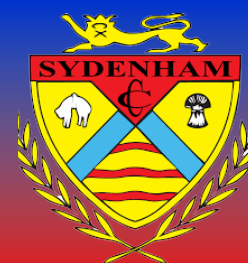


BEYOND THE BOUNDARY

Sydenham Cricket Club December 2022 issue



Established in 1896

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Graham Harris, President

Xmas greetings to all our members and supporters and families. As we approach the halfway point of our season, I trust you have all settled into the weekly leather on willow around the cricket grounds of Christchurch. The honor's board is full of remarkable individual performances in all grades which is pleasing to see.

Your committee has invested heavily in our coaching and player development programmes under the watchful eye of Mathew Bell our Director of Cricket. **Harsh Visavadiya** (women's coach), **Tommy MacDonald** (youth Coach) and of course **Belly** with the morning grade men's teams have all been doing outstanding work at both individual and team level.



also wanting to assist. The strength in our youth teams (both boys and girls) is hugely important for our club as they really are the future, and it is vital we invest time and money into this area of club activities. As I write this, the club is planning the prizegiving on Sunday 18th December for our youth teams preceded by a couple of trial matches as teams are sorted for the new season starting late January 2023.



It is also very pleasing to note the performance of our women's Premier Team under Felicity Leydon-Davis' guidance as Head Coach, player and mentor, with support and assistance provided by Harsh Visavadiya. They are becoming a very competitive unit and are working hard on their game both as individuals and playing group.

Also, noteworthy have been the performances of our Premier and Championship teams who both made their respective T20 finals. Unfortunately, they came up against two OBC teams bolstered by half a dozen Canterbury players who made the task a very difficult one, but it was a commendable effort by both teams in making those finals.

Around the grounds the afternoon grades continue to perform well and whilst player availability has been hampered by changing work schedules, and that dreaded Covid, we have largely avoided widespread defaults. Let's hope that doesn't become a growing problem in the second half of the season.

It is good that many of you do make the effort to get back to the pavilion for a beer, and I must thank AC for the sterling work he does keeping you fed and watered every Saturday night. The committee offer of free food and snacks I know is hugely appreciated, and whilst it is an obvious cost to the club, it is also a good thing to do when we are also drinking alcohol.

There is no doubt that our Indoor centre will play a huge part in the ongoing player development in our club, with 4 lanes operating, and state of the art bowling machines and video technology. Our facilities will be the best of any club in the South Island and will certainly be a drawcard for player recruitment going forward.



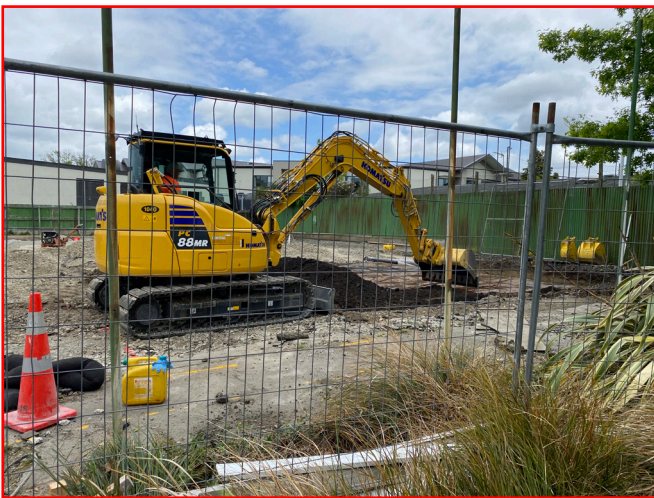
Women's coaching team

Felicity Leydon-Davis

Harsh Visavadiya

It is most pleasing to see our youth group growing in numbers. **Fergus Smith** is phasing out of the convenor role as Ollie has now joined the senior club, but I am delighted to see **Paul Durdin** step into that role, ably assisted by **Andy Winsor** and **Daniel Herd** and there is no lack of willing parents

The construction of the indoor centre had a very slow start as problems were encountered with variable sub soil quality, and the unearthing of an unmarked electrical cable along the Nazareth house end which powers up half of Sydenham. This has forced us to relocate the building one metre towards the park to avoid that cabling, and this has caused us weeks of delays, whilst we re-survey the site and deal with other issues caused by this relocation. However, as I write this we are back preparing the ground for the relocated foundation, and I am advised that we should still be ready to open by the end of March early April which is still perfect timing for our winter indoor trainings.



Construction underway

I do hope also that you all have a safe and enjoyable Xmas wherever you may be...and we look forward to seeing you back in 2023 to resume our season.

MORNING GRADES REPORT

Matthew Bell, Coach

It has been a challenging start to the season for the senior sides as all teams have consistently had players unavailable for various reasons. This has meant no side has really been at full strength and it's a credit that we have been as competitive as we have across all the morning grades. What has been impressive is how different players have contributed when needed and this has shown that even when the club is stretched to the limit it can still produce some quality performances.



Premiers

There were plenty of great individual performances spread out over the first four rounds of the two-day competition. Unfortunately, the team was never able to capitalize on them which has meant the Premiers are yet to register an outright win and this will be the motivation for the back end of the season when it resumes. Individual highlights from players were:

- Tom Agnew taking 6-66 vs Heathcote
- Ryan Wallace 127 vs OBC
- Raunaq Kapur picking up 6-103 & 4-52 to pick up 10 wickets for the match vs OBC
- Max Clarke scoring his 1st fifty 63 vs OBC
- Bevon Jacobs scoring 111 vs Lancaster Park
- Mitchell Gardner claiming 5-40 including a hat-trick (4 wickets in an over) vs Lancaster Park
- Tom Agnew double vs Riccarton collecting 4/39 & 28* to earn the team 1st innings points



T20 finals day

Championship

The side has performed well for all four rounds of the 2-day competition but have just struggled to secure the maximum points they deserve for their efforts having only secured one outright victory so far. The Champs are still to play teams that are just above them so a big effort at the back end of the season could see them achieve the goal of claiming back-to-back titles. Individual highlights from players were:

- Dylan Goldstone 100 vs Halswell Vikings
- Todd Ramsay Boyd 7-80 vs Lancaster Park
- Charlie Finnie 59 not out vs Lancaster Park
- The team chasing down 220 in 32 overs to secure an outright win over Lancaster Park
- Archie Goldrick 7/48 vs Saint Albans
- Todd Ramsay boyd 7/25 vs Sumner
- Josh McArdle 106 not out vs Sumner



T20 finals day

T20 Competition

In the T20 competition the Premiers and Championship sides played outstanding team cricket picking up 6 wins from their 7 round robin matches which qualified them for the finals. They both played very strong OBC sides as their Canterbury contracted players were available and in the end both sides were comprehensively beaten as OBC were just too good on finals day. To have the top two teams make the finals it shows the talent that is at the club and how strong we can be when everyone is fit and available to play. There were lots of great contributions across the T20 campaign for these sides and the motivation is now to carry this on in the One-Day competition and go one better and win both Premier and Championship One Day Titles.

Division One & Two

It has been a tough start for the both teams in the 2-Day & T20 competitions respectively as the struggle of having a constant turn over of players makes it hard for the teams to get settled, play regular cricket together to put consistent performances on the park. They also have the challenge of playing clubs who don't have a Premier or Championship side which makes these sides extremely strong in these two divisions. However, it does create the opportunity for players who perform well in these grades the satisfaction that they have deserved their success on the field. The challenge in the New Year will be getting some consistency with the squads and building up the talent pool to compete every week. Individual highlights from players were:

- Hamish Murphy 6 wickets in Division One
- Pankaj Bhagat 134 vs Marist & 104 vs Hornby in Division One
- Archie Goldrick scoring two 50's for Division Two
- Ajith Shetty making 51 vs OBC for Division Two
- Isaiah Prasad compiling 67 runs vs OBC in Division Two

Overall while the season has brought a mixture of results for the senior club it is pleasing to see how competitive we remain despite the challenges we have faced with the number of players being away, injured, sick with covid or unavailable due to work. Thanks to everyone who have been part of the first half of the season, I look forward to seeing you in the New Year and wish you all an enjoyable summer holiday break with family and friends.

THE BIRDWOOD WOMEN'S REPORT

Linda Pettigrew,
Women's Convenor



Our Premier women are off to an excellent start to the season, currently sitting second in both the T20 and the one-day competitions. The team is a competitive unit this year with quality batting and bowling talent, well guided by our excellent coaching team of Felicity Leydon-Davis and Harsh Vishnavasa, who are doing an amazing job this season. We are fortunate to have two such skilled and passionate coaches to work with our players.

It has been encouraging to see many of our players play in the Div 1 competition and, when needed, be prepared to step up into the Premier team. Our coaching setup and the support from our core premier players has made this transition easier. We've got a supportive group of players who are comfortable being open with each other. Two of these are our younger players, Scarlett Ord and Abby Laird. Both Abby and Scarlett



Bethan Ellis

have been working hard on their skills this season. They have stepped up to the challenge well, with handy contributions from both.

After St Albans withdrew from the Premier competition, Bethan Ellis and PJ Watkins, both from the UK, joined the team. Bethan and PJ are handy all-rounders who have already made their mark on the competition.

We've had a few injuries and availability issues recently, affecting our ability to field a Div 1 team each week. This is a strain shared across all the Div 1 clubs that find that players are hard to come by on weekends when the domestic competition is being played. Fielding a competitive team each week in this grade will be a focus for the new year.

Our women's section is sponsored by The Birdwood Eatery and Pizzeria, 76 Malcolm Ave. They are a community-focused business based in the heart of Beckenham. We are grateful for their continued support, enabling us to access the top coaches in Canterbury, uniforms and gear and funding for impact players to support our local players. Please support our sponsor.

THE NEXT GENERATION

Youth – The Future Is Bright

2022 Youth season – done!

Resuming in October, we fielded five teams, down one from Term 1, with the usual trend of some boys not returning to the game after the winter break. This resulted in some boys moving teams, and stepping up, and we were very pleased with how they coped with this immediate transition. Fortunately, climatic conditions (both meteorological and pandemic wise) were better in Term 4 so more cricket was played across the First XI, Colts, Year 10 and Year 9 grades.



Year 10 team

The First XI finished fifth in their grade which was a notable achievement and recorded some impressive wins which included them chasing down a couple of considerable totals. A highlight of this was the batting of Freddie Winsor who missed out by three runs on scoring back-to-back centuries (innings of 113 followed by 97). This is no means feat in the Youth grades as batting for this period of time requires a high level of concentration. Freddie is only in Year 11 so we look forward to having his services available for the next two seasons.

The Colts team just missed out on the first and second play off match and finished a very credible third in their grade. The Year 10s finished fourth out of nine teams recording three wins and three losses. The 9As won three and lost four in Term 4 in what is a tougher grade due to many opposition teams being reselected from Term one and turn out some very strong teams. The 9B's won two and lost three in another truncated season that was made up of wins by default and the desperate search for players when several didn't return for Term 4. All players in the 9B team should be proud of their "can do and never give up" attitude to continue to play the game when at times it would have seemed tough given things that transpired against them that were completely out of their control. We hope they have a better year in 2023, they deserve it.

Prizegiving

The end of season prizegiving was held on December 18th in the clubrooms.

We had a great turnout of players and their supportive families. Prizegiving gives us the chance to thank all those involved in the game. It's also a chance to acknowledge individual performances which saw trophies being awarded for one century during the year and six 5-wicket hauls.



Alex Boot receives the Manly Cup from President Graham Harris

The Manly Cup, awarded to a cricketer who is recognised as having all the necessary attributes of being "a good club man" was awarded to Alex Boot, a very worthy recipient. Alex's nomination read as follows:

"During the year Alex has shown dedication, commitment to his cricket both on and off the field.

Unless sick or unmovable conflicts such as school trips happen on practice day; he is there with a smile and ready to go. He sets himself high standards and practices like it is a Saturday match, taking time to warm-up properly and giving full commitment to the task at hand. On game days Alex is always professional in his approach, and while he outwardly shows a casual demeanor, he is fiercely competitive with ball, bat and in the field; taking pride in performing each discipline to the best of his ability each ball of every game.

Alex is a likeable guy with a good cricket brain and has been 1st XI Vice Captain this year, providing a good sounding board for the captain and stepping into the role when Covid hit in Term 1. Importantly, his coaches and managers are impressed with Alex's ability to listen to advice and to make changes in his game to further improve his skillset. He will also ask advice if he thinks there may be a better way than his current approach. He is a guy who will also do the "Extras" when it comes to training outside of practice times, and that shows in his performance.

Alex is always one of the first to volunteer to help with the dreaded "Covers Duty", but is also selfless on game day by offering to move up or down the order to fill in for absent players, or if he is not feeling 100%. An understated guy, he is a genuine team man and a quality cricketer."

Moving Forward

We only have one Year 13 boy, captain Zack Howe, graduate to adult cricket from the First XI which means we have a very strong base to build on for 2023. The Club acknowledged this early and wanting to capitalise on building a strong First, Second and possibly Third XI held trials in mid-December to get teams identified early so we can hit the ground running for the forth coming season.

Senior Youth Trial

Unfortunately, the weather didn't play its part in allowing this trial to be held on Sydenham Park, but with the support of the Senior Club we were able to utilize the facilities at the Sir Richard Hadlee Centre.

Historically, we have fielded a maximum of six teams in Youth grades, but given our growth we believe this will extend to seven in 2023. This will

include the noted three senior First XI grade teams, a Colts team, Year 10s and Year 9 teams. Another first could be the fact that nearly all players from the grade topping Year 8 Sydenham Junior team are headed to either Cashmere or Hillmorton High next year, so we hope to get the majority of this team registering in the Year 9 grade. Historically we have only ever secured half of the players from this team as boys head off to other schools.

The above means that we have increased growth in both player numbers and player depth which can only be positive. We always try to field our strongest elevens to ensure we are competitive with other teams, especially in the First XI and Colts grades, as many of these players aspire for higher honours when they move to adult cricket. The noted player depth will mean some players may miss out, at least initially, in the team they would like to be in. As guardians of the game, it's our role as parents, guardians and supporters to remind them to enjoy the journey, handle disappointment, and continue to strive for higher honours. The last teenager to make the Black Caps was Daniel Vettori, and he was 18 when he did this.



New Youth Convenor

This will be my last report as Youth Convenor, and I thank Paul Durdin for agreeing to take the reins of the Youth section moving forward. Paul will have sons in both the First XI and Year 9s next year so the section will be in good hands moving forward. I'll certainly still be involved with the Club given the strong family connections I have with it.


It has been an honour and privilege to be involved in a game I love and see a Club be so supportive in allowing young men develop their game. Youth players join us as tentative Year 9s and graduate as well-developed young men who quickly graduate to high honours in the Club's adult teams.

Given our unique structure of having Junior, Youth and Senior sections we are the only Club in Christchurch that can be a player's home for life. This is something we should be immensely proud of.

I wish all players and their families a safe Christmas and look forward to seeing them back on the field in 2023.


Fergus Smith, Youth Convenor

HONOURS BOARD AS AT CHRISTMAS



SYDENHAM CRICKET CLUB

HONOURS BOARD



BATTING	BOWLING
134 PANKAJ BHAGAT	7-25 TODD RAMSAY-BOYD
126 RYAN WALLACE	7-44 MITCH GARDNER
117*NATHANEAL PALTRIDGE	7-48 ARCHIE GOODRICK
113 FREDDIE WINSOR	7-80 TODD RAMSAY-BOYD
111 BEVON JACOBS	6-12 DAVE FLEMING
106 JOSH MCARDLE	6-30 ZACK HOWE
104 PANKAJ BHAGAT	6-59 HAMISH MURPHY
101* CHRIS O'CONNELL	6-62 RONNIE KAPUR
100 DYLAN GOLDSTONE	6-66 TOM AGNEW
95 KELVIN SCOTT	6-31 CADELL DURDIN
88 JAMES MCKAY	5-9 JAGANNATH RADHAKRISHNAN
87* RYAN WALLACE	5-20 MITCHELL GARDNER
87 NATHANEAL PALTRIDGE	5-21 BEVON JACOBS
87 UTKARSH SINGH	5-24 JAXSON STOVE
84 ANTHONY WILD	5-29 RACHEL DAVIDSON
84 ZACK HOWE	5-30 ALEX BRAILEY
83 JAMES BARNES	5-40 MITCH GARDNER
80 ELIYAS VARGHESE	5-47 JORDAN MCCORMICK
79 DYLAN GOLDSTONE	5-22 GOWTHAM JANARDHANAN
76* CARDELL DURDIN	5-12 DANIEL WATT
76* PANKAJ BHAGAT	5-13 HARRY BISPHAN



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CLUB REPRESENTATIVES

We have an unprecedented number of Sydenham players representing either their province or New Zealand this season, and we felt it important to communicate that to the club and acknowledge them. Congratulations to all our players who have been selected for representative teams.

Northern Districts

Bernadine Bezuidenhout is playing for ND this season.

Otago

Captain and coach of our women's team, **Felicity Leydon Davis**, has returned to the field for Otago. Floss is captaining Otago in their one-day campaign.

Canterbury Under 19

Women:

Darcy Rose Prasad and **Boadicea Lynch** were selected to represent Canterbury at the National Women's Under 19 Tournament. They played four one-day matches and three T20 matches over the six days.

Both Darcy and Boadicea performed well in their specialist areas. Darcy had two standout performances with the bat; 77 against Otago and 59 against Central Districts. Boadicea's standout performance was 4/35 from 10 overs against Auckland. Boadicea's economy rate, across her 41.2 overs, was a miserly 3.9.

Men:

Ronnie Kapur, **Aarush Bhagwat** and **Max Clarke** have all been selected to play for Canterbury at the early January national tournament in Christchurch.

New Zealand A

Bernadine Bezuidenhout was selected to play for New Zealand A in a series against Bangladesh in early December.

New Zealand Development

Ocean Barlett and **Flora Devonshire** were selected for the New Zealand Development side. The squad toured India in late November and December to play against teams from India and the West Indies.

CLUB SUPPORTERS

We would like to acknowledge the Club's key supporters and sponsors



*Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year*