

Burwood District Cricket Club

Annual Report 2023/24



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Burwood District Cricket Club Incorporated

Registration Number: A0014548A

Website: <https://www.burwooddistrictcricketclub.com/>

Office Bearers

Co-Presidents | Mr. Narayanan Ramakrishnan & Mr. Arjit Banerjee

Vice-president | Mr. Darren Veitch

Treasurer | Mr. Tom Golding

Secretary | Mr. Abhishek Pratap

Senior cricket coordinator | Mr. Arjit Banerjee

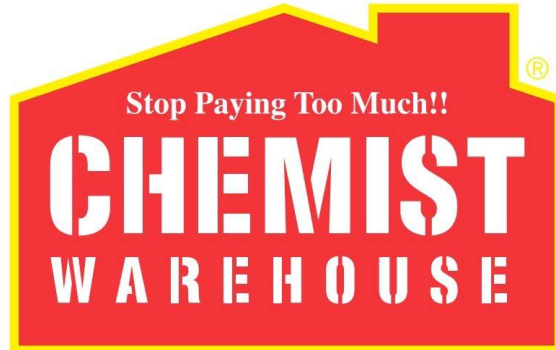
Social media coordinator | Mr. Vivek Onamalai

General committee | Mr. Arvind Suryanarayana

General committee | Mr. Jitendra Kaler

General committee | Mr. Anshuman Banerjee

THANKS TO OUR MAJOR SPONSORS



President's Report

What an amazing season it has been! Firstly, going back to June 2023 at the previous AGM, Arijt Banerjee and I were thrilled to be voted in as the new Co-Presidents of Burwood District Cricket Club. It was a great honour for us both, and we knew these were going to be huge shoes to fill following the great work and legacy left behind by our incumbent president - Mark Blundell.

A major priority from the outset for Arijt and I as Co-Presidents was to align our roles and responsibilities and spread the workload amongst us, to ensure that we had a successful year ahead. We decided early on that I would focus my energy towards the club operations and dealing with the off field matters and the association. On the contrary, Arijt focuses his effort towards On Field Cricket, in particular around the development and everyday requirements of both Junior and Senior teams. With our young families, this was very important for us, and as the year went on proved to be a major factor in the successful relationship we both formed as co-presidents.



On Field Performance

This season, Burwood District Cricket Club fielded 7 sides across all competitions, with 3 Saturday Senior sides, a Tuesday T20 side, Sunday Veterans, a Saturday Fast 9's and a Sunday Under 13's junior side (Machlin Shield - as part of the Cricket Bayside Competition). By the end of the season we had over 100 registered players across all our teams, many of which had been returning players from the previous season.

Senior Cricket

For our senior teams, season 2023/2024 began very much where we left off the previous year, with a strong love and passion by all our players for the game itself. Following the disappointing end to our finals campaign for both our 1st XI and 2nd XI, our continued focus was to build on the skillset of our players, and blood fresh new faces into the club. We saw huge improvements by many players, in particular our 3rd XI players who not only finished the season as Premiers, but also pushed for selection in the 1st and 2nd XI teams throughout the

season. On Field, our 2nd XI and 3rd XI both had amazing seasons, finishing convincingly in the top 4 and making finals. Unfortunately, our 2nd XIs were knocked out of contention following cancellations of the semi finals due to the BHRDCA extreme heat policy, which was a bitter end to their season. However for our 3rd XI, they progressed to the Grand Final and successfully defeated St Davids Cricket Club, to bring home the club's **65th Premiership Flag**.



There were a large number of individual club milestones achieved this season. In particular, congratulations to Patrick Sowersby (6000 runs), Bede Allsopp (600 wickets), Rowan Crawford (250 games) and Bert Ahcheen (100 games).

There were also players who were recognised by the BHRDCA for their efforts throughout the year, including Jake Evans (F Grade - Batting) and our 3rd XI team for their Premiership success. Congratulations to you all.

Junior Cricket

This season, it was pleasing to welcome back our Woolworths Blast Program, thanks to the leadership of Hari Rambhatla. This was strategically moved to Thursday Evenings, to be run concurrently with our Junior training from 5 PM to 6 PM. Although numbers are improving, we know that this new time slot will generate interest over the years, and serve as a differentiator to other similar clubs in the area.

Our players from the Junior teams returned this season, with both teams moving up to the Fast 9's program and Under 13's. This season we saw a 20% increase in new junior players joining the club, with the remaining coming back from previous seasons. It was great to see all the participants really enjoy their cricket, and we look forward to growing this further in future years.

This year we also reintroduced the Terry Howard award at our end of season awards night, which acknowledged the best performing Junior player across the season. We back-dated this to the last 4 seasons, and a huge congratulations to Jeremy Huang and Gemma Blundell for winning these awards across the last 4 years.

A special shout out to Gemma who again represented Dandenong Cricket Club in district representative cricket earlier this year.

Transition to Play HQ and our new website

A major change for not only our club, but all clubs around Australia was the transition from MyCricket to PlayHQ - the new online scoring and cricket portal. This proved to be a mammoth task for all involved, and although it had its challenges along the way, ended up being an integral data source for this year's scores, statistics and previous season history.

This also involved us transitioning to a new club website, following the decommissioning of our previous one. This season we were able to get this up and running, to a much more neat and clean version, with a focus on including action photos and articles prepared by our club historian.

A special mention to Ian Scholefield and Abhishek Pratap who were both driving forces in ensuring that we were able to seamlessly transition across, while also ensuring that we preserved all the historical data from MyCricket and other records through this system.

Our new website can be accessed here: <https://www.burwooddistrictcricketclub.com/>

Committee & Sponsors

To those who were on the committee, Darren Veitch, Tom Golding, Abhishek Pratap, Vivek Onamalai, Anshuman Banerjee, Arvind Suryanarayana and Jay Kaler; thank you for your efforts this year and the positive impact that you had around the club throughout the season. A special thank you to Patrick Sowersby and Bede Allsop for their behind the scenes work and advice, which has helped both Arijit and I immensely.

Thanks also to our captains, Arijit, Jake and Hadley, Parag and Pratik, who ensured our Senior teams got out there on the pitch each week. Without people like the gentlemen above, the club doesn't function. So again thank you, and we hope more of our members will consider volunteering and helping around the club in the future.

To our Major club sponsors, we thank you for your continued support of the club. To Steve at Roaring Success, Shoubhik at Treadcare and Bert at Chemist Warehouse your generous support has allowed us to provide for our members in terms of equipment, apparel and uniforms. This included new hats free of charge to all players across the club.

Furthermore, we welcome this year a set of new social sponsors, who have contributed towards the club in different ways. Eagle Rise Sports & Trophies, Farside Beers, Dominoes Ashburton and Masuri Cricket have all been integral parts of our club supporting us with Merchandise, Trophies, Player of the Week awards and spaces for social events.

Social Events

This season, we were fortunate to enjoy each other's company through a variety of different functions both at Hartwell and external spaces. We began with our Season Launch at Farside beers, and concluded with an amazing Presentation night at Burwood District Bowls Club.

This was a huge event for the club, where we had close to 100 attendees from both our Junior and Senior teams. We would like to acknowledge and congratulate all our award winners for their success both on and off the field. We are truly grateful to have club wide events like this, and look forward to doing many more in the future.

Although during the season, we didn't have many large social events, it was pleasing to see many boys hang out at the rooms following games, and spend quality time with each other off the field. This was very important for team morale and we were able to see this flow into games with stronger connections on field.

Looking Ahead

Looking ahead towards the next 12 months, it's a very exciting time to be part of the Burra. Apart from continuing the momentum we have from the season just passed, we aim to focus our attention to the below key areas:

Building on our Junior Cricket program, by introducing a Junior Coach and increasing our player base

- Continuing discussions with the Boroondara council regarding the redevelopment of Hartwell Rooms and the overall Sportsground. We strive to get this off the ground, with a target completion of Mid 2027.
- Recruitment of new players for both our Junior and Senior teams

Finally on behalf of Arjit and I, we would like to thank all of those that have supported us through our first season as co-presidents. Albeit having its challenges along the way, it has been a very rewarding experience, and we have learnt much in the short period. We strive to take these learnings and do better in the upcoming season, which we hope will be another successful year for the club both on and off the field.

Thank you!

Narayanan Ramakrishnan & Arjit Banerjee

Co-Presidents 2023/2024

Junior Cricket Report

Season 2023/24 saw the club once again field two junior sides; a Fast 9 (Stage 2 format) side in the Saturday morning BHRDCA competition and a Sunday morning Under 13 (Stage 2 format) side within the Inner South-East Cricket Competition. In total we had 21 junior players register to play competitive junior cricket with the club, this included 2 brand new players to the Burra. In addition to our junior sides, the club also ran the Woolworths Blast program on a Thursday night. This program brought another 6 players to register with the club, and start their own cricket journey.

During the off season the decision was made to move our eldest players to the Inner South-East competition so they could continue to play Stage 2 modified rules. The team looked forward to playing for premierships and potentially finals for the first time, unfortunately the team was placed in a grade higher than requested, and subsequently won only one game (Round 1 V Ashwood) for the year. However the decision to move associations and be able to continue to play Stage 2 cricket format was the right one for both the team and the individual players. Once again our players showed their reliance and determination to improve themselves and gave their best effort in each game they played. The improvement over the season was pleasing as many players within the team reached bowling and batting milestones that they had not reached in previous seasons.

Our Saturday morning team also moved this season, advancing from Super 7 (Stage 1) to the higher Fast 9's (Stage 2) level. This meant players were playing with a leather ball and faced the prospect of being dismissed whilst batting for the very first time! Whilst the initial shock of what it feels to be batting and then suddenly get out, with no second chances, was hard to take for some in the early rounds. The boys did adapt to the new rules throughout the season and played some improved and positive cricket as the season progressed. The Fast 9's competition don't play for premierships, but there were some impressive results from both a team and an individual perspective throughout the year.

Training was held each Thursday afternoon and was combined with the two teams. A big thank you to Bede Allsopp, Abhishek Pratap and the other senior players who assisted with training throughout the season. A special thank you to another senior player Hari Rambhatla who volunteered to run the Woolworths Blast program this year. This was also conducted on a Thursday night alongside our junior team training, which gives our club a point of difference compared to the many other clubs in our district on which day Blast is run. No doubt that this program will continue to grow, and we will then see more players feed up to our junior competition teams in the future. It is great that our senior players are willing to give up their time to help our juniors.

A thank you to all the parents who involve their children in our club. A special thank you to those parents who also take on extra roles and responsibilities such as scoring and umpiring each week, it is very much appreciated. An extra thank you to Kaveen Singh who again took on the role as Team Manager for the Fast 9 Saturday team. Our thanks also goes to Naz, Abhishek and the committee for putting on the two social dinners for the junior players and for all the background work that they do to allow our children to participate in cricket matches each weekend!



2023/24 Junior Award Winners		
ISEC U13 B - Machlin Shield	Callum Jones	Season's Best Catch Award
ISEC U13 B - Machlin Shield	Carys Jones	Most Improved Award
ISEC U13 B - Machlin Shield	Luke Whittington	Most Wickets Bowling Award
ISEC U13 B - Machlin Shield	Angela Whittington	Coach's Award
ISEC U13 B - Machlin Shield	Adam Huang	Courage Award
ISEC U13 B - Machlin Shield	Jeremy Huang	Professional Cricketer Award
ISEC U13 B - Machlin Shield	Jack Licence	All Rounder Award
ISEC U13 B - Machlin Shield	Gemma Blundell	Most Runs Batting Award
ISEC U13 B - Machlin Shield	Reed Barton	Most Determined Award
ISEC U13 B - Machlin Shield	Walter Williams	Nephew of a Legend Award
ISEC U13 B - Machlin Shield	Hamish McElhinney	Most Competitive Award
BHRDCA Fast 9's	Ranvir Singh	Most Wickets Bowling Award
BHRDCA Fast 9's	Jed Batchelor	Coach's Award
BHRDCA Fast 9's	Veer Singh	All Rounder Award
BHRDCA Fast 9's	Aryan Galal	Most Runs Batting Award
BHRDCA Fast 9's	Aarav Rajendran	Tight Bowling Award
BHRDCA Fast 9's	Oliver Pope	Most Wickets Bowling Award
BHRDCA Fast 9's	Nathan Roso	Best Strike Rate Batting Award
BHRDCA Fast 9's	Jaivanth Bajaj	Most Determined Award
BHRDCA Fast 9's	Aariyan Varathan	Professional Cricketer Award

Mark Blundell
Under-13 Team Coach

Treasurer's Report - 2023/2024

The 2023/24 season was about continuing our work from last year and giving back to our players and getting as many of the boys out at Hartwell Sports Grounds playing cricket. The club has built up a strong financial position over the years and it was the committee's aim to continue this.

Financially, it was a very successful year for the club, finishing this year with a **gain of \$1,960**. This coupled with a healthy bank account position, in stock merchandise, and other equipment sitting on our balance sheet, we are in a strong position to continue building next season. By referring to our balance sheet, **our net assets position has gone up this year by \$2,565**, due to our added investment in equipment and increase in our NAB bank account position.

The club continued our partnership with Masuri to provide our Burwood District CC merchandise range across both our senior and junior teams. This range allowed us to continue a focus of wearing the new 'one day' tops across our one day, VETS and T20 teams. The club was also able to sell a lot of the merchandise purchased last year, reducing our merchandise stock on hand and creating a solid revenue stream. Again we look forward to working with Masuri again in 2024/2025 to continue supplying our players with top quality merchandise.

From last year the membership price was slightly increased to cover some of the increase in competition fees the club was subject to. However, we continued to roll our senior and junior memberships with an early bird option that aimed to get as many players signed up earlier. This was successful in gaining 20 members before the season kicked off. As we look towards future years, the committee will continue to work with the players to gauge an appropriate playing fee, to ensure we continue to get more and more members committing to a full season membership.

Like previous seasons, we continue to be generously supported by our major sponsors - Roaring Success, Treadcare and Chemist warehouse. This generous sponsorship money is so important for the club and allowed us to continue investing in our Junior and Senior players, contributing towards merchandise costs, and also equipment around the club. Myself, the committee and wider club would like to thank them all for their generosity over the last couple of years and look forward to working closely with them going forward.

It was pleasing to have our Burra family and friends in the club rooms post training and match day, enjoying a nice meal and drink whenever we got the change to do so. Our major events for the season included being able to host another year of the Roaring Success Golf Day, Treadcare Cup and finish off with a whole club presentation afternoon at the Burwood District Bowls Club. A massive thank you to all those who organised and attended these events.

This year we also used the club presentation afternoon as an opportunity to update our shields and trophies. It is important for Burwood District CC to recognise the achievements of our members where possible and this update is an important step in doing so. We look forward to everyone seeing the updated versions next season, when we step back into our club rooms at Hartwell Sports ground.

Thanks to the fixture, we were also able to host both a festival of cricket weekend at Hartwell, that was our main opportunity for the year to sell food and drinks across the weekend. Unfortunately due to heat we were unable to host a semi final at Hartwell, which was a missed opportunity for the club.

Overall, the season 2023/2024 was a successful year for the club, as we continue to build our teams across the seniors and juniors, in particular as we hit the 100-year mark in 2028.

To conclude, I'd like to thank the committee, players and extended members of Burwood District CC, for your ongoing support and cooperation throughout the season. Also a special mention to Narayanan Ramakrishnan has been a massive help in my first year in the position, and led the club in many ways on and off the field.

Tomas Golding

Treasurer - Burwood District Cricket Club

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

	1st June 2023 - 31st May 2024			
	YTD Actuals	Prior Year	YTD Actuals vs. Prior Year	Notes
Income				
Bar	\$ 359	\$ 3,437	\$ (3,078)	1
Donations	\$ -	\$ 110	\$ (110)	
Fundraising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Community Grants	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ (1,500)	
Community Tournaments	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Equipment	\$ -	\$ 163	\$ (163)	
Merchandise	\$ 1,120	\$ 1,675	\$ (555)	
Net Hire	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Presentation Night	\$ 1,210	\$ -	\$ 1,210	2
Social Functions	\$ 1,120	\$ 2,022	\$ (902)	2
Sponsorship	\$ 3,850	\$ 3,500	\$ 350	
Subscriptions - Junior/Blast	\$ 2,570	\$ 3,624	\$ (1,054)	
Subscriptions - Senior	\$ 11,395	\$ 13,269	\$ (1,874)	3
Vets Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total Income	\$ 21,624	\$ 29,299	\$ (7,676)	

Financial Notes - Income:

1. **Bar:** Social Events were not as common for us this season, this coupled with no games during our teams finals campaigns.
2. **Presentation Night & Social Functions:** Income streams separated this season. This was a net gain from last season though as we made \$308 more in revenue from these events.
3. **Subscriptions - Seniors:** This is a combination of both Senior players and VETS, as we are treating them all the same.

	1st June 2023 - 31st May 2024			
	YTD Actuals	Prior Year	YTD Actuals vs. Prior Year	Notes
Expenses				
Advertising	\$ 621	\$ 144	\$ (459)	
Bank Fees	\$ 11	\$ -	\$ (11)	
Bar	\$ 452	\$ 1,822	\$ 1,370	
Community Tournaments	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ (250)	
Donations Paid	\$ -	\$ 330	\$ 330	

Equipment	\$ 2,102	\$ 2,655	\$ 553	
Fundraising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Grounds Maintenance	\$ 5,601	\$ 5,330	\$ (270)	
Honour Board	\$ 523	\$ 347	\$ (177)	
Insurance	\$ 64	\$ 484	\$ 420	
Fees / Fines	\$ -	\$ 468	\$ 468	
Merchandise	\$ 2,734	\$ 11,685	\$ 8,952	4
MyCricket Fees	\$ -	\$ 280	\$ 280	
Net Hire	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Presentation Night	\$ 1,582	\$ 195	\$ (1,387)	
Registration	\$ 1,866	\$ 1,300	\$ (566)	
Social Functions	\$ 1,396	\$ 2,794	\$ 1,398	
Square Fees	\$ 325	\$ 166	\$ (159)	
Sundry Expenses	\$ 563	\$ 425	\$ (137)	
Training	\$ -	\$ 297	\$ 297	
Trophies/Awards	\$ 1,266	\$ 991	\$ (275)	
Umpire Fees	\$ 580	\$ 750	\$ 170	
Total Expenses	\$ 19,933	\$ 30,481	\$ 10,548	
PROFIT / (LOSS)	\$ 1,691	\$ (1,182)	\$ 2,872	

Financial Notes - Expenses:

4. **Merchandise:** As we had a healthy amount of merchandise at the club, it was not a priority to purchase as much this season. We aimed to sell some of this existing merchandise, which we were able to do.

FINANCIAL POSITION

	Year to	Year to	\$ Difference
	31/05/2024	31/05/2023	31/05/2024 vs 31/05/2023
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash on hand			
Cash in Tin	\$95	\$0	\$95
NAB Bank Account	\$16,624	\$14,933	\$1,691
Total Cash on Hand	\$16,719	\$14,933	\$1,786
Stock - Bar	\$100	\$150	(\$50)
Stock - Merchandise*	\$2,571	\$3,845	(\$1,274)
Subs Owing	\$0	\$0	\$0
Accounts Receivable	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Stock	\$2,671	\$3,995	(\$1,324)

Total Current Assets	\$19,390	\$18,928	\$462
Property & Equipment			
Boroondara Key deposit	\$500	\$500	\$0
Pavilion - Club Rooms	\$50	\$50	\$0
Pavilion - BBQ	\$150	\$150	\$0
Total Property	\$200	\$200	\$0
Equipment			
Match Equipment	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
Practice Equipment	\$3,891	\$1,789	\$2,102
Playing Surfaces	\$7,551	\$7,551	\$0
Playing Surfaces - Accum Dep	(\$7,551)	(\$7,551)	\$0
Total Equipment	\$6,891	\$4,789	\$2,102
Total Property & Equipment	\$7,591	\$5,489	\$2,102
Total Assets	\$26,982	\$24,417	\$2,565
Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Assets	\$26,982	\$24,416	\$2,565
Equity			
Retained Earnings	\$24,417	\$22,726	\$1,691
Current Year earnings (Profit)	\$1,691	(\$1,164)	\$2,855
Common Stock	\$874	\$2,855	(\$1,981)
Historical Balancing	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Equity	\$26,982	\$24,417	\$2,565

Secretary's Report

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the 2023-24 Secretary's Report for the Burwood District Cricket Club. It has been a year filled with achievements, challenges, and camaraderie, reflecting the spirit of our beloved club and sport.

Membership:

Our club has seen consistent membership numbers over the past year, with many new members joining our ranks. We've strived to create an inclusive environment, welcoming players of all ages and skill levels, fostering a sense of community among our members.

Burwood District's playing numbers have continued to grow steadily each season over the last few years as the club managed to field 5 senior and 2 junior teams across Saturdays and Sundays. We had 95 player registrations in season 23/24 which included 74 senior player registrations and 21 junior player registrations.

The club fielded teams in the Box Hill Reporter District Cricket Association (BHRDCA) as follows:

1st XI – [A Grade \(80 Overs, 12 Players\)](#)

2nd XI – [F Grade \(One Day - 70 Overs, 12 Players\)](#)

3rd XI – [H Grade \(Split Innings - 64 Overs, 13 Players\)](#)

Vets XI – [B Division - Ken Johnston Trophy](#) - Eastern Veterans Competition (BHRDCA/RDCA)

T20 XI – [T20 D Grade - Mulgrave Country Club Shield](#)

Fast 9s – [Fast 9's - Saturday](#) Junior Competition

Our second junior team, the under-13s played in the [U13B Sunday - Machlin Shield](#) under Cricket Southern Bayside's (CSB), Inner South-East Cricket - CSB Juniors Competition.

Club players were also recognised for their achievements during the season at the BHRDCA Annual Presentation Night on 19 April 2024 with **Jake Evans** winning the F-grade batting award for scoring 317 runs at an average of 63.4.

Two other key statistical achievements from the club were Patrick Sowersby scoring the highest number of runs in the F grade with 351 runs at an average of 58.5 and Omkar Pawar picking the highest number of wickets in the H grade with 17 wickets at an average of 11.53.

Competitions and Matches

It was a great season for us on-field with two of our senior teams reaching the semi-finals or better in their respective competitions with the highlight being our thirds bringing home the **65th flag** for the Burra by winning the BHRDCA H-Grade Split Innings Competition in a dominating final win against St. Davids Cricket Club.

Our second XIs made the semi-finals of the F Grade competition after finishing third on the home-and-away games ladder but could not take the field as the match got abandoned due to heat policy under BHRDCA's rules, thereby ruling them out of the grand final match.

Facilities and Infrastructure

Improvements to our facilities and infrastructure have been a priority for the committee. One of these developments that we could achieve this year was the building of a new club website - www.burwooddistrictcricketclub.com.

The club also transitioned from the old MyCricket Administration platform to the new PlayHQ administration to manage player registrations and movement and competition management.

Club Recognition

On 20 September 2023, Adrian 'Dogman' Reus was awarded with the **Lifetime Achievement Award** by the City of Boroondara council's annual sport awards. This was a proud moment for the club this year as a stalwart of our club and community cricket was recognised for this service and dedication.

Financial Report

Our financial position remains stable, thanks to the diligent efforts of our treasurer and the support of our members. We've managed our finances prudently, ensuring that resources are allocated efficiently to support the ongoing growth and sustainability of the club.

Acknowledgments

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all members, volunteers, sponsors, and supporters who have contributed to the success of the club over the past year.

Looking Ahead

As we look to the future, let us continue to uphold the values of sportsmanship, teamwork, and integrity that define our club. Together, we will build upon the legacy of excellence that has been established, ensuring that the Burwood District Cricket Club remains a cornerstone of our community for generations to come.

In conclusion, I am honored to have served as the club secretary for the past three seasons and am proud of all that we have accomplished together. I will be stepping down from the role following this AGM. I wish the incoming committee and the secretary great luck to carry forward the club in the progressive direction it has been moving towards. May the year ahead be filled with even greater achievements and memorable moments on and off the field.

Go Burras!

Sincerely,

Abhishek Pratap

Secretary - Burwood District Cricket Club

Historian's Report

BDCC CENTENARY HISTORY – PROGRESS REPORT - MAY 2024

Focus on the past 12 months has been in the following areas:

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

(1) Newspaper reviews

Various newspapers for the years 1922-1968 have been studied, both on-line through Trove (NLA - National Library of Australia) and, original papers at the State Library of Victoria (SLV). There have been gaps in each year, particularly in the 1942-1945 war year period and the editions immediately around Christmas and the New Year each year.

During the past 12 months microfilm was reviewed at SLV of the Box Hill Reporter for the 1931 to 1940 editions and "Melbourne Star" (Argus evening paper) Nov 1933 – Feb 1936 (its total life).

(2) Personal Interviews

Personal interviews have been focused on family members and past players from the BDCA in the past 12 months. Other interviews related to development of stories produced for the website, particularly for the achievement of milestones. The new website came on-line in February.

(3) Historical Societies

Contact has been continued with the Box Hill, Waverley and Whitehorse (formerly Nunawading) Historical Societies. Each group have an amazing storage of memories, documents and photographs which will benefit our future publications.

(4) Burwood and District Cricket Association (BDCA) 1922-1968

The local competition to which we were affiliated from our origin (1928) was BDCA. Our club have extremely limited information and data before the sixties so attention has been focused on this period.

My plan is to produce a history on the BDCA by the end of 2024 which will feature people and clubs which have influenced cricket in the community in the region and still having impact into the future. An article on this project was published in the April 2024 edition of tri-yearly local magazine, Bulletin (previously titled Burwood Bulletin). If you want to have a read it is featured on the club's website or I can send you a copy.

(5) Neighbouring Club Histories

A history of Burwood CC "Community at the Crease" 1874-2024 was published in February 2024. Author and historian Stella Barber has done a fantastic job and utilized parts of my research. A current version of Ashburton CC's history was been put on hold due to funding issues. Local historian Sarah Craze intends to produce a book on Ashburton community in the first half of 2024. I am supporting each enterprise, as the sharing of information benefits all clubs.

STATISTICAL

(1) National Cricket Database

Following the 2022/23 season Cricket Australia (CA) decided to discontinue the contract with MyCricket providers and introduced a new on-line system to be managed by Play HQ.

Access to MyCricket records is still available although some of the reporting processes are problematic. The intention of extending this initiative into the ladies and junior sections is no longer possible. It also means that total data is spread over two databases. Fingers are crossed that the information can be linked in the future.

(2) Team Scorebooks

In the last 12 months we have not found any more of the missing scorebooks, and I hope that somehow, someone, somewhere, may help us find one or more of the 44 (12 Men's, 1 girls and 31 juniors) missing books. Even some more recent scorebooks have wandered. These are the raw data of our club's past. *Assistance Required – chase up Captains and Team Managers to obtain the missing scorebooks. (A full list is available.)*

(3) Individual Career Records

A master file of around 2,800 former players has been created. At the moment career spreadsheets have been set-up to record grade-by-grade and season-by-season records for around 700 players. The aim is to extend this to every individual player in our history. It is still a work-in-progress as data from the 1998/99 season through to four seasons ago have only been prepared for long serving players and current ones.

(4) BHRDCA Heritage Committee

This Heritage Committee, driven by Andy Lambert (East Doncaster CC) has regularly produced reports on performance in the BHRDCA including Clubs, Premierships, Batting and Bowling achievements.

I have sighted a draft updated version of BHRDCA Stats history from 2008/09 to 2023/24 season which incorporates Office-bearers, Special Awards, T20 and Vets for the first occasion. Some to feature from our club are Bede Allsopp (Including in batting records), Jeff Costello, Charlie Dart, Greg Paroissien, Adrian Reus, Kolitha Weerasekara and Steve Wood.

Note – Andy has done similar Statistical Summaries, which are updated to the end of the 2023/24 season, for BHRDCA Legends, Eastern Cricket Association, CVC Over 50's & Over 60's plus his own club East Doncaster CC. I am happy to email a soft copy of any of these reports to anyone interested.

PAST MEMBERS, OFFICIALS & CLUBS

(1) Contact Details

A database of the contact details of past members is constantly being maintained. Currently there are 174 people listed. There are many more around and each has made a contribution to our club's success, and it would be great to have them on our lists to be informed and involved. I have just received the phone number for Andrew McLaren (junior in the mid-seventies) and will be chasing him up. If anyone knows the whereabouts or contact details of Konrad Gill, Kerri McDougall and Peter O'Donnell that would be appreciated.

(2) News Stories on the website and social media

A new BDCC website was created and went on-line in February 2024. This was necessary because the former website was attached to Cricket Australia's MyCricket which was de-commissioned following the previous season.

The new website address is: www.burwooddistrictcricketclub.com/

Since February the following stories have been featured:

- Club Milestones 2023/24 (Pat Sowersby 250 games, Rowan Crawford 250 games and Bede Allsopp 600 wickets).
- Seychellois Chemist reaches 100 Game Milestone (Bert AhCheen)

ARCHIVAL MANAGEMENT

A few gains have occurred in the past 12 months which is pleasing although there are still many subjects which still require action.

Each matter is still relevant and worth repeating.

(1) Premiership Flags

Small Success - Found in the bottom of a cardboard box in the pavilion store room were four of the missing flags – Shield 2nds 1979/80, A1 2006/07, U14C 1977/78 and U14B 2009/10. Question is - where are the rest?

Previous Report - *Premiership flags from all, except the most recent years, have disappeared. The Club has had the Men's First XI BHRDCA flags reproduced.*

(2) Club Champion Shields

Success – Terry Howard Shield (Junior Club Champion) covering 1988/89 to 2003/04 was located in the home of a former winner and has been returned. The one from 2004/05 to 2009/10 was updated, whilst a new junior one was created which matches the new senior one introduced in 2023. The Ladies Club Championship (Bob Redwood Shield) remains in storage.

We are still missing the earlier Club Champion Shield for men (Colin McDonald Trophy) and would love to have the full collection intact.

(3) Photographs and Framed Prints

No Progress.

Previous Report - *Many of the frames are damaged or broken. Photographs for the history publication are in short supply for most of the last 20 years. Where prudent, repairs need to be made to framed prints.*

(4) Storage of Records

Shelving has now been installed thanks to efforts of Bede Allsopp and Naz Ramakrishnan.

Previous report – *Simple shelving in the archive room would protect and make access easier for scorebooks, framed photographs etc.*

(5) BDCC Newsletters

No Progress.

Previous report – *I am looking for copies any newsletters which have been produced from 1998-99 onwards. I have tried a lot of people but no-one seems to have retained copies.*

If you can help on any of these matters, please contact me.

Ian Scholefield

Historian – Burwood District Cricket Club

Email – ian.scholefield@bigpond.com

Phone - 9887 3883

Mobile/Text - 0455 555 986.

First XI Captain's Report



The 2023/24 season was a year of development for the BDCC First Eleven. After almost clinching the C grade Premierships last year, we set ourselves a challenge and test our abilities and moved up to A grade. I am very proud of how the boys responded to this challenge. We struggled to have a consistent 12 on the field due to availability and injuries throughout the year which puts any cricket team on the backfoot from the beginning, however even with these challenges the team excelled. We were 1 game out of the finals for our 1st year playing 80 over cricket in A grade. Finishing on 4 wins & 6th position for the year – we knocked off eventual premiers for A grade, amazing result by the gents.

Continuing on his year in year out consistency, Shiv Goundan excelled again finishing with 462 runs with an average of 46.2 and a century to his name. Shiv has cemented as one of the best BDCC have had in recent times scoring runs for fun. Rowan Crawford (245 runs @ 22.7) & Mark Savyell (216 runs @ 27) provided to be our key cogs with the batting order this year. Looking to improve and grow as a batting unit for our 2nd year in A grade for season 24/25.

A key challenge we faced this year was the consistency of opposition batsmen and the depth on show in A grade. Our bowling unit learnt throughout the year and stepped up with some incredible efforts highlighted by 5/26 in Rd 3 by Tom Golding and 5/50 in Rd 8 by Narayan Ramakrishnan. Narayan having a strong season with the ball finishing with 15 wickets @ 16.33. Well done to Kishan for finishing with 13 wickets and Bede with 9.

A massive effort by Bertrand AhCheen this year, who was in career best form behind the stumps. He finished with 17 catches behind the stumps and shared a special moment with his son Xander taking a catch off his bowling to! Bert has become one of the 1st picked at BDCC – showing his unique ability to Bat, bowl and being a rock solid Keeper, his value within the team is at an all-time high!

Our best moment for year 23/24 was when we beat eventual Premiers causing a huge upset. A performance filled with determine and grit, we bounced back from a loss against this team a couple of weeks prior where the boys were not happy with our performance. We stepped up, came determined to make a difference and everyone stepped up and played their role, very proud!

A couple of key shout outs for the BDCC 1st 11 – We sorely missed Abhishek for the 2nd half of the year after he broke his collar bone in the field (saved match winning runs!!) – His commitment to the the team and the

club has never waived and this was highlighted even after his injury stepping up to take care of the Junior program to ensure he could help out where ever he could while being injured. A huge thank you to Abhishek.

Finally, very proud of the progress Pat Sowersby has made with his return to cricket after a significant layoff with injury. Many of us are aware of his journey, but to be coming back and now playing cricket after everything he has been through highlights his willpower, commitment to the burra and general love for the sport. An amazing human being to have around the club, Pat took the lead at training with Bede and lifted the standards of the boys. He dominated with the bat in the 1s and 2s this year finishing with a century in A grade helping out the team whenever he could! Congrats on getting back to cricket – you were missed!

Overall, Season 23/24 has provided many great individual efforts and significant development as a team. Looking forward to pushing A grade teams further in season 24/25!

Cheers

Arjit Banerjee
First XIs Captain

Second XI Captains' Report



Second XIs Captains

Third XI Captain's Report



Round 1 Burwood District 3rd X1 vs Heatherdale 5th X1 two-day Game at Hartwell Sports Ground, Shoubhik and Parag were the co-captains, the first game of the season is always a tough game, you want to start the season with a win, and yet we just narrowly lost the game against Heatherdale Shubro batted really well with the score of 36 runs, Dishant and Omkar both ended up with the score of 28 and 23 respectively, Jay and Omkar bowled really well picking 2 wickets each, Dishant, Vivek, and Shankar Lahiri picked 1 wicket each, we just narrowly lost the game by 2 wickets.

Round 2 Burwood District 3rd X1 vs Blackburn South 3rd X1 two-day Game at Hartwell Sports Ground, batting first Burwood District set the target of 252 thanks to batting efforts from Meet, Jatan, and Priyesh, scoring 54, 75, and 31 respectively, with good opening partnerships from Meet and Priyesh of 65 runs, Pinak picked 3 wickets, omkar, and Dishant picked 2 wickets each, we stop their run chase at 182 and Burwood District third X1 chased the first win of the season winning by 70 runs.

Round 3 Burwood District 3rd X1 vs Heatherdale 5th X1 one-day Game at Mitcham Reserve, Burwood District started with another good opening partnership from Meet and Priyesh with 60 runs on board, setting the batting benchmark for the rest of the batters, Rohit finishing the inning with 26 runs, we set the target of 189 runs. Jay was brilliant with an economy rate of just 2, picking 3 wickets, and Nishant picking the last 4 wickets, Burwood District won the game by 120 runs.

Round 4 Burwood District 3rd X1 vs Glen Waverley Cougars 3rd X1 two-day game at Freeway Reserve, on day one Burwood District was nearly tied with Glen Waverley, both sides losing 5 wickets each, with Burwood District batting first on day 2, Krishnan and Parag started well, end up with a seventh wicket partnership of 135 runs, setting the target of 219 runs, thanks to omkar's 3 wickets haul and Dhanur, Nishant picking 2 wickets each the Glen Waverley were restricted to 160 runs Burwood District won by 59 runs. Round 5 was abandoned due to rain.

Round 6 Burwood District 3rd X1 vs Laburnum 3rd X1 one-day Game at Hartwell Sports Ground, thanks to Ash Warren and Suyash filling up for the team against the table topper Laburnum, Burwood District, restricted Laburnum to 113 runs, thanks to Dhanur and debutant, Nisarg Patel picking 2 wickets each and good economical bowling from Suyash and Dishant. Brilliant knock from Meet anchoring and scoring 53 runs while chasing, helped us achieve the target efficiently losing just 3 wickets Burwood District chased down the total with ease.

Round 7 Burwood District 3rd X1 vs Park Orchards 3rd X1 two-day Game at Stintons Reserve, Burwood District elected to bat first, with the brilliant batting effort from Pratik scoring 46 runs, as well as Meet, Rohit, Jatan, and Dhanur contributed towards scoring runs, helped the team reach reasonable 183 runs, and while

defending the total thanks to great bowling effort from Dhanur, Omkar and Suyash picking 2 wickets each, with overall performance including brilliant piece of fielding, Burwood District won the game by 20 runs.

Round 8 Burwood District 3rd X1 vs Park Orchards 3rd X1 one-day Game at Hartwell Sports Ground, bowling first Burwood District restricted Park Orchards to 146 runs, with Parag picking 3 wickets, and Nisarg, Vivek, and Omkar picked 1 wicket each, while chasing Meet once again delivered solid start for the team scoring 37 runs, and with all batters contributing towards the end Burwood District managed to win this dramatic game which went till the last ball of the last over. Burwood District won the game by 3 wickets.

Round 9 Burwood District 3rd X1 vs St David's 3rd X1 two-day Game at Hartwell Sports Ground, Burwood District batting first on day one managed to score 87 runs with 5 wickets down, in return St David's managed to score 90 runs with 5 wickets down, thanks to Lachlan bowling on his first match with the Burwood District 3rd eleven he picked 3 crucial wickets, at the end both the teams were nearly tied on day one, on day two St David's middle order scored some crucial runs giving them the lead of 100 runs and Burwood District while chasing ended up with 62 runs short, Burwood District losing just second time in the season.

Round 10 Burwood District 3rd X1 vs Laburnum 3rd X1 two-day Game at Mirrabooka Reserve, the last round before qualifiers and in the absence of the co-captain Parag and Pratik, Dhanur Bhardwaj steps up as a captain, with Burwood District batting first on day one ended up the inning with 107 runs losing just 3 wickets, thanks to the Meet and Steve batting partnership, Meet scoring 41 valuable runs and, Nisarg's scoring some quick runs at the end, took the score to 107. While chasing Laburnum was neck to neck with Burwood District, scoring 115 runs and losing 2 wickets, but bowling on day 2 made the difference Dhanur took the first wicket of the set batter on day 2, Nisarg picked 3 wickets, and Dhanur, Omkar end up with 2 wickets each, spinners Jay and Dishant bowled well, with economy rate, just over 2.00 in 18 overs giving away 41 runs, pressured the batters to make mistakes and While chasing the target Mark and Dhanur from Burwood District made sure not to give any more wickets away, they build an unbeaten 80-run partnership, Mark scored 56 runs with good strike rate and Dhanur scored 31 runs helped the team towards the victory and secured second position in the points ladder.

The semi-finals were abandoned due to the bad weather.

Finals, Burwood District 3rd X1 vs St David's 3rd X1 at Donvale Reserve, The finals were played between the top 2 teams on the ladder, so the finalist Burwood District and St David's faced each other one more time with Burwood District playing away, but thanks to the whole Burra family support it felt like the game was being played at Hartwell Sports Ground, in the absence of Parag Jagtap and Shoubhik Lahiri, Pratik Wagh lead the Burwood District 3rd X1, Batting First on day one Priyesh and Meet both delivered steady start for the team, Mark and Pratik continue the momentum and build a solid partnership of 36 runs, Mark anchoring the inning and Pratik with his usual stroke playing helped Burwood district to the score of 87 runs for the loss of 4 wickets on day one, while bowling in second inning Omkar started off the spell picking up the key wicket of their opening batter, Jay picked up the second wicket and the wickets kept tumbling down, omkar ended his spell with 3 wickets, St Davids ended up with the score of 80 runs with loss of 5 wickets on day one, on day 2, our bowlers were spectacular, Omkar finished his spell with the figures of 12 overs 28 runs 5 wickets, his first five wicket haul for the club, Jay, Dhanur, Vivek each picked one wicket and St David's managed to set the target of 152 runs, Burwood District batters chased the target without losing any further wickets, Pratik score match winning 70 runs not out with Dhanur 21 runs not out, Pratik and omkar both leading from the front played a key role towards the Burwood District Premiere win.

Special mentions

Steve and Mark, the most experienced players on the team were leading from the front not only on-field but also off-field too. I hope players definitely learned a few things from these legends.

Jatan Mavani, was superb throughout the season, with good wicketkeeping skills and aggressive batting was the highlight of the season.

Omkar Pawar, being the highest wicket-taker of the season, with 3's, has been phenomenal throughout the season with his bowling, especially picking a five-wicket haul in the final match is a great achievement he ended up with 17 wickets in the season.

Meet Dayani, with his incredible batting performance throughout the season, was a top scorer for the team with 289 runs with a solid average of 32.11, setting up the example of hard work paid off, he didn't miss a single training session throughout the season.

Pratik Wagh, taking over the captaincy in a final game, led the team from the front with his batting performance and leadership.

Dishant Solanki, although he missed a few games, was great in the field, and with his solid all-round performance all the season.

Lachlan Eichler, who played his first match of the season with 3rd X1 in round 9 ended up with a bowling figure of 3-30, he bowled well throughout the season.

I would like to thank Pratik and Dhanur, for their willingness to captain the side in my absence, they did a spectacular job by bringing home the premiere flag good job guys. Thanks to the Support of the Burra family, especially in the finals, it played a huge part in the success of the team.

Congratulations to the club award winners Jatan Mavani, Krishnan Venkatchalam, Meet Dayani, and Omkar Pawar.

Parag Jagtap

3rd Eleven Co-Captain 2023-24

Veterans XI Captain's Report

The Vets or as we like to be known as (the mature aged side) had a very up and down season. In the preseason our inspirational leader decided to put major back surgery ahead of cricket, so the first point of call was to find a replacement. They were big shoes to fill so we decided that not one, but two captains were required. Brendan (Mulls) Mulligan put his hand up to lead the team on field and did a fantastic job organising and controlling the mob on match day. The task of finding eleven available and fit players each week fell to me. This proved to very challenging with Hip, Knee, Ankle, Shoulder, Back and Gout complaints to name a few keeping guys on the sidelines, but we managed to field a competitive team most weeks.

With a shortened season by the virtue of a bye and a washout (when Heatherdale only wanted to play one half of the ground when the other half was underwater) we only played 5 games for the year. We were in 4 of those but unfortunately with only 1 win to show for our efforts we did not make finals.

Highlights for the year were few and far between but Bede's 600th wicket for the burra was one I certainly won't forget with the kids watching invading the ground reminiscent of Buddy's 1000th goal. It was fitting that Bede achieved the milestone with many of his teammates who were involved in the previous 599 scalps. Another highlight was the devastating spell of 3 unassisted wickets by Dave "The Demon" Winterton. This may have been aided by the camera and commentary dubbing work by Sowsa over social media but was also great to see. The emergence of an opening bowler who can take early wickets in Rohan "Bundy" St. Clair was another highlight for me and hopefully this continues next season as this will go a long way towards us winning more games.

A massive thank you to the guys who doubled up for us as I know playing two games of cricket in a week is an arduous task. The cameos from Bert, Bede, Udai, Hads and Greg were much appreciated. Congratulations to Doug for winning the batting award and for another consistent year at the crease. Well-deserved bowling trophy went to Dave and the fielding award to Cliff. I should have mentioned this at the presentation afternoon, but Cliff was given the award based on his all-round fielding skills not just catches (1) his willingness to get behind the stumps and the fact that he engaged in 3 run outs aided to his fielding votes during the year.

The laughs and great comradery are why we still paly so let's keep that going next season and seasons to come.

Cheers

Ash Warren & Brendon Mulligan
BDCC Veterans XI Co-Captains

T20 Captain's Report

The T20 campaign for the 2023/24 season proved disappointing for a team with immense potential. For the first time in three seasons, we failed to qualify for the semi-finals.

Our season began with a thrilling match, where Hadley Vaghaun delivered an incredible maiden over in the final moments, securing an unexpected victory for Burra's against Heatherdale by a mere four runs. It was a standout bowling performance in T20 cricket, as defending such a small target seemed nearly impossible. Fortunately, we bolstered our squad by recruiting Aryaman and Sidharth Bhardwaj from Northcott Districts, enhancing our batting lineup significantly. However, aside from Shaubhik Nagpal's 123 and Hari Rambhatla's 102 runs for the season, our batting really struggled to post or chase substantial scores.

Following a victorious start, we faced Yarraleen in Round 2, we managed to put on only 92 runs. Yet, we put up a commendable fight, claiming seven wickets before Yarraleen surpassed our total, winning by 3 wickets. Regrettably, we couldn't secure any further victories, suffering a heavy defeat to Kerrimur by 68 runs in Round 3. Our Round 4 encounter against Nunawading was another close affair, decided in the final over, where we conceded 11 runs, leading to our defeat.

Throughout the season, our bowling performance was below par, with too many loose and short deliveries allowing the opposition ample scoring opportunities. Despite needing a win in our final game to stand a chance at qualification, we were comfortably beaten by Blackburn North. Although our bowling was commendable, we faltered in our batting, losing wickets quickly at the start of our innings.

While it's disheartening to have won only one game this season, I'm confident in our team's resilience. We look forward to bouncing back strongly next season, buoyed by the talent emerging from our 2nd and 3rd XI sides and the valuable addition of the Bhardwaj brothers, who bring depth to both our batting and bowling departments.

I extend my gratitude to everyone for their unwavering support throughout the T20 season. It's been encouraging to see increased interest in our matches, presenting challenging selection decisions. I'm immensely proud of the team's dedication, and I'm certain that everyone is eager to vie for our first T20 championship next season.

Hari Rambhatla
BDCC T20 Captain

Club Award Winners and Season Milestones



Batting Awards

First XI – Shivanay Goundan
Second XI – Jake Evans
Third XI – Meet Dayani
Veterans XI – Doug Paroissien
T20 XI – Shaubhik Nagpal

Bowling Awards

First XI – No award due to qualification rule
Third XI – No award due to qualification rule
Veteran XI – David Winterton
T20 XI – Hari Rambhatla

Fielding Awards

First XI - Bert Ahcheen
Second XI – Aaryan Singh
Third XI – Jatan Mavani
T20 XI – Rishabh Nagpal
Veteran XI – Clifton Mead

Club Awards

Colin McDonald Club Champion - Shivanay Goundan
Terry Howard Junior Club Champion - Gemma Blundell
Don McLaine Best On-Field Performance – Patrick Sowersby
President's Award – Ian Scholefield
Most improved player of the season – Meet Dayani

Milestones

6000 runs – Patrick Sowersby
600 wickets – Bede Allsopp
250 matches – Rowan Crawford

Box Hill Reporter District Cricket Association Awards

Jake Evans – F grade batting award for scoring 317 runs at an average of 63.4

Appointment of Office Bearers 2023/2024

A Pratap declares all committee positions vacant.

a) **Appointment of President**

A Banerjee and N Ramakrishnan have nominated themselves for the position of co-president.

Proposed – Darren Veitch

Seconded – Bede Allsopp

Vote – Approved

b) **Appointment of Vice President**

No formal nominations were received. Darren Veitch to continue.

c) **Appointment of Treasurer**

Tom Golding and Anshuman Banerjee have nominated themselves for the position of Treasurer.

Proposed – Abhishek Pratap

Seconded – Narayanan Ramakrishnan

Vote – Approved