play a significant role in the development of these players, who are in essence the future of NSW cricket.

The value of the Emerging Blues Program is clearly identified in the short term by the number of players who feed through to the NSW U/17 and U/19 squads (and the subsequent success of these sides); and in the long term by the number of players who have progressed to First Grade, the Pura Cup and Ford Ranger Cup squads.

Appreciation is extended to The Kings School, Sydney Grammar School, Barker College, St Gregory’s Campbelltown and Westfields Sports High for providing practice facilities for the squads, and to the Grade and Shire clubs who made their grounds available for the squad matches. The assistance of the NSW Districts Cricket Association, GPS and CAS schools in the programming of the dates and in nominating potential players for the squads is also greatly appreciated.

At the end of the season High Performance Management conducted a major review of the Emerging Blues Program in regional NSW. Six zones were visited and discussions were held with over thirty coaches and regional administrators. There was a clear expectation to raise and improve the level of support in order to add value to the existing model.

Exciting new initiatives to be introduced for the 2007/08 season include:
- The CNSW U/15 Twenty20 State Championship
- Computer analysis
- City/club visits
- Possible reintroduction of the Queensland tour and increased interaction with CNSW consultants via the Mobile High Performance Unit.

NATIONAL PACE BOWLING

The National Pace Bowling Program (NPBP) was overseen at the Cricket Australia level by Troy Cooley at the Centre of Excellence in Brisbane. David Patterson managed the NSW program.

The major objective of the program is to provide knowledge and support to fast bowlers and coaches about preparing for the tasks of fast bowling, whilst minimizing the risk of sustaining injury.

Highlights of the Program were:
- Australian Fast Bowling Coach Troy Cooley working with NSW U/17, U/19 and NSW Breakers players at Pace Australia.
- A Coach Education seminar for 140 coaches at the Power Education Indoor Centre Auditorium with Troy Cooley.
- A Coach Education seminar for 38 coaches in Coffs Harbour with Nathan Bracken and David Patterson.
- A Coach Education seminar for 34 coaches in Newcastle with Geoff Lawson and David Patterson.
- All fast bowlers undertook video analysis (including counter rotation numbers) and physio screening in the U/15, U/16, U/17, U/19 and State squads.
- Danny Redrup and Scott Ward presented a seminar to all Youth squad fast bowlers (U/14 to U/19) and coaches on “Injury Prevention, Management and Maximising Performance.”
- Specialist fast bowling sessions were held for all Youth squad fast bowlers.
- All fast bowlers from the U/17’s to State squad were provided with specialised fast bowling strength and conditioning programs.
- All Emerging Blues fast bowlers (U/13 to U/16) were issued with generic core stability and flexibility programs.
- The general public continued to be serviced through the Cricket NSW Pace Bowling Unit.
- Technical and injury maintenance were undertaken on all bowlers on a needs basis. Referrals were made to appropriate specialists, such as doctors and physios, where necessary.

Thanks are extended to specialist coaches Geoff Lawson, Matthew Nicholson, Mark Cameron, Aaron Bird, Tim Curran, Bill Johnson and physiotherapists Pat Farhart, Murray Ryan, Danny Redrup, Scott Ward, Anthony Smith and Tony Larven for their contributions to the Program.

FEMALE HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAMS INTRODUCTION

The High Performance female State teams had another successful year with all three teams winning their respective National Championships for the third year in a row.

After a number of significant changes were implemented last season, 2006/07 was a year of consolidation with extra value added to these programs.

This would not be possible if it was not for the support of AMP, who partners the Emerging Breakers Regional Program with a generous sponsorship of $25,000. This sponsorship provided funding for additional coaching and resources, ensuring that the Regional Program continues to grow.
INITIATIVES
For the first time, the High Performance female State teams benefited from the services of a physiotherapist whilst on tour. This addition to the support staff both enhanced athlete recovery and improved on-field performance. It also brought the junior female High Performance programs in line with the junior male High Performance programs.

A specialist fast bowling session was held in the July school holidays. This was made available to approximately 20 players who were currently in a NSW team, or to bowlers who would benefit from the additional coaching. Some players were flown in specifically. Thanks must go to David Patterson and Troy Baker for running the session.

EMERGING BREAKERS PROGRAM
This year the Emerging Breakers Program expanded to include the Regional Program. Having both development programs under the one banner enabled players, parents and administrators to easily recognise and identify with the Program. For greater ease of publication, the report will discuss the City Program and the AMP Regional Program separately.

The city based Emerging Breakers Program included U/13, U/14, U/15 and U/17 age groups. Net trials were held in April to select the squads after nominations were received from junior girls’ competitions throughout the metropolitan area and the Sydney Women’s Grade competition.

One of the major improvements to the Program this year was the use of SpeedBlitz Blues players as specialist coaches. This gave the girls the opportunity to work closely with their idols.

There continues to be strong interest and growth in girls’ cricket in NSW thanks to the work of the Community Cricket Department. With girls’ only visits occurring more and more frequently, Cricket NSW is creating a friendly and encouraging environment for girls to participate in cricket.

The coaches used during the 2006/2007 Emerging Breakers program were:

U/13: Lee Malin and Michelle Goszko
U/14: Olivia Thornton, Kate Owen and Alison Parkin
U/15: Belinda Robertson and Charlotte Anneveld
U/17: Neil McDonald and Lee Malin

Specialist Coaches: SpeedBlitz Blues players and Jonathan Freeston

Strength & Conditioning: Maris Lidums and Sarah Aley

The Emerging Breakers City Program was conducted over five weeks during August and September. At the conclusion of the training program, each squad was split into two teams and a match was played at the David Phillips North and South ovals.

Both the U/14 and U/15 Emerging Breakers squads were able to play matches against a touring side from Wellington, New Zealand. The U/14’s lost narrowly whilst the U/15’s were victorious against an older opposition.

Once the three city teams were selected they continued to train until the City versus Country matches were played in November.

This year, the support of AMP enabled the Emerging Breakers AMP Program to be expanded to included three weekends of training with experienced coaches. New equipment was also purchased, better venues were hired, and training gear was supplied to each player.

The AMP Regional Program continued to build on the previous year’s success, targeting six regions of NSW. Net trials were held in April and May to select the squads after nominations were received from junior competitions in each of the zones. Unlike the city based Program, where there was a squad per age group, each squad comprised up to 24 players aged between 13-19 years.

The importance of regional athletes gaining better access to senior coaches was highlighted during a recent Coaches Conference. In 2006/07, Cricket NSW senior coaches were able to attend most sessions throughout the AMP Regional Program helping to optimise the skill acquisition at all levels.

The following coaches were used in each region throughout the 2006/07 Emerging Breakers AMP Regional Program:

NORTH WEST: John Rixon, Jenny Wallace, Lisa Shalekar, Kerry Marshall
NORTH COAST: Amanda Owens, Kerry Marshall, Kate McGibbon, Keith Wyatt
WESTERN: Carolyn Sheehan, Greg Griffiths, Marie Cornish, Lisa Shalekar, Kerry Marshall
SOUTH COAST: Jo Kelly, Carly Ryan, David Richards, Olivia Thornton, Amanda Owens, Jenny Wallace
HUNTER: Neil McDonald, Sarah Andrews, Sue Allen, Charlotte Anneveld, Jenny Wallace
RIVERINA: Martin Garoni, Neil Mackay, Angela Farrell, Arron West, Lisa Kuschert

The training component of this year’s AMP Regional Program concluded with a final session in September. This provided the girls with an excellent opportunity to prepare for the Country Championships that were held at the beginning of October. All regions were able to field teams in both the Senior (15 years and up) and Youth (up to 19 years) divisions.

In the past, girls in regional areas may have only had limited exposure to women’s cricket competitions. Part of the Female High Performance plan is to extend the program by staging games between the regional squads.

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In the past, girls in regional areas may have only had limited exposure to women’s cricket competitions. Part of the Female High Performance plan is to extend the program by staging games between the regional squads.

The coaches used during the 2006/2007 Emerging Breakers program were:

U/13: Lee Malin and Michelle Goszko
U/14: Olivia Thornton, Kate Owen and Alison Parkin
U/15: Belinda Robertson and Charlotte Anneveld
U/17: Neil McDonald and Lee Malin

Specialist Coaches: SpeedBlitz Blues players and Jonathan Freeston

Strength & Conditioning: Maris Lidums and Sarah Aley

The Emerging Breakers City Program was conducted over five weeks during August and September. At the conclusion of the training program, each squad was split into two teams and a match was played at the David Phillips North and South ovals.

Both the U/14 and U/15 Emerging Breakers squads were able to play matches against a touring side from Wellington, New Zealand. The U/14’s lost narrowly whilst the U/15’s were victorious against an older opposition.

Once the three city teams were selected they continued to train until...
TALENTED ATHLETE PROGRAM - CAMP

The Talented Athlete Program (TAP) camp was held at the Sydney Academy of Sport from 26-29 November 2006. The camp incorporated the NSW U/15, U/17 and the NSWIS U/19 teams. In total, there were 39 athletes and five coaches in attendance.

Areas that the players worked on were: skill development, goal setting, team bonding, net training, and game scenarios. Apart from cricket related activities, all the players attended a ‘Drugs in Sport’ lecture and participated in a trivia night on the history of NSW women’s cricket.

The camp was attended by a number of specialist coaches: Lisa Keightley, Jenny Wallace, Trent Woodhill and Jonathan Freeston. Former Australian captain, Belinda Clark, was the special guest. She spoke to the group about the expectations of a captain and then worked more closely with the leaders of each of the teams on actual scenarios. Belinda’s presence was awe-inspiring for our players and her experience and knowledge was invaluable.

Another initiative of the camp was the introduction of new technology from Headzone. Headzone designed a helmet similar to a rugby helmet which allowed the coaching staff to communicate with players whilst on the field. Throughout the practice matches the headgear was placed on the batters and captains. This was tremendously beneficial in making players aware of different processes to reach the same outcome.

UNDER 15 PROGRAM

The NSW U/15 women’s team was selected from the City vs Country match at Old Kings Oval in Parramatta. The City team was victorious in this match, retaining the Belinda Haggett-Robertson trophy.

Despite 10 debutants, the team performed extremely well at the National U/15 Championships in Newcastle. They suffered an early loss against Queensland but soon recovered to win vital matches with double bonus points to ensure that they made the Final. Unfortunately the Final was washed out with NSW and QLD declared joint winners of the Christina Matthews Shield. This is the fifth consecutive year that NSW has been successful at this level.

Thanks must go to all the coaches involved in the U/15 program. A special mention goes to Martin Garoni (Coach), Marrie Cornish (Manager), Kathryn Moore (Physio) and Kate Waetford who captained the side extremely well for her first time.

RESULTS SUMMARY

Round 1: NSW 3/51 (Z Richards 14no) def SA 49 (K Sutherland 4/7, L Griffiths 3/5) with 2 bonus points
Round 2: NSW 8/125 (Z Richards 28) def Vic 5/123 (N Carey 2/23)
Round 4: Qld 101 (B Webster 3/30) def NSW 79 (K Waetford 20)
Round 5: NSW 2/245 (K Waetford 99, N Carey 70no) def ACT 23 (K Sutherland 6/3, E Leys 2/2) with 2 bonus points
Final: NSW vs Qld (No Result – rain)

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS
- Most Wickets - Kara Sutherland (NSW) 12 wkts BB 6/3
- Most Runs - Kate Waetford (NSW) 153 @ 38.25, HS 99

U/17 PROGRAM

The NSW U/17 women’s team was selected at the conclusion of the City vs Country Series. City won both of these matches to retain the Trish Langsford Shield.

The U/17 National Championships were held in Canberra during January. The NSW team went through undefeated, playing an exciting and attractive brand of cricket throughout the tournament. This is the third consecutive year that the NSW U/17 team has won the Betty Butcher Shield.

The team’s success would not have occurred without the support and leadership of Neil McDonald (Coach), Jessica Henry (Manager), Kathryn Moore (Physiotherapist) and Ashleigh Endacott (Captain)
RESULTS SUMMARY

Round 1: NSW 6/296 (A Endacott 64 R Dick 68) def ACT 8/156 (J Cox 2/26, S Coyte 2/10) with 2 bonus points

Round 2: NSW 5/148 (C Koski 44, M Harrison 35) def Qld 8/95 (A Endacott 4/13)

Round 3: Bye


Round 5: NSW 7/197 (C Koski 49no, H Perry 42) def ACT 82 (J Cox 3/17, G Van Der Merwe 2/15)

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

- Most Wickets – Ashleigh Endacott (NSW) 11 wkts @ 8.09
- Team of the Championships: Ashleigh Corby; Sarah Coyte; Ashleigh Endacott; Claire Koski

NSW INSTITUTE OF SPORT (NSWIS) U/19 PROGRAM

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

- Run Aggregate: Alyssa Healy 345 @ 57.5
- Top wicket-taker: Alison Parkin 11 @ 7.81
- Team of the Championships: Alyssa Healy; Erin Osborne; Alison Parkin; Elyse Perry; Laura Wright

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Female High Performance teams again displayed wonderful skills to be successful in their respective junior National Championships. Their success is the culmination of a lot of planning and effort in all the High Performance programs. The success of the NSW teams is a wonderful achievement, but in order for Cricket NSW to remain the leaders in women’s cricket the bar needs to be raised even further.

Appreciation must be extended to the coaches and volunteers that assisted the squads and teams throughout season, and to the NSW Cricket Board for their ongoing support of the female High Performance programs and initiatives.

MALE HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAMS U/19 PROGRAM

The NSW U/19 team won the Commonwealth Bank U/19 Championships held in Adelaide from 11-22 December 2006. In doing so, NSW became the first State since the inception of the tournament in 1969 to win four consecutive National Championships.

As in the previous years, the eight competing States and Territories played four Limited Overs Matches and three Two Day matches during the twelve day Carnival.

The NSW U/19 team that participated in this Championship was selected after a comprehensive pre-season and in-season program combining fitness and skills based sessions, training camps, several selection trials and practice matches.
RESULTS SUMMARY

Round 1: NSW 250 (D Murphy 102, M Day 48) def SA 187 (D Burns 4/38, M Day 2/19)

Round 2: Tas 6/275 (S Keen 3/38, M Day 2/59) def NSW 189 (P Hughes 75, M Day 37)

Round 3: Qld 9/209 (D Burns 3/47, S Keen 2/22) def NSW 137 (S Keen 28, C Ridley 22)

Round 4: NSW 3/134 (D Murphy 65, P Hughes 58no) def NT 8/133 (M Singh 2/11, J Poria 1/12)

Round 5: NSW 8/386 (P Hughes 167, S Keen 68) def Western Australia 172 (D Burns 3/15, S Keen 2/13) and 3/113 (S Robson 1/26)

Round 6: NSW 300 (S Robson 67, D Murphy 55, S Keen 53) def ACT 196 (M Day 4/66, J Poria 2/24, S Smith 2/18)

Round 7: NSW 6/153 (S Robson 68no, S Smith 48) def Victoria 152 (M Day 5/45, M Singh 3/11)

HIGHLIGHTS

TOP BATTERS
Phillip Hughes 324 runs @ 54.00, HS 167
David Murphy 288 runs @ 41.44, HS 102

TOP BOWLERS
Matthew Day 17 wkts @ 15.94, BB 5 - 45
Daniel Burns 13 wkts @ 16.61, BB 4 - 37
Simon Keen 11 wkts @ 16.18, BB 3 - 38

AWARDS
Most Wickets: Matthew Day – 17 at 15.94
Australian U/19 Merit team:
Phillip Hughes, Matthew Day, Daniel Burns

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cricket NSW extends its thanks to the following:

- Michael MacLennan (Assistant Coach), Troy Baker (Performance Analyst) and Anthony Smith (Physiotherapist) for their outstanding work during the Carnival and the entire 2006/07 U/19 Program.
- Cricket NSW Regional Cricket Officers for their assistance in identifying talent and their attendance at pre-season Camps.
- Jeff Cook, Central Northern Cricket Officer, for his efforts as Coach of the U/19 Country Team and on the final selection committee.
- Brian Taber, Chairman, Cricket NSW Selection Panel, for his assistance in the final selection of the side.
- The ground staff and committees of the Northern Districts, UTS Balmain and Fairfield – Liverpool Cricket Clubs for providing excellent facilities for trial and practice matches.
- Michael Haddin, High Performance Strength and Conditioning Coach, for his efforts in maintaining fitness levels among the squad.
- The various members of the SpeedBlitz Blues Squad and High Performance Coaching Unit for giving their time and expertise to assist with specialist coaching at squad sessions and pre-season camps.
- To the families of the players for their enthusiasm, support and encouragement.
- Finally, to the NSW Cricket Board for their ongoing support of the U/19 Program.

U/17 PROGRAM

The NSW U/17 team finished second behind South Australia at the 2006/07 Commonwealth Bank Australian U/17 Championship held in Brisbane from 7 – 18 January 2007.

The 2007 carnival saw the eight competing States and Territories begin the Championship by playing four Limited Overs matches, followed by three Two-Day matches to conclude the 12 day carnival.

The NSW U/17 team was chosen after a comprehensive program that began with selection trials in April, a pre-season fitness program beginning in June and weekly skills based sessions from July-November, two training camps (August and September) and numerous trial matches in December.

NSW U/17 team and support staff:
Back Row (from left): Danny Redrup (Physio), Brendan Jones, David Miller, Sandy Rogers, Josh Hazlewood, Mitchell Stark, Mitchell Cook, Timm Van Der Gutten, Troy Baker (Performance Analyst)
Front Row (from left): James Phathanak, Luke Daron, Adam Coyte, Brett Rankin (Manager), Adam Ezekiel (Captain), Trent Woodhill (coach), Jan Whealing, Joy Dyball, Matt Morgan.
RESULTS SUMMARY

Round 1: NSW 9/215 (A Coyte 42, J Dyball 34, A Ezekiel) def WA 8/211 (M Cook 4/34)

Round 2: NSW 2/165 (J Whealing 68no, J Dyball 54) def ACT 9/162 (A Coyte 3/30, L Doran 2/22)


Round 4: NSW 4/154 (J Whealing 78, D Miller 33) def NT 9/153 (J Hazlewood 3/21, L Doran 2/14)


Round 6: SA 9/375 (J Hazlewood 3/75, A Coyte 2/50, S Rogers 2/63) def NSW 228 (A Ezekiel 90, J Whealing 35)

Round 7: NSW 201 (M Cook 47, B Jones 44no, J Whealing 36) def Victoria 151 (L Doran 2/21, J Hazlewood 2/29, A Coyte 2/34) & 8/132 (J Hazlewood 3/23, B Jones 2/1)

HIGHLIGHTS

TOP BATTERS (MIN 150 RUNS)
Josh Whealing 252 at 42.0, HS 78
Adam Ezekiel 193 at 38.6, HS 90
Adam Coyte 152 at 30.4, HS 45

TOP BOWLERS (MIN 10 WICKETS)
Josh Hazlewood 16 at 19.7, BB 3-21
Luke Doran 15 at 14.8, BB 4/59
Adam Coyte 10 at 18.6, BB 3/30

AWARDS
Most Dismissals by a Wicketkeeper: Matthew Morgan, 17 catches, 5 stumpings
Australian U/17 Merit Team: Josh Hazelwood

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are extended to Cricket Australia, Queensland Cricket, the participating schools, clubs and the all the volunteers for their efforts in the organisation and running of the Championships.

A big thank you to all the families who travelled to Brisbane. The support and camaraderie throughout the Championship was first class.

Thanks to all members of the High Performance department during all facets of the campaign and Championship. The efforts of Troy Baker (Performance Analyst), Danny Redrup (Physiotherapist) and Brett Rankin (Manager) were tireless and exceptional. All were extremely supportive, professional and enthusiastic throughout the Championship and had a terrific rapport with the players.

Finally, appreciation is extended to the NSW Cricket Board for their ongoing support of the U/17 program.

CRICKET NSW HIGH PERFORMANCE TOUR OF ENGLAND - JUNE/JULY 2006

In keeping with the Cricket NSW Strategic Plan and following two previous successful Colts tours of New Zealand (2004) and India (2005), it was decided that the United Kingdom should be our next cricketing challenge.

Numerous County Cricket Clubs were contacted and successful replies were received from Surrey, Middlesex, Somerset, Warwickshire and Nottingham.

As this tour involved numerous clubs, cities, accommodation and travel, Gulliver’s Sports Travel was commissioned to complete the arrangements.

The selected squad was: Jackson Bird (Manly-Warringah), Daniel Burns (Bankstown-Canterbury), Steven Cazzulino (St George), Greg Clarence (Blacktown Cricket Club), Matthew Day (Western Suburbs), Adam Ezekiel (Eastern Suburbs), Marcus Hainsworth (Newcastle), Kaine Harmsworth (Central Coast), Phillip Hughes (Macksville), Jordon Magro (Illawarra), James Phathanak (Campbelltown – Camden), Samuel Robson (University of NSW), Steven Smith (Sutherland), Phillip Wells (St George).


CNSW Director and State Selector Marshall Rosen joined the group mid-way through the tour.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

● Playing at the Oval against Surrey
● Sightseeing in London
● Tour of Lords including the museum, the Long Room, visitors change room and media centre. The squad was even allowed on the ground for a team photograph. Our thanks is extended to Clare Skinner, MCC Press and Public Affairs Officer.
● Watching the Kent vs Middlesex Twenty20 match at Lords.
● The tour of Stratford on Avon, the Cotswolds and Bath.
● The tour of Trent Bridge including players change room, media centre, committee rooms. Thanks to Paul Johnson.

Overall, the tour was an outstanding success both on and off the field. Once again appreciation is extended to the NSW Cricket Board for its commitment to Youth cricket and International exposure.

“The tour was definitely an unforgettable experience both on and off the field. To play on top class grounds, particularly ‘The Oval’, against strong opposition and to play in different conditions to those in Australia was a great experience. Thanks for everything on the tour.” – Sam Robson
Executive Officer
Mr PF Hughes (NSWCA Administration)

Education & Development Manager
Mr DEJ Townsend (NSWCA Administration)

Board Chair
Mr TM Donahoo

Treasurer
Mr EA Nicholas

Liaison Officer
Mr RD Goodger

Board Directors
Dr DF Dilley, Mrs MA Fowler, Messrs. G Chudleigh, AG Watson

MEMBERSHIP

The reporting period of operation for the NSW Cricket Umpires and Scorers Association covers 1 April 2006 to 31 May 2007. The 2006/07 year saw an increase in membership of under 1%.

The highest un-financial number since 1990/91, coupled with the lowest number of new members since 2000, has resulted in these disappointing figures. The total individual membership closed at 1,036 with the affiliated associations at 37.

Despite this plateau of membership, the Association continues to have a degree of influence over almost 2,500 – 3,000 umpires and scorers throughout NSW.

The percentage of active umpires is slightly more than last year (67.8%) whilst the percentage operating at the Sydney Cricket Association level remained static. The non officiating percentage is lower again from the 20.76% of members recorded in the same section last year. The main difference is the decrease in the percentage of those officiating at the regional level (50.5% last year) but this is due to the exclusion from that group of the Other Metro and Scorers, which if added would indicate a similar result.

Those unsure if they would be actively officiating in season 2006/07 remained almost the same as last year (11.4%).

Principal Membership, the second highest ranking category of membership behind Life Membership, was awarded to several members at the Annual General Meeting in recognition of their significant contributions. They were Trevor Baker (Far North Coast Zone and Sydney), Kevin Burke (Newcastle Zone), Jim Cameron (Sydney) and Ray Neilson (Far North Coast).

2006/07 Membership Officiating Survey

- SCA Officiating: 17.34%
- Regional Officiating: 35.35%
- Other Metro & Scorers: 16.66%
- Non Officiating: 19.33%
- Unknown: 11.10%

The above chart indicates the officiating status of the membership prior to the new intake of the 2006/07 members.

Life Membership of the Association was given at a Special Meeting in July 2006 to Simon Taufel, who was presented with his Life Member’s blazer by retiring Board Chair Jim Cameron. Simon received his Life Membership not only for his exceptional and outstanding performances as an umpire at the International level, but also for his work in the development of fellow umpires within the Association as a member and leader of past Training Committees. His contribution as a tremendous ambassador for the Association and its members was also acknowledged.

At the Annual Dinner held in April 2007, there were 92 members who received recognition for their years of membership, ranging from 10 to 40 years, with Principal Members Charlie Aubrey and David Frede achieving the 40 year milestone.

ADMINISTRATION

The continuing success of this Association is in no small part due to the support by Cricket NSW in the employment of the Executive Officer and the Education and Development Manager as full time employees of Cricket NSW. These positions are paramount to our operation and we thank Cricket NSW for making these beneficial services available.

Honorary Zone Representatives worked in each of the Country Cricket Zones: Bob Myatt, (North Coast), Sam Rees (Central North), Stephen Poole (Western), Bruce Whitman (Southern), Pat Kerin (Riverina), Neil Findlay (Illawarra), Don Maisey (Central Coast) and Kim Norris (Newcastle). Together with Country Umpires Advisor, Keith Griffiths, they continued to offer each individual member access to opportunities to advance to levels appropriate to their skills, regardless of their location.

Life Member Graham Reed returned as State First Class Coach working with Cricket Australia, and fellow Life Member Dick French continued in the role of a National Umpire Selector as well as the Ford Ranger Cup Match Referee. Tim Donahoo undertook the Match Referee duties for the Women’s National Cricket League and Peter Hughes continued as the Umpire Liaison Officer for the visiting International officials operating in the Sydney Tests and One-Day Internationals.

TRAINING

Our Accredited Trainers conducted 23 courses across the State which provided the backbone for the education of over 260 prospective new umpires and scorers.

In addition, we liaised with Cricket NSW’s Community Cricket Department to organise several pre-season “Back-to-Basics” courses for parents and coaches in Junior Associations.

The Association again offered online examinations which allowed people living in remote areas to sit an examination via the internet. A CD ROM of the examination and course was also produced for those who were unable to access the internet or attend a course.
The Association also established a close working relationship with the Institute of Cricket Umpires & Scorers (ICUS) in the UK, with members of their Executive meeting with members of the Board during the Sydney Test.

Using our copyrighted training material, the ICUS produced a world first in a formal (UK) national recognition, with a BTECH accreditation available through the world wide training body Edexcel. We are currently investigating the ability to obtain through Edexcel, in Australia, similar accreditation for the benefit of our members. The possibility of an umpire exchange scheme has also been raised.

**APPOINTMENTS**

**Panels**

**ICC Elite Panel of Umpires**
Darrell Hair, Simon Taufel

**National Panel of Umpires**
Rod Tucker

**Cricket Australia State Panel**
Terry Keel, Darren Goodger

During the season members were appointed to the following matches:

**Darrell Hair:** Four Test matches, four One-Day Internationals matches. Darrell also became the first Australian Umpire to stand in a First Class English County match since fellow NSWCUSA member, Tom Brooks.

**Simon Taufel:** Seven Test matches, 33 One-Day Internationals. Simon stood in 12 World Cup matches, including a Semi-Final, and was named the International Umpire of the Year and NSW Sports Federation Official of the Year for the third successive year.

**Rod Tucker:** Seven Pura Cup matches, Prime Minister’s XI vs England, KFC Twenty20 Big Bash. Rod was selected to officiate in the 2006/07 Pura Cup Final and also stood in a Pre-Season tournament in Darwin.

**Terry Keel:** One Ford Ranger Cup match, one KFC Twenty20 Big Bash match

**Darren Goodger:** Two Ford Ranger Cup matches, two KFC Twenty20 Big Bash matches. Darren was also appointed to the SpeedBlitz Blues vs England Tour Match. Sadly, due to England insisting on using this as a practice match with 14 players per side, it was not recognised as a First Class fixture.

**David Dilley:** Four Women’s National Cricket League matches

**Bill Hendricks:** Four Women’s National Cricket League matches

**Michael Kumutat:** U/17 Male National Championships

**Peter Tate:** U/19 Male National Championships

During the season, the following Scorers were appointed to matches by Cricket NSW:

**Merilyn Fowler:** One Test match, two One-Day Internationals, one Twenty20 match, two Pura Cup matches, SpeedBlitz Blues vs England Tour Match.

**Christine Bennison:** One Test match, one One-Day International, two Pura Cup matches, four Ford Ranger Cup matches, one domestic Twenty20 match.

**Narelle Johnston:** Two One-Day Internationals, one International Twenty20 match, SpeedBlitz Blues vs England Tour Match, two Pura Cup matches.

**Robyn Sanday:** One One-Day International, three Pura Cup matches, three Ford Ranger Cup matches, two domestic Twenty20 matches, four Women’s National Cricket League matches.

**Alena Bird:** One Women’s National Cricket League match.

**Brian Proops** did a Pura Cup match in addition to his Cricket Australia Cup match with Tony Johnson. Other Cricket Australia Cup scorers included Geoff De Mesquita and Owen Ridge with Judith Hall, Adam Morehouse and Catherine Polglase scoring ACT representative matches, including the Prime Minister’s XI fixture.

The appointments to both the Sydney Cricket Association Shire and Women’s competitions were the responsibility of the Appointments Officers within their respective Umpire Associations, whilst the Grade competitions were the responsibility of the Executive Officer of the NSWCUSA.

A total of 3,664 appointment days were made covering matches in Grade, Shires and the Women’s competitions. This is 675 days less than last year as a result of declining numbers, particularly in Grade cricket.

Congratulations are extended to Peter Hooper, Luke Mulligan and Murray Smith who were appointed to SCA First Grade or First Grade Limited-Overs matches for the first time. Additional congratulations are extended to John Evans for notchings up over 150 First Grade SCA Games whilst Laurie Borg, Darren Goodger and Bill Hendricks officiated in their 100th First Grade SCA matches.
This season, awards were again presented to the leading umpires in each of the four SCA Panels. Voted on by the team captains, the winners of these awards were:

1st Panel – Darren Goodger
2nd Panel – Colin Philpott
3rd Panel – Bill Rigby
4th Panel – Gareth Youell

The equivalent award for the Shires competition was won by Chris Taylor for the second successive season.

The George Borwick Memorial Award, instituted in 1981/82 to perpetuate the memory of the Association’s Test Umpire, President and Patron was won for the fourth successive year by Darren Goodger. Darren is the first person to take out the First Grade and George Borwick Awards on two occasions, eclipsing the effort of Simon Taufel.

Other awards presented during the season were:

- The Association Award - Pat Kerin, Cootamundra District
- Scorers Encouragement Award – Sherrol Gane, Bankstown Cricket Club
- Country Umpire of the Year - Rick Field, Central Northern Zone

**CONCLUSION**

No doubt the most talked about event and the vast majority of media interest in umpires and scorers this past season was undoubtedly the saga of the International Cricket Council’s treatment of one of the world’s highest ranked umpires, our Life Member and past President, Darrell Hair.

To recap, on 20 August 2006, during the fourth day of the fourth Test between England and Pakistan at The Oval, Darrell was involved in a controversy when he and fellow umpire Billy Doctrove ruled that the Pakistan team had been involved in ball tampering.

The Pakistan players refused to take the field after the tea break in protest at the decision and the awarding of a five run penalty. The umpires then left the field, directed the Pakistan players to resume play, and returned once more 15 minutes later.

As a result of their refusal to resume play the Test was abandoned with the match awarded to England. The ICC, ECB and PCB later affirmed that the decision to award the match to England was in accordance with the Laws of Cricket.

The ICC Board at its next meeting indicated “they had lost confidence in Darrell Hair” and removed him from the ICC Panel of umpires allowed to officiate Test and full ICC Member One-Day International matches.

On 18 November 2006, an open letter from our Chair, Tim Donahoo, to ICC Chief Executive Malcolm Speed supporting Darrell was published in Sydney’s Daily Telegraph. This caused widespread exposure and interest on a global scale. This letter was backed up by a personal letter to each of the ICC Board members indicating our concern at the lack of support of the umpires’ role and their incorrect and hasty decision to remove Darrell from the Panel.

They say you can’t buy good publicity but the amount spent on the open letter published in the Telegraph certainly brought the attention of the world to our Association and in almost every case we received plaudits for demonstrating our support for the game of cricket, as it should be played.

The Directors of the Board have acted in the best interests of the NSWCUSA. In 2006/07, the elected Directors carried out all those duties with impeccable integrity during a difficult year and deserve acknowledgment.

The Association also acknowledge the support given to the administration by the governing body, the NSW Cricket Board, and in turn our Board acknowledges the support given to it by the Association membership and by the various Office Bearers.

Peter Hughes
Executive Officer - NSWCUSA
The NSW Districts Cricket Association (NSWDCA) continued to fulfill its role as the Affiliate body for junior and senior community cricket with 32 Affiliated Associations, and a total involvement of 2975 teams and almost 48000 players ranging from U/8's to seniors.

The NSWDCA works closely with Affiliated Associations and the Community Cricket Department to ensure the strength and involvement of young players is maintained, with particular attention given to retention of players in the game. Local Associations are being encouraged to embrace the Cricket Australia Junior Policy at every opportunity and with the assistance of the Metropolitan Cricket Officers an increasing number of Associations are becoming aware of the advantages.

The Inter Association Shield series continues to move from strength-to-strength and is recognised as a prestigious competition, the standard of which attracts a high level of participation. This season saw 172 teams competing in seniors, juniors and girls competitions, the latter of which attracted 15 teams from the U/13 and U/15 age groups.

The Inter-Association competition continues to provide the core of players for entry into the highly successful Emerging Blues and Emerging Breakers programs for boys and girls.

The Committee of Management continued the policy of close involvement with Associations on various issues, including the availability of grounds which is causing concern in developing areas and developed areas where infrastructure is a problem. A number of clubs and Associations have taken advantage of the generous Cricket NSW Loans and Grants Scheme to improve grounds and practice facilities.

### ADMINISTRATION

The following comprised the Committee of Management;

**Chairman**
Jeffery Evans

**Deputy Chairman**
Colin Booth

**Committee:**
Ronald Dunn, Hilary Griffith, William Howard, Alfred James OAM, Gregory Liggins, Michael Ross, Peter Woodyatt

**Honorary Treasurer**
David Toose

**Executive Officer**
David Lawson

**Acting Executive Officer**
Eric Myatt OAM

### INTER-ASSOCIATION PERPETUAL SHIELD WINNERS

The NSWDCA offers its congratulations to the following Inter-Association Shield competition and junior player of the year award winners.

**Shell Shield**
Georges River St George DCA (Junior Shield for all Junior Competitions)

**James Searle Memorial Shield**
Camden DCA (Senior Shield for all Senior Competitions)

**Alan and Rae Ward Shield**
Hornsby Kuringai Hills DCSA (Junior Shield for all Girls Competitions)

**G H (Gerry) Meyer Shield**
Parramatta DCA (Shield for Associations that meet qualification)

### INTER-ASSOCIATION COMPETITION WINNERS

**Martin Shield (Open Age)**
Camden and Georges River St George - Joint Premiers

**Telegraph Shield (U/23)**
Hornsby Kuringai Hills def Camden

**John Durham Shield (U/19)**
Camden & Parramatta - Joint Premiers

**G S Watson Shield (U/16)**
Central Coast def Bankstown

**Player of the Year**
Tristan Muir (Bankstown)

**Margaret Peden Shield (U/15)**
Hornsby Kuringai Hills def North Shore

**Player of the Year**
Katie Mack (Bankstown)

**E G Weblin Shield (U/15)**
Camden def Georges River St George

**Player of the Year**
Nathan Brain (Camben)

**Harold Moore Shield (U/14)**
Parramatta def Fairfield Liverpool

**Player of the Year**
Nick Bertus (Parramatta)

**Mollie Dive Shield (U/13)**
Blacktown def Camden

**Player of the Year**
Sharon Dass (Blacktown)

**W S Gee Shield (U/13)**
Sutherland def Georges River St George

**Player of the Year**
Aaron Royall (Georges River St George)

**Arch Cawsey Shield (U/12)**
Central Coast def Manly Warringah

**Player of the Year**
Hayden Smith (Sutherland)

**J H Creak Shield (U/11)**
South Eastern def Georges River St George

**Player of the Year**
Blake Newman (Parramatta)

**W G Foster Shield (U/10)**
South Eastern def Gladesville

**Player of the Year**
Jack Maddocks (South Eastern)

### APPRECIATION

To the Umpires who officiated at all levels of junior cricket throughout the season, and the many honorary administrators and volunteers, who gave countless hours of their valuable time, the NSWDCA expresses their appreciation for their outstanding contribution and dedicated support to district cricket.

In addition thanks are extended to:
- The NSW Cricket Board for their continued support of the NSW Districts Cricket Association.
- The Sydney Cricket Association Committee of Management for their support.
- All Local Government authorities for their assistance and support. Local Government authorities are almost the sole providers of facilities, vital for cricket’s longevity, and their ongoing support cannot be underestimated.
- The Kingsgrove Sports Centre, in particular Harry Solomons, for his continued and most generous support of junior cricket in NSW. The donation of gift vouchers to the Player of the Year in junior Shield competitions was appreciated by all.
- Kookaburra Sport, in particular Noel Moig, for his tremendous support of the NSWDCA and its role as the Affiliate body for junior and senior community cricket with 32 Affiliated Associations, and a total involvement of 2975 teams and almost 48000 players ranging from U/8's to seniors.
- All Vice Presidents and Life Members, for their dedication, help and support.
- The Committee of Management of the NSW Districts Cricket Association for their efforts throughout another successful season.
Following on from a record rise in the number of new players from the previous season, the Community Cricket Department widened its focus in 2006/07 to retaining new participants, as well as recruiting new ones. This was part of the third and final year of Community Cricket’s three-year plan.

- Year 1: 2004/05 – Maximise cricket’s presence in primary schools
- Year 2: 2005/06 - Aggressively recruit junior club cricketers
- Year 3: 2006/07 – Focus on retaining cricketers at all levels

**RETENTION INITIATIVES**

The most significant drop-off in numbers of participants, Australia wide, occurs as young cricketers reach their teenage years.

**GAME FORMAT**

During the 2006/07 season, Cricket NSW trialled junior Twenty20 carnivals in the U/12, U/14 and school First XI age groups. We also strongly advised junior associations and clubs to adopt the recommendations in Cricket Australia’s Playing Policy and Guidelines, known as “Well Played”.

The U/14 carnival, supported by SpeedBlitz Blues and Australian player Michael Clarke, was very successful, suggesting that a considerable number of 13-year-olds will be retained in the game if this format was available.

**COACHING**

In 2006/07, 635 new Level 1 coaches were accredited and 707 attended “Orientation to Coaching” courses. The better the junior coach, the better the total cricket experience making it more likely that players will be retained.

**FACILITY UPGRADES**

Funding is made available to the cricket community via several programs with the Doug Walters Club providing grants for smaller upgrades ($56,115 in 2006/07). Grants are also available through the Facilities Upgrade Program and the Grants and Loans Program, both of which are administered by the NSW Cricket Board.

**RECRUITMENT**

Efficient recruitment initiatives continued in 2006/07 and included:

- Extensive primary school visits, utilising over 50 part-time Cricket Promotion Officers (CPOs).
- The continuation of a Have-A-Go program for 5-8 year olds which catered to 8,256 children in 2006/07.
- Extensive advertising in newspapers and on television, as well as the maintenance of the www.playcricket.com website which enables users to find a club in their local area.
- A letter from Michael Clarke was sent to all 2005/06 cricketers reminding them to re-register.
- Development of a free CD-ROM for children/teachers/volunteers and parents commenced in 2006/07. It includes recruitment ideas, training drills and coaching tips.
Girls’ Cricket
Girls’ cricket continued to expand in 2006/07 however this was only in certain pockets within metropolitan Sydney and Regional NSW. In areas with the potential to establish all-girls teams, we recommended the establishment of a CricHit Centre, a six week introductory program for girls 8-14 years, or the hosting of a recreational cricket event, such as the three week ‘Beach CricHit’ centre which was successfully trialled on Sydney’s Northern Beaches.

25 all-girls CricHit centres operated in 2006/07. The metropolitan centres led players into all-girls Twilight competitions and/or association based DCA representative teams. The latter is considered too large a step in the player pathway. As such, Community Cricket is aiming to create in 2007/08 sustainable club competitions across metropolitan Sydney for U/14 girls all the way through to the SCA’s U/17 Brewer Shield Competition. This should assist in retaining the 500 girls involved in the CricHit Program.

Schools Cricket
The 2006/07 season confirmed that it is increasingly difficult to coerce teachers to participate in out-of-hours cricket activities, particularly in the Government school sector. Attendance at our CNSW run Milo Cup Super 8s Days remains strong with over 600 boys’ and 600 girls’ teams participating. However, to encourage cricket in primary schools in 2007/08 we will be providing coaches to conduct five sessions on a user pays basis.

In 2006/07, the PSSA boys’ competition was won by Sydney East and the girls’ by Polding. The NSW Primary Schoolboys and Schoolgirls teams then went on to be Australian Primary School Champions.

Volunteer Recognition
In 2006/07, functions where held at three major events to recognise the contribution of registered volunteers. These were:

- The SpeedBlitz Blues vs England Tour Match
- Day Four of the Fifth 3 mobile Ashes Test Match at the SCG
- KFC Twenty20 Big Bash match at Telstra Stadium.

All three functions were well received while local volunteer events were also held across the State.

David Lawson
Manager - Community Cricket
OFFICE BEARERS/DELEGATES – 2006/07

Country Delegates elected to the Association were:

CENTRAL COAST CRICKET ASSOCIATION
Messrs. J G Moriarty, W R Lincoln

CENTRAL NORTHERN ZONE
Messrs. M J Silver, T Psarakis

ILLAWARRA CRICKET ASSOCIATION
Messrs. I R Hogg, T F Knight

NEWCASTLE DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION
Messrs. D J Broad OAM, R D McCormack

NORTH COASTAL ZONE
Messrs. J T McMahon, G J Gaggin

RIVERINA ZONE
Messrs. G C Kelly, P J Kerin OAM

SOUTHERN ZONE
Messrs. J T O’Dwyer OAM, D S Sloane

WESTERN ZONE
Messrs. D C Cox, C J Wood

METROPOLITAN MEMBER/S
Messrs R E Horsell, D H Cole and Dr G K Harinath attended meetings as observers.

The following Office Bearers and Committee of Management were elected:

CHAIRMAN
Mike Silver (Central North)

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN
Ian Hogg (Illawarra)

COMMITTEE
Denis Broad (Newcastle), Dennis Cox (Western), Gavin Kelly (Riverina), John McMahon (North Coast), John Moriarty (Central Coast) and John O’Dwyer (Southern)

MANAGEMENT (NSWCA ADMINISTRATION)
John Sullivan – Executive Officer/Public Officer
Matthew Phelps – Country Cricket Coordinator

TREASURER
Ray Power

LIFE MEMBERS
1991 I H Ewin OAM, R Heaps OAM, M Lilienthal OAM
1993 D J Broad OAM
1995 J T O’Dwyer OAM
1999 K G Robson OAM
2001 B J Gainsford
2003 G R Bennet, M S Curry
2004 G C Browne
2006 J T McMahon

TEAM MANAGERS AND COACHES
Mark Curry (Regional Director of Coaching, Newcastle) and Graeme Creighton (Southern) were Coach and Manager respectively of the NSW Country team at the Australian Country Cricket Championships in Mildura, Victoria.

Neil McDonald (Regional Cricket Officer, Newcastle and Central Coast) was Coach of the New South Wales Country Colts team for their matches against a High Performance Youth XI at Bankstown Oval.

COUNTRY CRICKET AUSTRALIA COMMITTEE
The Country Cricket Australia Committee met at Melbourne in July and during the Australian Country Cricket Championships Mildura, Victoria. Mike Silver attended both meetings on behalf of Country Cricket NSW.

ATTENDANCE RECORD
The Committee of Management met on four occasions from 4 September 2006 to 4 June 2007 inclusive:
- Messrs. M J Silver (Chairman) 4; J T McMahon 4; DJ Broad 4; GC Kelly 4; IR Hogg 4; JG Moriarty 4; JT O’Dwyer 4; DC Cox 4.
- RE Horsell, Dr GK Harinath and DH Cole also attended one meeting as observers.
COUNTRY CRICKET NSW SPONSORSHIP

Country Cricket NSW gratefully acknowledges the support of the following organisations:

- The Sydney Cricket & Sports Ground Trust for sponsoring the SCG Country Cup.
- Platypus Sporting Goods (Dave Brown) Pty Ltd for the supplying the cricket balls used in all Country Cricket NSW Representative Program matches.
- Kingsgrove Sports Centre for sponsoring the U/17 NSW Country Carnivals.
- BBM Ltd for their continued financial support of the England Scholarship Scheme.
- AS Travel for their assistance with the travel arrangements associated with the England Scholarship Scheme.
- The Sunday Telegraph for providing the trophy for the NSW Country Player of the Series at the Australian Country Cricket Championships.

BBM LTD ENGLAND SCHOLARSHIP

Sam Irvine from Casino was selected by the NSW Country Selection Panel to receive the 2006-07 Country Player BBM Ltd Scholarship. Sam will play with Haywards Heath Cricket Club (Sussex Cricket League) in the UK.

MEDIA

The Association wishes to acknowledge all sections of the media for their continued coverage of Country Cricket in Regional NSW, and in particular John Swords at The Sunday Telegraph and Geoff Newling at the Northern Daily Leader in Tamworth.

FINANCIAL

Country Cricket again received generous funds from the NSW Cricket Association with $1,129,841 in allocations being made available. This was the first year that the Regional Cricket Officers operated under the CCA banner. The following programs received the majority of funding:

1. Regional Cricket Officers $544,579
2. Country Cup $126,594
3. Country Plate $54,836
4. Bradman Cup $49,670
5. Country Colts $47,908
6. CA Australian Country C’ships $45,911

Total: $869,498

Season grants were $210,000 in total. $25,875 was distributed to each of the eight Country Zones and $3,000 to the Barrier Cricket League. The overall contribution by the NSWCA to country cricket for the year totalled $1,878,872.

The contribution by the NSW Cricket Board has been further acknowledged elsewhere in this Report.

AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY CRICKET CHAMPIONSHIPS

The NSW Country Team travelled to Mildura, Victoria to compete in the 23rd Australian Country Cricket Championships where they finished fourth.

- Match One vs East Asia Pacific
  - NSW 253 (J Hemming 60, R Faraday 53, K Tavo 3/55) defeated East Asia Pacific 102 (J Brazier 43, A Ezquerro 5/41, M Hogan 3/25) and 106 (A Vala 18, M Hogan 4/20, A Ezquerro 2/12)

- Match Two vs Queensland
  - Queensland 7/417 (D Frakes 144, T Schloss 68, B Cockley 2/77) defeated NSW 414 (R Faraday 101, B Nott 70, R Dowson 4/100)

- Match Three vs South Australia

- Match Four vs Victoria
  - Victoria 274 (S Loftus 72, N Barfuss 61, A Ezquerro 5/50) defeated NSW 249 (R Faraday 78, S Irvine 45, P Bradley 5/56) and 4/145 (M Littlewood 55, J Hemming 37no, C Hopper 2/47)

- Match Five vs Western Australia
  - NSW 8/387 (M Littlewood 153, R Faraday 62, R Ford 2/48) defeated Western Australia 278 (B Wright 56, R Ford 46, M Hogan 6/80)

CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

- Bill O'Reilly Trophy – Bowling Aggregate Michael Hogan (NSW)
- The Sunday Telegraph NSW Player of the Series at the Australian Country Cricket Championships - Michael Hogan (Newcastle)
STATE LEAGUE CUP
The State League Cup was again conducted between four Metropolitan Sydney teams, NSW Country and ACTCA. Metropolitan West won the 2006/07 competition.

MATCH ONE vs SYDNEY WEST
at Joe McAleer Oval, Blacktown
Sydney West 8/233 (J Burke 80, J Hastings 47, A Ezquerro 2/35) defeated NSW Country 167 (A Ezquerro 54no, C Belshaw 28, S Coyte 3/24)

MATCH TWO vs SYDNEY CENTRAL
at Old Kings Oval, Parramatta
Sydney Central 2/163 (G Mail 74no, D Smith 38, B Woolmer 2/40) defeated NSW Country 159 (M Littlewood 49, C Belshaw 33, G Roden 3/20)

MATCH THREE vs SYDNEY NORTH
at Lynn Oval, Stockton
Sydney North 4/217 (C Simmons 61, J Packman 51no, B Cockley 2/20) defeated NSW Country 7/216 (J Hemming 49, M Nicholson 2/11)

MATCH FOUR vs SYDNEY SOUTH-EAST
at University of Wollongong

MATCH FIVE vs ACTCA
at Manuka Oval, ACT

COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP
The competition was re-modelled to incorporate all eight zones in a three day carnival, including a Final on the third day. Dubbo (Western Zone) hosted the carnival with Newcastle and Central North winning on the first two days to reach the Final.

The Country Championship Final was played at Victoria Park No.1, Dubbo with Newcastle 7/300 (M Littlewood 98, S Moore 91, J Cook 2/58) defeating Central North 124 (J Cook 61, M Hogan 4/39, N Foster 3/30).

STATE CHALLENGE MATCH
After winning the Country Championship Final, Newcastle DCA qualified to play the Sydney Cricket Association First Grade Limited Overs Competition Premiers, Bankstown DCC. The match was played at the SCG with Newcastle winning by six wickets.

Newcastle DCA 4/206 (M Littlewood 79, S Moore 68, D Ettridge 2/51) defeated Bankstown DCC 204 (C Gane 50, M Hogan 3/35, N Foster 3/38) at the SCG.

SCG COUNTRY CUP
84 teams nominated for this competition. Merewether CC and Tamworth DCA qualified for the Final.

The SCG Country Cup Final was played at the SCG with Merewether CC 193 (C White 58, G White 48, J Hazlewood 3/35) defeating Tamworth 151 (J Cook 75, N Crittenden 3/23, M Hogan 3/25)

COUNTRY PLATE
The Country Plate competition again had 34 teams nominated. Cobar DCA and Forbes DCA qualified for the Final.

The Country Plate Final was played at Wooleys Park, Gunnedah with Cobar DCA 4/132 (D North 52, P Harley 39no, L Dunstan 2-31) defeating Forbes DCA 129 (T Smith 26, D Dooley 22, D North 4/20)

NSW COUNTRY COLTS (U/21)
The Northern NSW Colts Carnival was held at Sawtell (North Coast) involving Northern Coast, Central North, Newcastle and Central Coast competing for the Maurice Lilienthal Shield with Central North emerging victorious.

The Southern NSW Colts Carnival was held at Orange (Western) involving Riverina, Southern, Illawarra and Western competing for the Brian Hughes Shield with Western emerging victorious.

The Northern NSW Colts then played against the Southern NSW Colts in the Annual Country Colts Trial at Bathurst Sportsground, Bathurst with Northern NSW Colts victorious.

Northern NSW Colts 0/235 (M Frith 73ret, T Nicholls 72ret, B Jackson 37no) defeated Southern NSW Colts 139 (J Moran 33, M Power 3/18, S Milenko 3/28)

Northern NSW Colts 4/226 (N Price 96, B Smith 62, D Sawkins 2/69) defeated Southern NSW Colts 5/223 (N Docker 98, D Hughes 61, B Cockley 2/34)

At the conclusion of this match, the following team was selected to represent NSW Country Colts against a Combined High Performance Youth XI at Bankstown Oval from 6-8 February 2007 in a two day match and a limited overs match.

Matthew Frith (Captain) Redhead (Newcastle)
Burt Cockley North Lambton Barrack Heights (Newcastle)
Nathan Docker Cowra (Southern)
Daniel Hughes Casino (Western)
Sam Irvine (Newcastle)
Brett Jackson Barnsley (Newcastle)
Simon Milenko Byron Bay (North Coast)
Taylor Nicholls Jerrys Plains (Central North)
Mitch Power Tamworth (Central North)
Nathan Price Whitebridge (Newcastle)
Ben Smith Woy Woy Bay (Central Coast)
Josh Tayer Wallarah (Central Coast)

SCG Trust Chairman Rodney Cavalier presents the SCG Country Cup to Simon Moore, Captain of Merewether CC.
NSW Country Colts 252 (B Cockley 59no, B Jackson 47, D Burns 3/31) defeated High Performance Youth XI 219 (A Ezekiel 76, S Robson 75, B Cockley 4/51)


KINGSGROVE SPORTS CENTRE

The Country U/14 Competition Final was played at Geoff Shaw Oval, Oak Flats with Central Coast CA 3/124 (K Colley 52no, M Farag 26no, K White 2/24) defeating Southern Zone 123 (K White 23, A Randall 4/17, S Milenko 2/41)

NSW Country Cricketer of the Year – Adrian Ezquerro (Illawarra)

Platypus Eric Brown U/21 Player of the Year – Burt Cockley (Newcastle)

U/16 STATE CHALLENGE

As Bradman Cup Premiers, Central Coast CA qualified to play the winners of the AW Green Shield, Campbelltown-Camden DCC. Campbelltown-Camden DCC 3-147 (J Broadbent 52no, B Bourke 42, N Brain 30no) defeated Central Coast CA 144 (C Gallagher 32, P Buscombe 25, B Bourke 5-38) at Bill Sohier Park, Ourimbah.

COUNTRY U/14 COMPETITION

The Country U/14 Competition was again conducted through two carnivals with the winners of each event meeting in the Final. The Northern Carnival, with teams from Central Coast, Central North, North Coast and Newcastle, was again hosted by Gloucester while the Southern Carnival, with teams from Illawarra, Southern, Western and Riverina was again hosted by Cowra. Central Coast and Southern emerged as winners from these two groups.

The Country U/14 Competition Final was played at Geoff Shaw Oval, Oak Flats with Central Coast CA 3/124 (K Colley 52no, M Farag 26no, K White 2/24) defeating Southern Zone 123 (K White 23, A Randall 4/17, S Hill 3/29)

NSWCCA PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

NSW Country Cricketer of the Year – Adrian Ezquerro (Illawarra)

Platypus Eric Brown U/21 Player of the Year – Burt Cockley (Newcastle)

CONGRATULATIONS

The Association extends its congratulations to:

- Robert Faraday (Newcastle), Mark Littlewood (Newcastle), Michael Hogan (Newcastle) and Adrian Ezquerro (Illawarra) on their selection in the Australian Country Merit XI
- David Murphy (Illawarra) for receiving the Steve Waugh Trophy for NSW U/19 Player of the Year
- Josh Hazlewood (Bendemeer) on his selection in the NSW U/17 team and subsequent selection in the Australian U/17 Merit team
- Mitchell Cook (Western), Emily Leys (Central North), Brodie Neems (Central Coast), Zoe Richards (South Coast), Kara Sutherland (North Coast), Kirsten Swan (North Coast) and Bridget Webster (Riverina) for their selection in the NSW U/15 female’s team
- Ashleigh Corby (Western) on her selection in the NSW U/17 female’s team and subsequent selection in the Australian U/17 Merit team
- Angela Reakes (North Coast) and Melissa Harrison (South Coast) for their selection in the NSW U/17 female’s team
- Erin Osborne (Central North) on her selection in the NSW U/19 female team and subsequent selection in the Australian U/19 Merit team
- Samantha Hinton (Western), Corrine Hall (Newcastle), Erin Burns (Southern) and Sally Moynan (Western) for their selection in the NSW U/19 female team

APPRECIATION

To the Umpires who officiated at all levels of country cricket throughout the season and to the many honorary administrators, the Association records its appreciation for their outstanding contribution and dedicated support. The contribution of local government bodies throughout all of our country regions is also acknowledged. In addition, we express our thanks to:

- The NSW Cricket Board, in particular Chairman Bob Horsell and Chief Executive David Gilbert, for their continued support of NSW Country Cricket.
- Mike Silver for his contribution as the NSW Country Delegate to the Country Cricket Australia Committee.
- NSWCCA Selection Panel Members Barry Mayne (Chairman), Graeme Creighton, Rod Richards, Greg Arms and Greg Smith for their valued contribution throughout the season.
- Mark Curry and Graeme Creighton for their contribution to the NSW Country Team at the Australian Country Cricket Championships and State League Cup.
- Neil McDonald for his contribution to the NSW Country Colts team in the matches against Combined High Performance Youth XI.
- Zone Administrators Bob Myatt (North Coast), Rod Richards (Central North), Graeme Creighton (Southern), Royce McCormack (Newcastle), Gary Burkinshaw (Central Coast), Colin Wood (Western), Peter Lee (Riverina) and John Pemberton (Illawarra) for their valued contribution throughout the season.
- All State Squad Members, Regional Cricket Officers who participated in the 2006 Back to the Bush Promotion.
- All State Squad Members who participated in the Country Challenge Match held at Johnny Martin Oval, Taree and all Taree DCA Officials who worked tirelessly to ensure the match was a success.
This year has seen many changes for the Bradman Foundation. After 17 years as director, Richard Mulvaney, resigned to pursue new challenges. The Foundation owes Richard enormous thanks for his work in the establishment of the Museum and programs of the Foundation. We wish him well in the next stage of his career.

The Board has since appointed Rina Hore as Executive Director. Rina is also a Board Director of Cricket NSW. She was joined by a new Marketing Manager, Joanne Crowley.

David Wells remained the Curator of the Museum, a position he has held for more than four years. He completes the new-look executive team and together, they are working on a range of new initiatives for the Foundation.

One of the most significant of these is the launch of a new interactive website which will become the most important communication and education tool for the Foundation.

2006/07 began with the Badman Gala Dinner, which was held at the Sydney Cricket Ground and sponsored by Macquarie Bank. More than 700 guests from the cricket and corporate world came together for a night of superb entertainment and commentary from many legends of the game. Norm O’Neill was also named the inaugural Bradman Honourary by Foundation Patron, Richie Benaud. Planning for the 2007 Gala is well underway and tickets can be purchased through the Museum for those interested in attending.

The Bradman Museum and Oval experienced a busy year with the Ashes tour providing a pleasing lift in visitor numbers. Numbers have continued to rise, even during the off season. This is attributable to the successful temporary photographic journey, Long Shadows – 100 Years of Australian Cricket, an exhibition of colour and black and white images drawn from the archives of Fairfax Media. Sponsored by Perpetual, the wonderful show will be in place until the end of September. We have also received some fantastic new items for the Museum which are appealing to a wide audience. These include historic pieces such as Bradman’s Blackheath Bat from 1931, a match ball from the famous 1947 Australia v India series at the Sydney Cricket Ground signed by Sir Donald and Lala Amarnath, and some contemporary items from modern heroes Brett Lee and Mike Hussey.

The Bradman Foundation XI hosted teams on Bradman Oval from all over Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. Notable among those was the January visit by the MCC (Lord’s) team who toured Australia in conjunction with the Ashes tour. The Foundation developed a new trophy to celebrate the match – the 254 Trophy.

Created in recognition of the sporting friendship between the two sides, it was named after Sir Donald’s first ever match at Lord’s in 1930 when he scored 254 in an innings he later described as “my best innings”. The game was played under brilliant summer skies with more than 1000 spectators on hand to watch England captain Michael Vaughan and bowler, Liam Plunkett join the MCC side for some match fitness prior to the One Day International Series. Despite a spirited reply from the Foundation XI, the MCC were victorious.

The Foundation XI finished the season with much to celebrate over the End of Season weekend in May, as the announcement came through that Emirates had agreed to sponsor the team for a three-year period. This is a significant landmark for both the team and the Bradman Foundation, and a partnership we believe will bring many rewards to both parties.

The Cricket NSW U17 City Vs Country three-day tournament was held during November 2006 and the Museum staff hosted players and families, providing a barbeque and guided museum tours. Unfortunately the Bradman Cup Final was washed out, however the Foundation is working with Cricket NSW to allocate games for the Emerging Blues program at Bradman Oval in the coming season.

Junior programs have been revitalised and considerable planning is underway to grow them in the coming season. The Foundation conducted two summer residential clinics at Chevalier College under the management of coach, Max Shepherd. With more than 160 attendees, the camps where a great success and bookings are already being taken for 2008.

Non-residential coaching clinics were also conducted at Bradman Oval with more than 90 Bradman Juniors being put through their paces by Rick McCarthy and his team.

The Bradman Young Cricketer of the Year was Tasmanian quick, Ben Hilfenhaus, who received his award, and a Don Bradman original signature bat, at the Allan Border Medal evening in Melbourne from retired Test great Glenn McGrath.

Patrick Connelly from South Australia is this year’s Bradman Scholar. Patrick, 18, plays First Grade for the Kensington District Cricket Club, the same club Sir Donald played for. He is also captain of the South Australian U19 side and studies law at the University of Adelaide. The scholarship provides $5000 a year for three years towards Patrick’s fees.

The Foundation was pleased to announce Craig Beed from Cricket NSW as the inaugural recipient of the Bob Radford Scholarship for Cricket Administration. Craig played junior and grade cricket with Parramatta, including four seasons in First Grade. He completed a Bachelor of Arts in Sports Studies at the University of Western Sydney majoring in Management. Over the last nine years, Craig has held a range of positions for Cricket NSW and currently holds the position of Office Administrator.

The off-season has brought little rest with planning underway for the new season. The Foundation is also launching a new corporate partners program to be called the 99.94 Club. Designed to provide important funding for the Foundation’s charitable programs, the Club was launched at Macquarie Bank in July 2007.

2008 marks the Centenary of the birth of Sir Donald Bradman and a comprehensive range of celebrations and events are being developed to mark this important occasion. Cricket NSW and Cricket Australia will partner The Bradman Foundation in many of these events which will be announced in the coming months.

In closing, significant thanks must go to our Board Directors, Friends of the Bradman Museum and the many volunteers that work tirelessly and cheerfully to assist the Foundation both in the day-to-day operations of the organisation and the staging of all of our events. Without their assistance the Foundation would not be able to provide the range of activities that make the Bradman Museum and Oval the spiritual home of cricket in Australia.

Rina Hore
Executive Director
The NSW Schools Cricket Association (NSWSCA) had what could be termed “a good season”, with all its competitions flourishing and individual performances of significant note.

With the retirement of Mr Tony Gifford, we adopted a new approach to the Macquarie Bank Sports Trophy, playing the quarter finals very early in the season and bringing together the finalists at the earliest possible time in November following the completion of the HSC.

Following his retirement, Tony Gifford was elected Honorary Vice President and a dinner was held in his honour.

In December, the NSW Schoolboy's team travelled to Queensland and our hosts provided both competitive cricket and wonderful hospitality.

In early March, we reached a new agreement with our primary sponsors, The Lord Taverner’s of NSW, and this liaison has the potential to further develop our game at schoolboy level.

During the year we received the unfortunate news that due to ill health, another outstanding stalwart of Schools' Cricket, Mr Garth Lukins, was forced to retire after 40 years of involvement. Garth is a notable person in cricket circles, having served both NSWSCA and the Mosman Club as a long term administrator. He was Secretary of our Association for many years and represented us as Delegate to the NSWCA. Garth has been an outstanding contributor in establishing our Schoolboys’ Association as a trend setter in Youth Cricket. We wish him well in his retirement.

The 2006/07 season saw Mr Andrew Waters join our Committee as the Combined Associated Schools’ representative. We welcome Andrew and it is a pleasure to see him involved, as already it has led to a widening of the number of schools that we can access.

Special mention must be made of Mr Tim Murray, our Treasurer and Tournament Referee for the Lord’s Taverner’s Week. Tim’s attention to detail and work ethic have been invaluable. He made a fine replacement for the work done by Garth Lukins in previous years as tournament referee.

Once again we have many people to thank for their contribution this season, but particularly our Association recognises the support of Mr David Gilbert, CEO of Cricket NSW, and the staff of Cricket NSW who continue to provide valuable support for Schoolboys’ Cricket, both with financial and “in-kind” sponsorship.

Further thanks go to the schools and their respective associations for their assistance throughout the year.

OFFICE BEARERS
The following members were elected as Office Bearers for 2006/07:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>A Lantry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>G Kightley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Secretary</td>
<td>C Browne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>T Murray</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Officer</td>
<td>C Browne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hon. Auditor</td>
<td>A Gilfillan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delegates to NSWCA</td>
<td>G Kightley</td>
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EXECUTIVE MEMBERS
G Lukins (retired mid term)
M McGinnity, D Lawson, B Cranfield, S Thomlinson

DELEGATES REPRESENTING AFFILIATES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Macquarie Bank Sports Trophy</td>
<td>vacant (organisation by A Lantry and G Kightley)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined High Schools</td>
<td>M Falk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined Catholic Colleges</td>
<td>J Emms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Public Schools</td>
<td>M Curran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined Country Schools</td>
<td>A Waters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Combined Associated Schools</td>
<td>M Haywood</td>
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LORD’S TAVERNER’S WEEK - 2007
With excellent weather and outstanding playing surfaces, The Lord’s Taverner’s Week (NSW Schoolboys’ Championship) produced some close competition and attractive cricket. A Combined High Schools side, CHS-1, were successful in retaining the Tim Caldwell Trophy, but not before the quota system was utilised to separate them from CHS-2.

In a week of close games where no result could be taken for granted, different teams rose to the occasion at different times. For example, Combined Catholic Colleges’ defeat of CHS-1 was an outstanding performance considering they finished at the bottom of the table. The same team pushed CHS in the final game, which CHS-2 eventually won, ensuring that they finished on equal points with CHS-1.

One pleasing aspect was the performance of the Country side, who boasted arguably the best fast bowling trio in the competition. This allowed them to put significant pressure on the opposition teams and with better contributions from their batsmen, they could have finished even higher on the table.

Each year Macquarie Bank donates trophies for the best bowler and the best batsman in the Carnival. These were won by Country’s Sandy Rogers (Kinross Wolaroi School) and CHS-2’s Nick Carruthers (Westfield Sports High School) respectively.

The Lord’s Taverner’s Player of the Carnival was CAS’ Robert Edwards (Knox Grammar School). He was also named The Lord’s Taverner’s Young Player of the Year.

RESULTS

ROUND 1
CHS-1 6/208 defeated GPS 191
CHS-2 9/213 defeated CSC 9/198
CAS 8/166 defeated CCC 8/165

ROUND 2
CHS-1 4/229 defeated CHS-2 8/215
CAS 197 defeated CSC 140
GPS 216 defeated CCC 184

ROUND 3
CSC 6/191 defeated GPS 190
CCC 8/119 defeated CHS-1 118
CHS-2 8/216 defeated CAS 214

ROUND 4
CSC 5/114 defeated CCC 110
CHS-1 4/170 defeated CAS 167
CHS-2 7/209 defeated GPS 152

ROUND 5
CAS 6/206 defeated GPS 7/205
CHS-2 2/263 defeated CCC 231
CHS-1 6/95 defeated CSC 94
FINAL POSITIONS

Winners CHS-1, Runner-up CHS-2, CAS, CSC, GPS, CCC

The following NSW Schoolboys’ Team to play Queensland in Sydney in December 2007 was selected at the completion of the Championship:

Nick Carruthers (CHS), Dan Jackson (CHS), Harry Evans (CAS), Steve Smith (CHS), Robert Edwards (CAS), Kaine Harnsworth (CHS), Blake Fitzgerald (CHS), Sandy Rogers (CSC), Brendan Scott (CSC), Ryan Medley (CHS), Matt Morgan (CHS), Jake Mitchell (CCC)

Coach: Mr Steve Thominson (Barker College)

Manager: Mr Brett Cranfield (Scots College)

SPECIAL AWARDS

Lord’s Taverners’ Player of the Carnival: Robert Edwards

Macquarie Sports Batsman of the Carnival: Nick Carruthers

Macquarie Sports Bowler of the Carnival: Sandy Rogers

Macquarie Sports Spirit of Cricket Awards:

CHS-1 David Williams

CHS2 Mitchell Cook

GPS Daikhula Gunaratne

CCC Luke Stewart

CAS Mitchell Frail

CSC Robert Close

Once again there were many people we wish to thank for their assistance:

To Mr Gerry Forlano, Umpire’s Convenor, and for his team of Umpires who officiated our continued thanks.

To the Bankstown Cricket Club, Blacktown Cricket Club, Penrith Cricket Club, Epping District Cricket Club and their respective City Councils, our thanks for provision of quality playing surfaces.

Each year the schools provide us with wickets and grounds of the highest quality and this year was no exception. Our thanks go to Barker College, Knox Grammar School, the Scots College, Sydney Church of England Grammar School and St Joseph’s College.

Special thanks to Barker College for both the provision of two grounds and the facilities for the end of Championship function. This year was the first time for many years that a non-GPS school has hosted the final day.

I mentioned earlier in my Report the work of Tournament Referee Tim Murray, who I would like to thank again, along with his Managers and Coaches from the respective school groups, who continue to make this week long competition such a memorable experience for those who play and watch.

Finally we must acknowledge the ongoing sponsorship of The Lord’s Taverner’s of NSW, Macquarie Bank and Cricket NSW. Their continued support is invaluable.

NSW SCHOOLGIRL’S CHAMPIONSHIP

This highly successful Championship was held in the regional centre of Bathurst over three days in November 2006. Once again the improvement of the players was evident with NSW CIS winning the tournament for the first time.

The quality of the players competing was emphasised when one of the participants, Ellyse Perry, was selected in the Australian team for the 2007 Rose Bowl in Darwin where she has performed with distinction. It is exciting to see a new group of highly talented players coming through the schools.

The Organising Committee reported that the carnival was played in good spirits and produced three outstanding days of cricket. Morse Park and Bathurst Showground provided excellent fields and wickets.

In 2007/08 the Championship will be played in March 2008.

RESULTS

Day 1

NSW CIS 6/213 (E Perry 99no J Lawson 2/10) def NSW CCC 107 (E Gawthorne 45)

CHS-1 4/102 (S Coyte 20 E Osborne 26 R Dick 33no) def

CHS-2 7/101 (R Wyborne 16 M Hyde 14 A Endacott 1/12)

Day 2

NSW CIS 8/153 (C Koski 64no A Healy 31 S Hinton 3/27) def CHS-1 149 (S Coyte 40 A Endacott 32 A Boyd 22 K Williams 3/22)

NSW CCC 9/190 (R Kent 35 A Corby 29 M Wilczynski 2/9) def

CHS-2 96 (R Ruyter 18 H Webster 15 E Osbourne 4/5)

Day 3

CHS-1 2/150 (S Coyte 58no E Rixon 42 S Osbourne 20) def

NSW CCC 148 (A Corby 71no A Reakes 21 S Moylan 3/20 S Coyte 2/3)

NSW CIS 1/131 (A Healy 92no) def

CHS-2 9/127 (M Hyde 48 K Sutherland 21 E Perry 4/22)

Carnival won by NSW CIS

2006 LORD’S TAVERNERS SCHOOLGIRLS’ HONOUR TEAM

Ashleigh Corby (CCC), Sarah Coyte (CHS-1), Emma Doubtreadb (CIS), Alyssa Healy (CIS), Samantha Hinton (CHS-1), Claire Koski (CIS), Emily Leys (CIS), Sally Moylan (CHS-1), Erin Osborne (CHS-1), Ellyse Perry (CIS), Angela Reakes (CCC) and Kristy Williams (CIS)

LORD’S TAVERNERS AWARDS

Player of the Tournament Ellyse Perry (CIS)

Batting Aggregate Alyssa Healy (CIS) – 142 runs

Bowling Aggregate Samantha Hinton (CHS-1) – 6/60

Sally Moylan (CHS-1) – 6/67

Fielding Award Elisha O’Mara (CHS-2)

Kara Sutherland (CHS-2)

THE CARBINE CLUB CUP 2006

The NSW Schoolboys’ team successfully defended both the Carbine Club Cup and the Gifford/Lukins Trophy in Queensland during the week of 11-14 December 2006.

It was particularly pleasing to achieve an outright result in the Three-Day game, which was the first time this has happened in the last four years. Unfortunately once again our fixture clashed with the National U/19 Championships and changes had to be made to the original team:

Sam Robson (U/19s) was replaced by Nick Cheadle

Chris Ridley (U/19s) was replaced by Corey Lowe

James Phathanak (unavailable) was originally replaced by Jay Dyball, who was later replaced by Rohit Ramanathan

For the first time, the One-Day fixture, played at Maroochydore, was played as a day/night game. Whilst having to travel to Brisbane and then onto Maroochydore, and playing a day/night game made it a long day, it was an excellent experience for the boys.

The Three-Day game was played at St Paul’s Anglican School at Bald Hills. Whilst the wicket was slow and low and making it difficult for batsmen, an outright result was achieved with NSW winning by two wickets.

Team management recognised and thanked the outstanding contribution of the Queensland coach Mr Tom Franklin, and Manager Mr Kevin Loch who made the week such an enjoyable experience.
GAME SCORES
Carbine Cup
NSW 1/179 (Fitzgerald 96* Ryan 53* Ramanathan 22) def Qld 175
(Thomson-Matthews 59 Devine 35 White 32 Alevizos 4/28, Henry 2/33) by 9 wickets in the 42nd over.

Gifford/Lukins Trophy
NSW 194 (Ryan 44 Lowe 45 Henry 62) and 8/143 (Ryan 25 Sams 30
Harmsworth 2/11) def Qld 238 (Thompson-Matthews 72 Saburg 78 Henry
5/33 Alevizos 2/43 Parkinson 2/51) and 97 (Henry 4/33 Alevizos 3/30
Harmsworth 2/11) by 2 wickets

WINNERS OF SCHOOL GROUP COMPETITION
AK Davidson Shield
Winner:   Westfields Sports High School
Runner Up:  Dubbo College

Marie Cornish Shield
Winner:   Picnic Point High School
Runner Up:  Castle Hill High School

Combined Associated Schools
Winner:   Barker College
Runner Up:  Knox Grammar School

Greater Public Schools
Winner:   The King's School
Runner Up:  St Joseph's College

Downie Trophy
Joint Winners:  St Gregory's Campbelltown & St Clare's College Taree

Berg Shield
Winner:   St Paul's West Kempsey
Runner Up:  Marist College Penshurst

Douglas Shield
Winner of Kinross Wolaroi vs All Saints to play Illawara Grammar School in Final.

THE MACQUARIE BANK SPORTS TROPHY
Our Association would like to thank the Macquarie Bank for its generous sponsorship of this series of matches which determine the Champion School First XI in NSW Schools' Cricket.

With the retirement of Tony Gifford and the inability to find a suitable replacement, Tony Lantry and Graeme Kightley took responsibility for the organization of a slightly varied Final Series. The Quarter Final Games were played early in the season and Semi Finals in mid November following completion of the HSC.

St Joseph's College Hunters Hill were fitting winners, defeating Westfield Sports High in the Final.

Match Scores

CONCLUSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SPONSORS
Schools' Cricket continues to both blossom and change. The injection of funds by Cricket Australia with varied programs, including Harmony Day, is seeing cricket integrated in school curriculum.

Our Association continues to find more schools to participate in its respective competitions and we are ever watchful for volunteers to assist in providing cricket for all school players in NSW.

Our major sponsors, The Lord's Taverners' NSW, have renewed their agreement with us and we thank Richard Lucas and his Committee for their continued support. Macquarie Bank has become increasingly involved with our Association and we thank them for the recent long term agreement to support the Macquarie Bank Sports Trophy Competition.

The Carbine Club have been a long term supporter and it was pleasing to have our Coach (Steve Thomlinson) and Captain (Manjot Singh) from the victorious 2005 Carbine Club Cup team give a presentation to the Carbine Club at a luncheon prior to the 2006 Rugby League Grand Final.

As mentioned earlier, Cricket NSW continues to support us “in kind” and financially. Manager, Community Cricket, David Lawson continues to serve on our Committee and NSW U/19 male coach David Freedman has acted as our Chairman of Selectors for a number of years.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow committee members for their hard work and support behind the scenes. Throughout the year we have worked successfully to establish a solid foundation for the changes that undoubtedly lie ahead.

G K Kightley
Honorary Secretary
**STAFF**

The Association's commitment to meet the ever increasing demands associated with successfully promoting and developing the game of cricket in NSW was further demonstrated with the creation of three new positions, pushing the number of full time staff over 50. The following staffing changes and additions occurred over the past twelve months across the various Departments:

- Finance Assistant: Alister Galletly
- State Squad Computer Analyst: Andrew Ware
- Administration Assistant: Melissa Swain
- Corporate Communications Coordinator: Sudesh Arudpragasam
- Events and Supporter Club Coordinator: Lauren Boyle
- Cricket Operations – Women's Cricket: Paul Taylor
- Administration Assistant High Performance: Bronwyn Atkins
- Regional Cricket Officer: Robbie Mackinlay

The Association wishes to convey its gratitude to all staff for their outstanding dedication and unwavering commitment in what proved to be one of the biggest seasons in not only NSW, but Australian cricket history.

At the same time, we thank Michelle Slack-Smith, Kobe McGreavy, Scott Manley, Jenny Wallace and Martin Garoni, who left the Association during the year, for their contributions.

**SYDNEY CRICKET AND SPORTS GROUND TRUST**

The Association entered year two of its five year venue hire agreement with the Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust. The relationship between the two bodies continues to be productive and thanks are conveyed to the Trust's Chairman, Rodney Cavalier AM, and Chief Executive, Jamie Barkley, for their assistance and cooperation over the past year.

**TELSTRA STADIUM**

The Association entered into a four year hire agreement with Telstra Stadium to the conclusion of the 2009/10 season. A minimum of two limited over fixtures are to be played at this venue for the duration of the agreement.

**CRICKET AUSTRALIA**

On 12 September 2006, Messrs Bob Horsell, Mark Taylor AO and Dr Harry Harinath were elected by the NSW Cricket Board as the Association's Directors to the Board of Cricket Australia (CA).

The Directors served on the following CA Committee's:

- Bob Horsell – Audit, International
- Harry Harinath – Females in Cricket Reference Group, Game Development
- Mark Taylor – Industrial Relations, Playing Conditions, Cricket Review Committee

In addition, Messrs. Brian Gainsford (to September 2006) and Mike Silver (from September 2006) represented the Association on the CA Game Development Committee and Ms Rina Hore was NSW's representative on the CA Females in Cricket Reference Group.

**OBITUARIES**

Mr WA (Bill) Johnston, former Victorian and Australian player, on 24 May 2007.

Mr PHF (Percy) Sonn, former ICC President, on 24 May 2007.

Mr RG (Ron) Archer, former Queensland and Australian player, on 27 May 2007.

**SUB-COMMITTEES**

**Audit**

Messrs. RE Horsell (Chairman), DH Cole and BW Collins QC, Ms RA Hore.

**Appeals**

Messrs. JMA Tait (Chairman), NWL Bergin OAM, L Gould, L King, DA Meagher and C Thompson.

**Constitutional Review**

Messrs. BW Collins QC (Chairman), NWL Bergin OAM, M Bonnell, IH Ewin OAM and THJ Iceton.

**Facilities**

Messrs. BW Collins QC (Chairman), VJ Smith, BJ Gainsford (to September 2006), Dr GK Harinath and Ms RA Hore.

**Grants/Loans**

Messrs BJ Gainsford (Chairman to September 2006), VJ Smith (Chairman from September 2006), BW Collins QC, RE Horsell, MJ Silver (from September 2006) and Dr GK Harinath.

**Doug Walters Club Grants**

Messrs MA Taylor AO (Chairman), BF Freedman OAM and KD Walters MBE.

**Cricket Australia Grade/Premier Club Funding Program**

Messrs. BW Collins QC (Chairman), BF Freedman OAM, THJ Iceton and MS RA Hore.

**HONOURS**

The Association was pleased to note the recognition in the Australia Day and Queen’s Birthday Honours List of the following people associated with cricket:

- Mr WA (Wayne) Bradley OAM (Former Riverina Zone Administrator)
- Ms CP (Christine) Brierley OAM (Life Member NSWCA)
- Mr IC (Ian) Carroll OAM (President Gordon DCC)
- Mr PJ (Pat) Kerin OAM (Riverina Zone Delegate)
- Mrs M (Mary) Loy (nee Allitt) OAM (Former NSW and Australian Women's Captain)
- Mr RB (Bob) Simpson AO (Life Member NSWCA)

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

John O'Dwyer and Dion Bourne were recognised for outstanding service to cricket in NSW with the award of NSWCA Life Membership. Both John and Dion were approved unanimously by Members at the Annual General meeting held on 4 September 2006. As is customary, they were presented with numbered Life Membership cuff-links. Hereunder a brief summary of their achievements for cricket in NSW over many years:

**JT (John) O'Dwyer OAM (No. 102)**

John has dedicated a large part of his life to cricket, both as a player and as an administrator. He played with the Shellharbour City Cricket Club between 1956/57 and 1968/69, although his most significant contribution has been as an administrator. One of his first forays was as the Club Secretary of the same club he played for, a role he held for 10 seasons. Over a 50 years period, John held a multitude of volunteer positions with the South Coast District Cricket Association, Illawarra Cricket Council, South Coast and Southern Highlands Cricket Council and Southern Cricket Zone. John served as a Delegate to both the NSW Cricket Association and NSW Country Cricket Association for 20 continuous seasons. He was an active member of the NSW Country Cricket Association's Committee of Management for 19 seasons, during this time he also held the position of Deputy Chairman.
John’s dedication and commitment has been recognised by many quarters of the community. He was awarded an OAM in 1991 for service to sport and the community, an Australian Sports medal in 2000, Shellharbour City Senior Sports Citizen of the year 2001, and Life Membership of Shellharbour City Cricket Club, South Coast District Cricket Association, South Coast and Southern Highlands Cricket Council, NSW Country Cricket Association and Southern Cricket Zone.

D (Dion) Bourne (No. 103)

Dion has been a long serving contributor to cricket for many years. He played for the Bankstown Cricket Club from 1959 to 1981. During this time he captained the First Grade side on many occasions and currently holds the club record for most First Grade runs. Dion’s dedication to the Bankstown Cricket Club was further evidenced during the many years that he served as both Secretary and Treasurer.

As a Board Director of Bankstown Sports Club, Dion has been instrumental in Bankstown Cricket Club being the recipient of arguably the largest grassroots cricket sponsorship in NSW.

Dion was also a NSW State Selector for 10 seasons, commencing the role in 1995/96. During his tenure, NSW won six domestic titles, comprising two Pura Cups and four ING Cups.

PATRONS

The Governor of NSW, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC, and her husband, Sir Nicholas Shehadie AC OBE, as well as Mr Alan Davidson AM MBE, continued their roles as Joint Patrons of the Association. The Association expresses its sincere thanks to Her Excellency, Sir Nicholas and Alan for their continued interest and support of cricket in NSW.

RETIREEMENTS

The Association conveys its sincere appreciation to the following Delegates who retired during the past year:

- Mr Jim Barrett: Northern District CC since 1995/96.
- Mr Brian Gainsford: Western Zone since 1989/90.
- Mr Peter Hughes: NSW Cricket Umpires’ and Scorers’ Association since 2004/05.
- Ms Pam Meyers: NSW Women’s Committee since 2003/04.
- Mr Ron Wright: Parramatta DCC since 1989/90.

THANKS TO

- The Minister for Tourism, Sport and Recreation, Minister for Women, the Hon. Sandra Nori MP (to March 2007).
- The Minister for Gaming and Racing, Minister for Sport and Recreation, the Hon. Graham West MP (from March 2007).
- The NSW Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation and the NSW Institute of Sport for their generous support and assistance.
- The Directors of the NSW Cricket Board and the Management Committee’s of the Sydney and NSW Country Cricket Associations, the NSW Women’s Committee as well as the various Sub-Committees which met regularly throughout the season for the betterment of NSW Cricket.
- Mr Brian Gainsford, who served as a Director on the NSW Cricket Board from September 1998 to September 2006.
- The State Selectors, Messrs Brian Taber (Chairman), Greg Hartshorne, Mark Patterson, Marshall Rosen and Steve Smith as well as the Women’s NCL Selectors Ms Wendy Weir AM (Convener), Marilyn Brown and Pam Meyers.
- Mr Dick French OAM for having acted as Ford Ranger Cup and KFC Twenty20 Match Referee.
- Dr Harry Harinath (Medical Director) and Dr Michael Johnson.
- Physiotherapists, Messrs Patrick Farhart, Tony Larvan, Murray Ryan and Ms Kate Leslie and fitness trainer Tom Reddin.
- Honorary Librarians, Mr Bob Brenner and Dr Colin Clowes.
- Mr Rocky Harris for having acted as Liaison Officer for the seasons touring teams.
- Messrs Duncan Kerr, Bob Barter, Luke Keech and David Tribolet, who acted as home and visiting team dressing room managers during matches and assisted at practice sessions.
- All local government authorities throughout NSW for the provision of facilities and for their support of the game generally.
- Honorary people at all levels who give so freely of their time and expertise for the benefit of the game.
- All sections of the media for their support over the past year.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Association is extremely appreciative of the contribution all Local Government bodies throughout NSW make to cricket. To acknowledge the contributions of Local Government Authorities, the Mayors and General Managers of all metropolitan and a number of rural Councils were extended invitations to enjoy a day’s play of the SpeedBlitz Blues v England tour match held at the SCG between 12 – 14 November 2006. The day proved extremely successful with a large turnout of council representatives.

Special thanks are extended to the Councils of North Sydney, Hurstville and Newcastle for their assistance in the staging of Ford Ranger Cup, Twenty20 and WNCL matches at grounds under their authority.

THE CLIFF WINNING LIBRARY REPORT

The Library has been effective in its role of providing detailed and extensive research materials and facilities to researchers and authors. Our complete collection of First Class and First Grade scorecards are in continuous use and many valuable documents are being produced. Numerous books and documents have been purchased for our collection. Thanks to Colin Jefferies and Bill Hawke for their assistance in refining our collections. Steve McClue, John Hiscox and Andrew Crooks are constant and valued researchers.

The highlight of our year was the publication and launch of Dr Colin Clowes’ definitive history, “150 Years of NSW First Class Cricket: A Chronology” at Parliament House by the Premier, the Hon Morris Iemma MP on 15 January 2007. The 450 pages trace the history of NSW cricket through the matches and the accomplishment of its First Class players since 1856. This magnificent publication is testament to the dedication and amazing devotion of time by Colin to the book which is selling well in all major bookshops. Thanks to the NSW Cricket Board for its support of this important publication.

Work is well underway, in conjunction with the Bradman Foundation, on the production of a special calendar celebrating the centenary (2008) of Sir Donald Bradman’s birth. This will feature archival-standard reproductions of 12 original score sheets of some of ‘The Dons’ greatest innings, including three of his world record innings. We expect this to be a much sought after publication and it will be on sale by mid-September 2007 through the Bradman Foundation and News Ltd outlets.
We must mention our gratitude for two major gifts of material to our collections. A number of important documents relating to Charlie Macartney were donated by Mr Max Walters and family. Papers from the late Jack Pollard’s collection were donated by his wife, Barbara Pollard.

The library is open for research each Tuesday from 10 am-3pm; Telephone 02-9339 0935  email: library@cricketnsw.com.au
Bob Brenner and Dr Colin Clowes
Honorary Librarians

THE ALAN MCGILVRAY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The objectives of the Alan McGilvray Memorial Scholarship scheme are:

- To provide opportunities for young players to develop and enhance their potential to succeed in International cricket by representing NSW and Australia.
- To provide a lasting memorial for the late Alan McGilvray AM MBE, one of Australia’s greatest cricket broadcasters and former NSW captain.

The Scholarship is in the form of an annual grant from the NSW Department of Tourism, Sport and Recreation of $6000 to the Association. Funding of $3000 is provided to one male and one female player between the ages of 17 and 19 years, to be used in the most appropriate way for their development.

The ninth annual Alan McGilvray Memorial Scholarships were presented by the Minister for Tourism, Sport and Recreation and Minister for Women, the Hon. Sandra Nori MP, during the Second Final of the VB Series at the SCG on 11 February 2007. The recipients were Alyssa Healy and Simon Keen.

Alyssa Healy plays for the UTS Balmain Cricket Club. Strong performances at club level and during the City versus Country fixtures saw Alyssa picked in the NSW U/19 team despite being just 16-years-old at the time. Alyssa starred at the Australian U/19 Championships held in Hobart. At the top of the order her hard hitting batting consistently gave the NSW team a strong start. Her total of 345 runs at an average of 57.5 during the National carnival was the highest aggregate of any player. Her all-round skills were further evidenced in her role as wicket keeper, starring behind the stumps with glove work of the highest quality. Alyssa’s outstanding season was rewarded with selection in the Australian U/23 ‘Shooting Stars’ team which toured New Zealand in February 2007.

Simon Keen plays for the Bankstown Cricket Club in the Sydney Grade competition. Simon has had the rare opportunity to represent NSW at five separate Australian Championships, three at the U/17 level and two at the U/19 level. Simon has also exhibited a maturity beyond his years and a natural ability to lead. These qualities have seen him selected both the NSW U/17 and U/19 teams. Simon’s multiple talents were displayed at the 2005/06 National Championships where his batting average of 27.42 and bowling average of 16.18 earned him selection in the Australian U/19 team which competed in the Youth World Cup in Sri Lanka in 2006.

SPECIAL GRANTS

Special grants approved during the year:

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<th>Location</th>
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<td>Tamworth CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern Districts CC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strathfield CC</td>
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ASSOCIATION NOTES (CONTINUED)
The NSW Cricket Board determined that grants would again be made to clubs and affiliates, as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<td>Grade Clubs</td>
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<td>NSW Cricket Umpires &amp; Scorers Association</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>City &amp; Suburban Cricket Association</td>
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<td></td>
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<td><strong>$608,000</strong></td>
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* incl $3000 for the Barrier League

In addition to the season grant, a $12,000 coaching grant was made to Grade Clubs and $6,000 to each of the 21 Regional Directors of Coaching, subject to the necessary criteria being met.

The policy and direction in relation to development grants was unchanged. In cases of specific needs for development within clubs/associations/country authorities, applications were made direct to the Community Cricket and Country Cricket Department Manager.

The Board, in reviewing the financial result for the year, determined to distribute further funds to affiliates by paying a one-off bonus grant as follows:

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<th>Quantity</th>
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<td></td>
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<td><strong>$272,700</strong></td>
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In all, a total amount of $1,246,700 was allocated, bringing the total distributed to clubs and affiliates over the past 25 years to $8.7 million.

The Board has also made provision for a total of up to $6 million during the four year period 2006/07 – 2009/10, by way of a ‘Facilities Upgrade Program’, for the development of existing and new cricket facilities. This program is in addition to the Grants and Loans Program, for which financial limits of $50,000 per grant and $125,000 per loan apply. The program is for on-field and off-field capital works, including but not restricted to:

- The construction of new grounds
- The upgrading of existing grounds to accommodate higher levels of cricket
- General on-field improvements including playing surfaces, irrigation, lighting and fencing
- General off-field improvements including change-rooms, canteens, clubrooms and grandstands
- Cricket-specific on-field improvements including centre and practice pitches, sightscreens, scoreboards, ground preparation equipment and indoor practice nets

For 2006/07, a total of $1,533,000 in conditional approvals have been granted as follows:

- Bankstown CC: $350,000 development of Bankstown Oval and Grahame Thomas Oval
- UTS Balmain CC: $500,000 development of Drummoyne Oval
- Campbelltown-Camden CC: $500,000 development of Raby Oval complex
- Central Coast CA: $90,000 Mount Penang project
- Manly-Warringah District CC: $93,000 additions to amenities block at Frank Gray No 2 Oval

The National Club Insurance Scheme was renewed again this season. The program puts in place a sustainable insurance program providing a long term solution and therefore peace of mind for the foreseeable future.

The program provides clubs with a comprehensive level of protection across the following areas:

1. Personal Accident Cover for Capital Benefits, Non Medicare Medical Expenses and Loss of Income.
2. Public and Products Liability.
3. Professional Liability for coaches, administrators, umpires and officials.

The Association met on 6 occasions from 6 July 2006 to 4 June 2007. Messrs RE Horsell (Chairman) 6, BF Freedman 6, J Hanshaw 6, A Connolly 5, RF Cook 5, MF Rosen 5, A Falk (as proxy for MF Rosen) 1, T Jacobs 5, L Gould 5, I Finlay 5, SM Hamman 5, DJ Broad 6, BJ Gainsford 1, D Cox 5, IR Hogg 6, GC Kelly 6, JT McMahon 6, C Stubbs 5, S Rowell 1, R Wright 1, G Monaghan 4, RJ Hudswell 4, PJ Wright 5, MJ Jobson 2, T Hunter (as proxy for MJ Jobson) 4, THJ Iceton 6, BW Collins 5, GM O’Sullivan (as proxy for BW Collins) 1, G Lawson 4, G Law 6, D O’Neil 4, GF Lawson 4, JT McMahon 6, JG Moriarty 6, MJ Silver 5, SM Hamman 5, DJ Broad 6, BJ Gainsford 1, D Cox 5, IR Hogg 6, GC Kelly 6, JT McMahon 6, G Moriarty 6, B Booth 6, B Dockrill 5, D Dilley 4, J Evans 4, GK Kightley 5, M P Meyers 1, M K Loder 4, Ms RA Hore 6, Messrs VJ Smith 3 and MA Taylor 2.

The Board met on 12 occasions from 11 July 2006 to 12 June 2007. Messrs RE Horsell (Chairman) 12, DH Cole 12, BW Collins 9, BJ Gainsford 2+, GK Harinath 11, Ms RA Hore 11, MF Rosen 10, MJ Silver 10, VJ Smith 8 and MA Taylor 10

+ Retired 04/09/06 – possible 2 meetings only
* Elected 04/09/06 – possible 10 meetings only
NSW CRICKET ASSOCIATION  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee) (ABN 27 000 011 987)  

DETAILS FROM INCOME STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ECONOMIC ENTITY</th>
<th>PARENT ENTITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue from operations</td>
<td>33,276,179</td>
<td>22,460,348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses from operations</td>
<td>28,250,059</td>
<td>21,072,643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus from continuing operations</td>
<td>5,026,120</td>
<td>1,387,705</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ECONOMIC ENTITY</th>
<th>PARENT ENTITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRENT ASSETS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>18,615,569</td>
<td>13,537,331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade Receivables</td>
<td>2,979,545</td>
<td>915,066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>6,158</td>
<td>3,930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>335,737</td>
<td>251,547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Current Assets</td>
<td>21,937,009</td>
<td>14,707,874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables</td>
<td>52,750</td>
<td>55,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property, plant and equipment</td>
<td>1,412,950</td>
<td>1,374,216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Non-Current Assets</td>
<td>1,465,700</td>
<td>1,429,966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>23,402,709</td>
<td>16,137,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRENT LIABILITIES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and other payables</td>
<td>3,488,191</td>
<td>1,354,054</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
<td>496,292</td>
<td>685,974</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>313,684</td>
<td>19,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Current Liabilities</td>
<td>4,298,167</td>
<td>2,059,418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities</td>
<td>4,298,167</td>
<td>2,059,418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets</td>
<td>19,104,542</td>
<td>14,078,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EQUITY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities Upgrade Reserve</td>
<td>4,467,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retained earnings</td>
<td>14,637,542</td>
<td>14,078,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Equity</td>
<td>19,104,542</td>
<td>14,078,422</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SpeedBlitz Blues spread the anti-speeding message to more than 20,000 students.

As the major sponsor of the SpeedBlitz Blues, the RTA has enlisted the assistance of SpeedBlitz Blues players such as Brett Lee, Nathan Bracken and Dominic Thornely to deliver the anti-speeding messages ‘Slow down. Take control.’ and ‘There’s no such thing as safe speeding.’ to more than 20,000 students.

Through the SpeedBlitz Blues On the Road Roadshow, a school program which began in 2003, the RTA aims to raise awareness and change attitudes towards the number one killer on our roads – speeding. Around 200 people in NSW die every year due to speed, and young males continue to be over-represented in these crash statistics.

Reaction to the program has been extremely positive, with the vast majority of students indicating that they are more aware of the dangers of speeding and, importantly, are less likely to speed.

The RTA thanks all members of the SpeedBlitz Blues and the staff at Cricket NSW for their continued efforts and assistance.

DON’T GET CAUGHT OUT: Current SpeedBlitz Blues players Grant Lambert (back row, left) and Nathan Hauritz (far right) with former player Shane Lee (second from left) promote safe driving at St Peters Catholic College, Tuggerah.

Ford Ranger. Legendary tough.

The Ford Ranger boasts legendary power thanks to its high-tech, high pressure common rail turbo diesel engines. The 3.0L diesel unleashes 115kW of power and 380Nm of torque. Just as impressive is the 2.5L diesel delivering plenty of torque and outstanding fuel economy. No matter which way you go, you’ll have the muscle to carry a giant load. And with towing capacity up to 3,000kg; Ranger is equal to the best in its class. Come face to face with a legend and visit your Ford Dealer today or for more information SMS ‘Trident’ to 12 FORD: Ford Ranger. Legendary tough.

*Offer available subject to finance approval. Contact your local Ford Dealership for more information.

As an added feature, genuine Ford heavy duty towbars and load leveling kits are available. 

*Offer available subject to finance approval. Contact your local Ford Dealership for more information. 

5/4/07 4:07:06 PM
NSW BREAKERS

WOMEN'S NATIONAL CRICKET LEAGUE CHAMPIONS
FOR THE NINTH TIME IN 11 YEARS

1996/97
1997/98
1998/99
1999/00
2000/01
2001/02
2003/04
2005/06
2006/07