



SYDNEY UNI CRICKET CLUB

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY



WELCOME TO THIS JANUARY 2024 EDITION OF THE SUCC ALUMNI AND FRIENDS NEWSLETTER. WE HAVE A WIDELY SCATTERED GROUP OF ALUMNI AND FRIENDS; AND WE DON'T SEE ENOUGH OF MANY OF YOU!

YET WE HAVE SOME IDEA ABOUT THE PLACE THAT SUCC CRICKET HAS OCCUPIED IN MANY OF OUR LIVES, AND THAT MANY PEOPLE CHERISH THE TIME THEY SPENT PLAYING FOR SUCC.

SUCC Cricket is very much active. In Season 2023/2024 we are fielding nine mens' and four womens' teams. There has been a lot going on, and a lot of cricket being played. We will soon be approaching Finals and there are a number of teams with strong performances and chances to feature at the end.

At the time of writing the following is a summary of where we stand.
Updated to matches 3/4 February

FIRST GRADE (BELVIDERE CUP)	Points 26, Position 15th
KINGSGROVE SPORTS T20	1st in Pool B but eliminated in Finals
FIRST GRADE LIMITED OVERS	Finished 17th
SECOND GRADE (ALBERT CUP)	Points 45, Position 7th
THIRD GRADE (MITCHELL CUP)	Points 69, Position 1st
FOURTHS GRADE (REID CUP)	Points 53, Position 6th
FIFTH GRADE (DAVID SHERWOOD CUP)	Points, 49, Position 7th
METRO UNIVERSITY BLUE	Points 48, Position 2nd
METRO UNIVERSITY GOLD	Points 43, Position 6th
POIDEVIN-GRAY SHIELD UNDER-21	Finished 8th in Pool B
AW GREEN SHIELD U-16	Finished 18th
SUCC-W1	Points 10, Position 10th
SUCC-W2	Points 19, Position 10th
SUCC-W3	Points -2.2, Position 8th
SUCC-W4 U-18	Points 16, Position 14th

A MESSAGE FROM MARK FARADAY, PRESIDENT, SUCC

WOMEN'S PROGRAMME

This season, Sydney University Cricket Club has entered women's teams in NSW Premier Cricket.

The opportunity to enter women's teams arose after the "Universities Women's Cricket Club" joint venture was operationally dissolved in the 2023 off-season. Urgent decisions and planning were required to welcome these cricketers into the club. Whilst logistics were a challenge, the decision to pursue a women's cricket program was compelling and enjoyed the unanimous support of the Board and members.

Alex Blackwell has taken on the role of Head Coach and is excelling in the role. The Board now has three female directors, Chaye Hartwell, Kara Day and Sarah Brine who are making outstanding contributions. Our on-field performances are improving and player development and recruitment will be a key focus of the off-season. The club has been fortunate to sign Phoebe Litchfield as a marquee player. Whilst we hope Phoebe is mostly engaged with higher honours from a playing perspective, her presence around the club is an incredible boon.

The future looks very bright indeed.

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY CRICKET CLUB INCORPORATED

Ahead of this season, a significant administrative project was completed, being the incorporation of Sydney University Cricket Club as a stand-alone legal entity. This was an important step for the club to take, especially after the recent incorporation of Sydney University Sport and Fitness. It is, without doubt, legally and operationally optimal for the club to have this structure.

The change required the adoption of a new Constitution and a new Board was elected at the last AGM to reflect the new requirements of the Constitution.

The club's familial relationship with SUSF continue and is now documented in an Affiliation Agreement.

Thank you to my Partners at Henry William Lawyers, Max Bonnell and John Nash, for steering this project on a pro bono basis.

THANK YOU, COLIN ROBERTSON

Significant operational and administrative changes were implemented in the off-season for the betterment of the club. Colin's skill, leadership, dedication and productivity throughout the process have been truly exceptional. Thank you, Colin.

THANK YOU, B.W. COLLINS KC

The club must express its deep gratitude to Bruce Collins KC for his record 18-year term as President of SUCC.

The incorporation of the club saw a change in our governance structure to fit within the requirements of SUSF and the roles of Chairperson and President were folded into one.

Bruce was persuaded to accept the role of Joint Patron of SUCC, which he holds with James Rodgers and he continues to provide dedicated service and support to the club.

Bruce's achievements as a club leader are countless, however, his role in advocating for the club's continued place in NSW Premier Cricket (Sydney Grade Cricket at the time) around 1996 quite literally saved the club as we know it. Thank you, Bruce.

THE SPIRIT OF CRICKET

Hartley Anderson

In 2001, following the death in December 2000 of the England batsman Lord Colin Cowdrey, the Marylebone Cricket Club established an Annual Cowdrey Oration, which he hosts at Lords Cricket Ground. The inaugural Cowdrey Lecture, also referred to as the MCC Spirit of Cricket Lecture, was given by Richie Benaud, and a copy of his address has appeared on our SUCC website in a previous edition, per courtesy of Mrs Daphne Benaud.

Colin Cowdrey is reported to have been instrumental in adapting the Captains' Charter and subsequently adding it as the preamble to the Laws of Cricket.

The Lecture is held annually during the English summer and is delivered by pre-eminent cricket personalities.

The subject of Richie Benaud's address was 'The Spirit of Cricket' and subsequently in New South Wales, and other places a Spirit of Cricket Award was established in NSW Premier Cricket.

Umpires award points to teams in each grade in each match played. These points are accumulated and at the end of the season the Club with the highest number of points received the 'Spirit of Cricket Award'.

SUCC has won the Spirit of Cricket Award on 5 occasions, in the current season 2023/2024, at the time of writing, SUCC W and SUCC are both leading the respective Spirit of Cricket Awards table for NSW Premier Cricket.

A.W. GREEN SHIELD REPORT

Henry Cain, Coach

Despite not getting the results everyone was hoping for this Green Shield season there were still plenty of positives to reflect on from the season. Individual performances, a large run-chase and an extraordinary touring opportunity are we trust experiences the players will never forget. They should leave a lasting positive impression of the SUCC.

Our season began back in September as we prepared for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to tour India. The tour featured a combination of four T20 fixtures and four 50-over fixtures, against Delhi based academies, as well as numerous sightseeing and cultural experiences. We began with the T20's had strong contributions from Raunit Singh, Arnav Yadav and Jack Bray to post competitive totals in all four fixtures. The conditions took some time to adjust, and as illness swept through the camp, the boys did an impressive job to win two out of the four T20 matches.

The 50-over fixtures were a key focus for us leading into the tour as it provided an opportunity to practice the format, we would eventually play during the

Green Shield season. Our first fixture was against the Madan Lal academy, batting first University made 260, thanks largely to 86 (91) from Tom Gale opening the inning. In reply, Sanskar Sharma's 5/21 meant that we began our One-day matches with a victory. The following matches against AB Rising and Wonders Club were great tests and learning experiences for the boys. We closed the cricketing aspects of the tour with a fantastic win against, for the second time, the Madan Lal Academy.

A partnership between Jack Garland 109 (134) and Arnav Yadav 95 (80) drove the Uni boys to a total of 5/309 from our 50 overs. A team effort with the ball bowled Madan Lal out for 198 to end the tour on a high and bring lots of confidence back to Sydney as our preparations for the Green Shield season continued.

Perhaps the greatest aspects of the India tour were the experiences off the cricket field. A day trip to the Taj Mahal is an experience I will never forget, and the tour highlight for me. Other highlights included a guided tour through New and Old Delhi, a walk through the Spice Markets, and joining in a game of street cricket against some local children one evening. The tour was fantastic for building a team culture and brought all the boys very close together. I'm sure this held us in good stead for when we reconvened in November.

After another short training block and a final practice game against the ACT Under 16s side, our squad was ready to go for the Green Shield matches to begin. Our campaign began strongly with a close victory over Blacktown. Batting first, Uni posted 195 from our 50 overs on a tricky wicket, thanks to 81 (120) from Arnav Yadav and 49 (91) from Raunit Singh. Some fantastic bowling and a real team effort in the field saw Blacktown bowled out for 185 in the second last over, captain Lachlan Russell taking 3-30. Rain saw Round two against Parramatta abandoned, and a tricky wicket against Sydney saw the side enter the Christmas break with one win, a loss and a draw.

The resumption post-Christmas saw a return fixture at No1 against the ACT U16s side. ACT batted well to set Uni 282 for the win, a terrific run chase, led by a magnificent hundred from Arnav Yadav, saw Uni run down the total with 3 overs to spare. The two fixtures against the ACT were a fantastic opportunity for the boys to experience playing a state level side, which is hopefully something we can continue in coming seasons.

Unfortunately, we couldn't keep the momentum from the ACT rolling and some difficult losses to a strong Northern Districts side, as well as defeats to Wests, Mosman and Penrith meant the season ended a disappointing one. With all the weather around winning one toss from seven certainly didn't assist us, but ultimately some poor patches of play cost us a couple more victories.

In trying circumstances, Lachlan Russell captained superbly and deserves considerable praise for all his efforts this season (despite his toss record).

I'd like to take the opportunity to thank you to all the people who have supported the side this season.

Lewis Ansell, Andrew Wilkinson, and Darius Visser for their help in coaching the side this year.

Colin Robertson and Greg Boorer, for their unwavering support and commitment to helping the Green Shield programme grow stronger every season.

Finally, to Anand Karupiah, who after 8 seasons as the Green Shield team manager and scorer, is stepping aside. Thank you, Anand, for all your help. You have made our lives easier as coaches and your commitment to the programme and the players is admirable. We wish you all the best with your future endeavours.

SUCC WOMEN'S SECTION REPORT

Chaye Hartwell

The 2023/24 Women's Premier Cricket season got a new but familiar team: Sydney University Cricket Club Women's. Although the University Team had been around since the early 2000s under the umbrella of the University Women's Cricket Club, a combined venture between UNSW and Sydney University, the 23/24 season would be the first solely under the SUCC umbrella.

The two clubs pooled their resources to mark the integration and took bold steps to ensure that the SUCC Women's programme got off to a flying start. With the recruitment of former Australian Cricket Captain Alex Blackwell as Head Coach, the season would certainly be different from those in years past. Heading into the season, the women's programme was at a developmental phase of its performance life cycle. They had only recently lost past players to interstate competitors and professional contracts such as Jade Allen, Maddy Darke, and Rachel Trenamen.

Alex, through her cricket industry-wide connections across all grades, ensured the further recruitment of rising Australian cricket star Phoebe Litchfield, who represents Australia in all three game formats. Litchfield now joins her brother Charlie as the second Litchfield in the club, with her brother no longer the strongest from what I've heard from the boys.

In addition to drafting key personnel, the women's program underwent some administrative changes. Chaye Hartwell took over the interim presidency, overseeing the merger along with Kara Day as Vice President and Debbie Nader as Secretary. Upon SUCC's formal incorporation, Hartwell and Day joined the Club board alongside Sydney Uni Student and long-time 1st-grade player Sarah Brine. The women's administrative

unit has collectively ensured a seamless and personal transition for the women's program into the combined SUCC family. However, none of this could have been possible without the operational genius of Colin Robertson and the executive leadership of Mark Faraday. Robertson and Faraday have welcomed the women's program wholeheartedly in the club, embracing it with all its nuances and needs.

Although the accommodation of grounds, facilities, and other resources got off to a shaky start, much like the women's team performances on the field, at the end of the season, things were looking positive for the new integration. On 28 January, the 1st Grade Women's team got their first taste of embracing the immanence that is Uni Oval 1. Despite the day against Bankstown not going our women's way, playing there felt like a special day and a turning point for women's cricket at Sydney University.

Some key highlights from the first half of the games this season have been Nadia Cadavalo in the under-18's Brewers with 2 five-wicket hauls. Erica James, Jess Davidson, and Frankie Nicklin have two 50s in First Grade, with Chaye Hartwell having one. Beth Wonders had two fifties in 2nd Grade, and Ira Patel had the club's only century this season, scoring 132 not out in a 50-over game, which helped second Grade to a win against Bankstown in early January. All teams, bar 3rd Grade, have had a win this season and are developing their skills consistently at training. Thanks to the performance-led yet empathetic approach of Head Coach Blackwell, with the aid of Daniel Nader, Jarrod Cable, and Erica James, the players are shaping up for a strong back half of the season.

Another dimension that the women's programme brings is embracing diversity and inclusion through its policies on player identities and its commitment to fostering a love of the game for players from different cultures and backgrounds. Namely, this season the club has embraced the inclusion of players from the Afghanistan women's team who, due to Taliban rule, are unable to live in their home country. Additionally, three players from Nepal have made the journey to play this season, with Suman Khatiwanda top-scoring in the women's first-grade game at Uni Oval. Also, the captain of Lancashire Women's, Ellie Threlkeld, is gracing our shores and playing the latter half of the season, with sights of being a key contributor to the player performances with bat and gloves, having herself represented England A on the last two Ashes Tour.

Notwithstanding plenty of cricket yet to be played this season, the Women's program seems poised to capitalise on its momentum going into next season and beyond. As the focus of the program shifts from survival to performance, it will be a cricketing force the other clubs will start noticing. Blackwell believes the pieces are there; we just have to work on putting them in the right place and time, and the women's program will be unstoppable on and off the field.

SUCC WEBSITE

A reminder to you that the SUCC Website is the place where all can reach the Club, and it's where we post both current information on selections, results, and also it's a source of SUCC Annual Reports, special articles and our event calendar.

Go to: www.sydneyuniversitycricket.com.au

IMPORTANT 2024 DATES

- SUCC Presentation Night, Friday 19th April, 6.30pm, Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron
- SUCC Golf Day, Friday 3rd May, St Michael's Golf Club,

Play Cricket APP - The Modern Way to access Cricket Scores

One of the most often asked questions by old cricketers is 'How do I find out Grade Cricket scores now they no longer appear in the Newspapers?'

Club websites provide some of the answers but the results we used to obtain from the papers just dried up.

Cricket Australia now have an App called 'PLAY CRICKET'. It's not difficult to use and downloads to your mobile phone or tablet device. e.g iPad.

Go to the APP STORE and Search for 'PLAY CRICKET'.

When you download it, customise it to the Club or Clubs you want. eg. SYDNEY UNIVERSITY CRICKET CLUB. In the case on SUCCW look up under 'Universities Womens' Cricket W1, W2, W3, and W4'.

Cricket scoring these days is done on computer and results go direct to 'Play Cricket' On line streaming of matches allow us to see play as it happens, and get scores too.

PLAY CRICKET shows scores by Round in every grade, in every competition and individual performances also show.

PLAY CRICKET really is worth trying and it allows the user to have everything at their fingertips.

MATRIMONIAL

Our First Grade wicket keeper/batsman and Captain 2021/22, 2022/23 Tim Cummins married his long time partner Rebecca in a ceremony at Freshwater Beach on November 23rd, The ceremony was followed by a reception at a Freshwater Restaurant.

The Club warmly congratulates the newlyweds and wishes them a happy life together.



ALUMNI NEWS AND FEEDBACK

Your comments and feedback on any aspect of this Newsletter and its content are welcome.

In this instance please direct to me, Hartley Anderson, hartleyanderson2@gmail.com.

University of Queensland CC produced a Newsletter recently and the feedback from the previous issue was full of insights, reminiscences, some wit, and even respect! Photos also most welcome!

PAST PLAYER REPORT

Fergus Munro

One of the better players in the Club about sixty years ago was a lefthand batsman named Fergus Munro. He came to the Club from Scots where he was a member of the Scots 1st XI 1958 team that won every GPS Competition match outright.

He made the SUCC Firsts quite quickly, was a member of the NSW Colts Team that played in Brisbane, and he Captained SUCC at Intersvarsities and in Poidevin-Gray Shield. The Munros were very involved in the Club. His father Mr FF Munro was for a time our Club President, Mrs Munro was very often in the Canteen and Cathy Munro, Ferg's sister, married 1st Grade Opening Batsman Malcolm Ives.

A few of us saw him off when Ferg sailed to England and became involved in business in London. He played cricket for years with The Hampstead Cricket Club.

He has always retained his interest in the Club, and comes to University Oval when he is in town.

We have been able to delve into the Vaults and found a couple of rare items, reproduced here:

1. Brisbane Intersvarsity, circa 1962



From Left: Geoff Waugh, partly obscured, Denis Foley, Alec Dietsch, Michael Pawley, Ferg Munro (Captain), Obscured Peter Foster UQCC, Bob Grant

Other team members not in this picture: Stewart Boyce, David Clark, Bill Armstrong, George Cole, Hartley Anderson

UQCC. d, SUCC

2. Centenary Match re-enactment, University Oval, early 1964



Fergus Munro with SUCC damsels, incl Heather Lovell on his left

Fergus Munro. SUCC 1st Grade cap No 428 – Statistics from James Rodgers

- 1st Grade 1959-64
58-5-100no (vs Paddington 1961-62)
1070-20.2 3 wkts for 43
- 2nd Grade 1959-60
6-1-47no-101- 20.2
- 3rd Grade 1959-60
4-2-55no=127-63.5
- PG 1959-62
13-1-100no-533-44.5
- TOTAL:**
81-7-100no-1831-25.4

In 1961-62, Fergus represented NSW Colts and Metro Colts.

- NSW Colts v Qld Colts: 95no and 77
- NSW Colts v Vic Colts 2 and 1
- Metro v Tas. 49

CAPITAL WORKS AT UNIVERSITY OVAL

Nadia Henry

FDC Construction and Fit Out, SUCC Platinum Sponsor.

There is a current project at University Oval being managed by our sponsor FDC Construction and Fitout.. The area containing seating, some tables and terracing adjacent to the Bruce Williams Grandstand is being completely re-done. The work commenced in December and is due for completion in late February.

We will be able to bring you a photograph of the renewed section in our next edition.



VOLUNTEERS

There are a lot of people involved in running our Club, In addition to the players and captains, Coaches, Scorers, Team Managers, Water Runners, Journalists, Canteen Volunteers, People to run the SUCC Foundation, Serve on Our Board, and our Selection Committees.

People to help Colin with all the administrative tasks he has.

Too old to work, given up golf, too much spare time...? Like to be involved in rewarding activity. Contact Colin Robertson at c.robertson@sport.usyd.edu.au and become part of something very worthwhile.

Here is one of our new volunteers, Max McWilliams, who has been helping out at University Oval. This was taken at The Oval v Bankstown as the team leaves the field for Tea, Max, who hopes to play Green Shield next year, runs the water for the players and was in demand on a hottish day v Bankstown.

From left: Damien Mortimer, Tim Cummins, Nick Larkin, Max McWilliams, Will Salzmann, Keiran Tate, Hunar Verma, Jack Attenborough, Ryan McElduff,



SURJITS INDIAN RESTAURANT

During the Covid Pandemic Surjits was forced to close down, like so many other restaurants. The restaurant, at 215 Parramatta Road, Annandale has not yet re-opened for dining in but the kitchen has remained busy preparing its function catering, the side of the business started by Rasan Gujral when Surjit ran the restaurant.

Rasan recently catered for our pre-Christmas Dinner function held at Sydney University Oval after the pre-Christmas match against North Sydney.

HOME DELIVERY AND PICK UP NOW OPEN. From Tuesday to Sunday. You can collect or have home delivery. Tel 9564 6600 or go online to surjits.com.au to order via menulog.

For function catering call Rasan on 0410 751 551 and leave a message. Mention that you are from SUCC.

SUCC HISTORY

James Rodgers

- The Neill Drinking Fountain

Just to the right of the grandstand at No1 Oval as you look at the ground is a once handsome drinking fountain now disappointingly fallen into disrepair.

It was put up and unveiled in June 1902 by the Chancellor of the University, Professor H.N. MacLaurin.

It commemorates one of the University's most dominant sportsmen of the 19th century.



The colleagues and friends of Dr Leopold Edward Flood Neill BA, MB, ChM (1866-1901) wished his memory to be preserved.

The current state of the fountain would seem to suggest that Dr Neill's memory will now unfortunately quickly fade.

Neill, educated at Sydney Grammar, played Rugby for University during some of its glittering seasons, 1884-1890, including the three seasons, 1887, 1888, 1889, when the 1st XV was undefeated. He also represented NSW.

He was also a Sydney University cricketer although the records of the time are scattered.

He played at least during 1886-87 when he was also a member of the General Committee and the selection committee.

In 1886-87, he played mainly 2nd Grade but he also played at least two 1st Grade games (9 not out v Parramatta, 3-48 v Belvedere). In 2nds he was dominant in low-scoring games with 126 runs @21. His 43 against Carlton was easily the highest score in University's 82. He played in 2nds' extraordinary game against Manly at Manly in March 1887 when Neill's 39 was once again highest score in University's 144. Manly then collapsed for the lowest score ever made against University in any grade in any season. All out 11. Boyce 6 for 5. Neill 3 for 6.

So, when you're at the Oval, just pause at Neill's drinking fountain and remember one of our great doctors and sportsmen.

And petition the University authorities to preserve this 121 year old monument!



THIS NEWSLETTER

We have forwarded this Newsletter to our Mailing List!

If you do not wish to receive our news please let us know.
If there are others who might wish to see it, please advise their details.

Some people change their email address from time to time.
If you are changing your email please let us know the new one by
advising Colin Robertson at c.robertson@sport.usyd.edu.au.

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THE TOXTETH