

COVER DRIVE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GOSNELLS CRICKET CLUB
ISSUE N° 36 APRIL 2023



TOP: Our 2022/23 Colts Squad ahead of the Grand Final
RIGHT: Clay Stone after his 116* v Claremont-Nedlands
BELOW: Second Grade captain Simon Acomb takes a hattrick and 5fa v Perth in Round 12



GOSNELLS CRICKET CLUB
2022-23 AWARD WINNERS

BATTING AVERAGES

First Grade

Michael Dawson
255 runs at 51.00

Second Grade

Cameron Sawatzky
221 runs at 27.63

Third Grade

Cameron Sawatzky
225 runs at 37.50

Fourth Grade

Nic Roberts
508 runs at 42.33

BOWLING AVERAGES

First Grade

Michael Dawson
15 wickets at 18.40

Second Grade

Ronan DeGrussa
16 wickets at 16.94

Third Grade

Rhett Grincer
22 wickets at 13.09

Fourth Grade

Bradley Dixon
17 wickets at 23.94



SENIOR AWARD WINNERS

John Marsh Memorial Trophy Senior Cricketer of the Year

Luis Reece – 945 Points
Nic Roberts – 908 Points
Cam Sawatzky – 801 Points

Gil McDonald Memorial Trophy One Day Cricketer of the Year

Luis Reece – 364 Points
Bryden Emrich 333 Points
Michael Dawson – 318 Points

Mait Armstrong Perpetual Trophy First Grade Bowling Aggregate

Chris Dixon – 18 Wickets
Aqeel Wahid – 17 Wickets
Michael Dawson – 15 Wickets

Peter Lennon Perpetual Trophy Under 19 Cricketer of the Year

Kade Povey – 638 Points
Connor Southam – 537 Points
Savar Deeplaul – 482 Points
Jack Sutton – 482 Points

1st Grade Fielder of the Year

Daniel Smedley – 37 Votes
Luke McNamee – 25 Votes
Brodee Foster – 17 Votes



The Chairman's Report

Bruce Bussanich

Dear members,

I hope this coverdrive newsletter finds you all in good health.

Firstly, I would like to extend my thanks to all the Board Members, players, Coaches, support staff and volunteers who have contributed to the success of the season. We have seen some outstanding performances on the field in seniors, colts, and juniors, and I am proud of the way in which our teams have represented our club.

Additionally, I would like to thank our sponsors for their contribution this season and we look forward to their continuing support next season.

Our sponsors will ensure that the next generation of cricketers are given the support and resources they need to succeed. We believe that by nurturing young talent, we can build a strong and sustainable future for the sport in our region.

Our club will be holding its AGM on the 9th of May, where all board positions will be open for nomination. To prepare for the AGM, it may be helpful to review the club's handbook and bylaws. Additionally, if you are interested in nominating yourself or someone else for a board position, it's important to familiarize yourself with the roles and responsibilities of each position, as well as any qualifications or requirements for candidacy. During the meeting, members will likely have the opportunity to ask questions, discuss issues, and vote on various matters. It's important to participate in the meeting and make your voice heard, as this is a key opportunity to shape the direction and governance of your club.

I would also like to thank our board for season just gone. The board had only seen positional from the season prior, but added a few new faces into absent roles:

Paul Cullinane - **President**

Sam Parkyn - **Treasure**

Simon Acomb - **Club Secretary**

Paul Smedley - **Administration**

Dinesh Burah - **Director of WACA Seniors**

Paul Marshall - **Director of WACA Juniors**

Ronan DeGrussa - **Director of Marketing and Sponsorship**

Chris Rice - **Director of Community Cricket**

Wayne Andrews - **Head Coach**, plus his team of assistant coaches for the coming season.

For those of of you accessing this newsletter digitally, I have added a link for our contact details at <https://gosnellsgc.org/our-club/board-of-management/> or go to Gosnells Cricket Club website and search for Board of Management.

Finally, I would like to thank all members for their continued support of our great game. It is your passion and commitment that drives us to push for excellence and to build a stronger, more inclusive cricket community.

BRUCE BUSSANICH
Chairman of the Board

The Presidents Report Paul Cullinane

I hope this message finds you all well, safe and enjoying what you usually do following the completion of the cricket season, which for our Club came in the Third Grade Elimination Final. Unfortunately, the Third Grade boys excellent season was to come to an end in their first Elimination Final.

I would like to thank our Board members this year for another great year. Bruce Bussanich in his first year as Chairman has been invaluable to our Board in both a support and mentoring role, as well as Simon Acomb who again has more-than excelled in his role as Secretary and Indoor Training Facility Manager and Sam Parkyn as Treasurer who once again has the Club in a very healthy financial position. Our Directors of Cricket in Dinesh Burah (Senior Cricket) and Paul Marshall (Junior Cricket), Paul Smedley in Administration and Chris Rice (Community Cricket) are also thanked for their tireless efforts. Ronan DeGrussa was welcomed to the Board for the first time in Sponsorship and Marketing and has been fantastic in his role and influential by bringing important new thinking about how we go about things at our Club.

Again I want to thank Bobby Wiltshire for his contribution on gamedays, as nothing is ever too much for Bobby and I look forward to seeing him next year. His wife Susie was the stalwart of our kitchen for another year, and sadly, Susie will retire this year. Susie is much loved by all of our players and members and will be sorely missed. To Ken Ashwin, with his work behind the bar and with the recycling, I would also like to thank you again with an extension to Isabel Satti and Zali Smedley. Thank you again to all very much for your help through the year.

To our Junior Coaches in PK, Andrew, Andre and Christian, thank you for your hard work and dedication, as to their Assistant Coaches and Team Managers. Our Senior Coaching group of Wayne Andrews, Ken Dawson, Luis Reece, Danny Neretlis, Guy Hoskin, Colin Leipold, Peter Agostino and Mitch Coles, I extend a huge thank you for your hard work. We are starting to see traction in our results, as a result of the hard work the playing group and coaches are putting in. Wayne Andrews has informed the Club he is very happy to be fulfilling the third year of his contract and he has the total support of the Board of the Gosnells Cricket Club. Wayne will again be at the helm of the Club to continue the rebuild of our young cricketers for the 2023/24 season. He is building a culture that is leading to our teams being very competitive and staying in games a lot longer with both grit and determination.

This past season was our most successful in several years. Under Wayne Andrews, the prior season 2021/22 saw us win 15 games and not play finals. In contrast, the 2022/23 season gone saw us collect 20 wins (including the First Grade the last 3 in a row, Second Grade with 3 of their last 4 and the Third Grade 8 wins for the year to claim a finals berth). We also played in a Colts Grand Final and a Premier T20 Semi Final.



It is critically important for this Club to maintain stability and continuity of personnel to keep this trend going. Our players need to stick to the programme and Wayne tells me that he was heartened that many of the boys are very determined to do well next year and believe that what is happening at the Club is the right direction. Our Coaches must continue to assist Wayne at every opportunity. It is important that Wayne has the resources to be able to get to the players and Coaches, and I believe this will be improved again this coming season.

There has been some player movement following the end of season and as a Club we must continue to move forward. This now opens up fantastic opportunities for our young players who have committed to the work, courage required and patience to work through the hard times and achieve success. We as a Club must stay united and back each other, and we definitely saw that in the second part of the season gone. Our player group is tight and looking forward to building on another year of improvement and like every other Club in the Competition, we are asking players about their futures and if moving to Gosnells is in their plans. Player movement happens in all sports and at every Club, and is unfortunately common place these days.

Our wickets, both playing and practise, at the Club are prepared, maintained and repaired by the City of Gosnells and their staff. Gosnells Cricket Club pay \$25,000 annually to the City for this service, but has no control whatsoever about the quality, except like every other consumer, to feedback and ask that they do better. This has been the case since we entered the competition in 1987 and is a constant issue for the Club.

I would like to acknowledge the outstanding effort being made by Bruce Bussanich at this time. Bruce in the past had a huge impact on the quality of our facilities by keeping a very close relationship with the City staff. He is knowledgeable about wickets and provides informed feedback, so this year Bruce has been able to, in a very small capacity as he also spends time away from Perth in his job, to oversee from a distance what has been happening. Bruce has had several sit downs with the City to express our disappointment and has gained a commitment from them to have our facilities back to accepted competition levels by ball one of the 2023/24 season.

Bruce is exploring options for improvement including allowing the Club to takeover using the City's equipment, contracting a third party to potentially look after the facilities. The first two options would increase the Club spend beyond \$100,000 and would require increase in fees, securing a sponsor or annual Grants to cover. All three, in the current economic environment, are very difficult alternatives and something the Club is not in a position to consider. Our players understand this, but we also understand and are frustrated that we cannot offer our players suitable facilities at this time. It is certainly Bruce, the Board and my intention to rectify this quickly.

The Indoor Training Facility continues to be very busy and I would encourage our members to go onto the Club website and book some sessions. This is one of the best Indoor facilities in WA and we need to be utilising it to help our young cricketers grow and develop. Members receive a Club discount and sessions can be booked through the day so a great time to use it in the holidays. We are also keen for Community Clubs and other non-members to be booking the facility, so if you hear of someone wanting this type of training environment please let them know about our facility.

The Clubs Annual General Meeting will be held on the 9th of May 2023 at the Clubrooms starting 7pm. All Board positions are declared vacant, with members welcome to nominate for any role.

I wish you all a safe, healthy and happy end to the season, and look forward to seeing you all next season.

PAUL CULLINANE
Club President

Director of Seniors Dinesh Burah

The 2022/23 season saw a resurgence of every team's performances with three notable back to back wins by the 1st and 2nd grade teams in the back half of the season. The Third Grade team qualifying for the elimination finals since 2014 was a noteworthy highlight. Additionally, our Premier T20 missed out on a spot in the Grand Final by falling one hit short at the semi-finals, as the Colts team played in the Grand Final at the WACA.

Four baggy blues were awarded to Matt Harris, Dylan Smith, Chris Dixon and Curtis Holmes this season as well, with Luis Reece returned to the club in the mid part of October 2022, after several years of being locked out of Australia due to COVID border restrictions. His presence, support and coaching had a positive impact on the playing group. The specialist and targeted batting coaching assisted a core group of our batters to improve their skills and mental approach to the game. His support to the leadership team and the club review recommendations will be invaluable.

Three of our promising U17s players held permanent positions in the senior teams including two players in the Second Grade side. Additionally, four other players from U17s played a number of senior games and one U15s player had the opportunity make his senior debut.

We contoured with the much-needed Strength and Conditioning programme. The programme commenced during pre-season in early August which assisted in the player group being given practical measures around physical condition needed to keep up with the demands during the season.

We conducted two activities this season focusing on nutrition and resilience. Two representatives from the Curtin University, school of Nutrition conducted an interactive nutrition education workshop how it impacts physical activity. We also conducted a session on Resilience with Outside the Locker Room (OTLR).

My thanks to all the coaches, volunteers and the boards for their support during this season.

DINESH BURAH
Director of Senior Cricket



Head Coach Wayne Andrews

A tough start to 2022/23 season ended up with us all having more optimism that this playing group is moving in the right direction in bringing Club, team, and individual success for the next few years.

We've seen steady improvement in several key areas of fitness, knowledge, leadership and ownership all pointing to a brighter future.

Our challenge as a playing group is to continue to find ways to improve by becoming better at everything we do. That might include and not limited to improving your batting, bowling, fielding, tactical skills and also being there for your mates. Together we can all improve by helping each other in these areas enabling us in achieving our club, team and individual goals and successes.

To all the Coaches and captains who continue to make a positive impact on our players, and I thank you for your dedication in helping our Club play the game in a respectful and competitive manner. You give up a lot of your free time and for that I am extremely grateful.

Thank you to a hardworking and tireless Board in providing our Club with leadership and direction. Together we are creating, and setting up an environment and a pathway for all our players the opportunity to develop to play cricket at the highest level they can achieve.

To all the volunteers, I thank you for all your support. It's not just your tireless commitment in assisting the club to function smoothly, it's the unwavering love you all display going about your business that I appreciate so much. I look forward to seeing and working with you all again next season.

Finally, to all players that have represented the Gosnells Cricket Club this year, I thank you for your hard earned effort. Its been a year of consolidation and improvement however we now need to continue together in raising the bar to bring success and enjoyment to us all.

“ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS”.

WAYNE ANDREWS
Head Coach



First Grade Captain's Report Anthony Collova

As our First Grade side entered a new season there was plenty of excitement and determination to improve. A club goal to strive for club championship success started well with a very promising pre-season within the Indoor Training Facility. The club was able to bring back Luis Reece which was a fantastic addition not only for the First Grade side but the club as a whole with Luis's experience and knowledge providing great assistance to Wayne Andrews and the coaching group.

This season was an opportunity to make positive strides and establish ourself within the competition. The first part of the season showed glimpses of what we can accomplish, often finding ourselves in positions to win and playing a complete style of cricket, which was evident in our sides first win prior to the Christmas break. A clinical bowling display from Chris Dixon who took 4/36 capped off by dominating display with the bat from Luis Reece scoring a match winning 84 not out. The Christmas break rolled around with the side taking great momentum into the second portion of the season with the wins continuing to flow. The boys would manage to qualify second in their group in the Premier T20 completion and make it through to Finals day. A all-round team performance, with partnership bowling from Simon Acomb 2/17 and Curtis Holmes 2/20 from their respective four overs, would set up a thrilling run chase. Again, partnerships were key with contributions from Luis Reece 28 and Anthony Collova 34 early, setting up a exciting chase topped off by a blistering innings from Kade Povey, who would score 30 from 14 balls and win the game with a huge last ball six, sending the side to a semi-final. A exhilarating Semi-Final would take place with key performances from Chris Dixon (1/16 from 3 overs), Anthony Collova (48) and Michael Dawson (26); however the boys would fall agonisingly short finishing 8/176 in pursuit of 180. Despite this result ,a fantastic achievement from our First Grade side.



The T20 momentum would not end here, with the First Grade side going on to win their last three games in a row, with wins over Wanneroo, Rockingham-Mandurah and Melville. This three game stretch would put the true brand of Gosnells cricket on display for the competition to see. A fitting end to the season for our First Grade side who would finish 14th with 4 wins and 11 losses. The sides leading run scorer was Luis Reece who would end the season with 440 runs at an average at 44, with scores of 88, 84 and 72 capping off a brilliant season for Luis. Luis would also go on to take 10 wickets with a best of 4/56. Our leading wicket taker was Chris Dixon with 18 wickets at an average of 27.78, with a best performance of 4/36.

On an overall club level we had fantastic performances from our Colts and Third Grade sides. Our Colts would go one step further than our First Grade side making it to the T20 Grand Final. Although a valiant effort would end in defeat, the club is incredibly proud our their efforts and could not have asked anymore from the boys. Our Third Grade side had a successful campaign, finishing 5th and were the clubs sole representative in finals cricket, a massive achievement by Tim Horan and his side.

None of this would be possible without the guidance from Wayne and his coaching staff. A massive thank you to them and everyone involved, I look forward to next season and what it may hold for the First Grade side and the club as a whole.

ANTHONY COLLOVA
First Grade Captain

2022/23 Hawk Medal - NIC ROBERTS

What a season 2022/23 turned out to be for Fourth Grade captain Nic Roberts, who eventually made his way up to the Threes, who following the final game of the season was crowned the 2022/23 Hawk Medallist, pipping grade-rising Cameron Sawatzky by one vote.

Nic, who made the decision to captain Fourth Grade at the seasons start, excelled in the grade right up until the final three rounds of the season, in which he earned promotion to Third Grade and made a spot his own as they charged to finals.

In total Nic scored an astonishing 674 runs from 15 games in the season, which included six fifty-plus scores (five in the Fours, one in the Threes) at an average of 42.13.

The highlight of his season with the stick was for sure the Round 13 clash with Wanneroo as Nic earned his promotion to Threes off the back of his great form. Coming at 1-21 against a fellow side in finals contention, Nic saw the departure of D. Payne and batted for a long and difficult period with A. Sharma against tight-bowling.

His determination saw him propel past fifty, before cracking his maiden ton for the GCC in his promotion game. His knock featured 15 fours and 3 sixes as well as a 129-run stand with Anmol. Nic had earlier been dismissed for knocks of 72, 83 and 99 on his way to his a maiden ton, which made the day even sweeter,

Aside from his batting, Nic was also very handy with ball and in the field. Sometimes opening the bowling or even tying-down middle overs as a makeshift seamer in the Fours, he snared 7 wickets at an average of 30.14 as well as taking part in two run-outs through the year.

Nic became the first player to not feature in a First Grade side to win the Hawk Medal in almost 10 years, showing remarkable consistency to win the award with one-fewer game played. It was also the third-consecutive year in which a first-time winner has captured the award.

Congratulations Nic, well deserved for a great season!

BELOW: Nic Roberts with the 2022/23 Hawk Medal seated next to runner-up Cameron Sawatzky, after receiving the medal from previous winner Aqeel Wahid



Social Media Ronan DeGrussa

Hello to all GCC Members,

What an action packed season it has been for all members, players, family and friends. This season I took on the role of Director of Social Media, Marketing and Sponsorship, taking over from fellow teammate Matt Robson, who did a fantastic job reinvigorating the clubs social channels as well as bringing on board new sponsors.

My goal is to continue bringing new sponsors on board to the club, grow our social channels even more through the likes of podcasts, TikTok and more mainstream platforms such as Instagram and Facebook where we now have a following of over 2.2k as well as 2k followers on TikTok and a growing audience listening in to our Hawk Huddle Podcast. I would love to also attempt to bring new people into the club and open the club to every new face, as always we encourage and love to see families and friends attending our social nights throughout the year.

Social events this season included an iPod Shuffle night in November, Christmas Dinner with a special visit from Santa which even included a few boys even sitting on Santa's lap! January's social event was the always popular Karaoke Night, followed by our Annual Quiz night in February. It was awesome to see so many unfamiliar faces and friends and family at these two events, these are the small things that grow the club and bring us all together. I want to personally thank all of our sponsors this season who supported us constantly, as well as the coaching staff who've supported the playing group. I look forward to hopefully continuing this role next season and can't wait to see the progress we can make as a club once again!

RONAN DeGRUSSA
Social Media, Sponsorship and Marketing

BELOW: The playing group watching on during the Hawk Medal count, and the winning team celebrates the GCC's successful Quiz Night event



Director of Juniors Paul Marshall

On behalf of the Club, I would like to congratulate all of our junior players and families on another great season.

If we remember back to the start of the season way back in July of 2022, we spoke often about the junior program as being an apprenticeship for the development of players as opposed to hard focus on team success.

Whilst it can be challenging to stay on this path, through the combined efforts of our wonderful Coaches, Team Managers and other volunteers our junior players have embraced this challenge and certainly become better players at the end of the season.

UNDER 13s

Our Under 13s side, coached by Puneet Sharma and Roshan Ryan, took a very young bunch of boys and shaped them into a team which fell just short in a number of games before culminating in a wonderful win in the last game of the season. This team provided opportunities to all of the players, some of which were underage, and through hard work, we saw some amazing personal performances.

A standout for the Under 13's team was the bowling of Ahmad Nadeem. Not only did Ahmad win the bowling award for his team, but topped this off by winning the entire Under 13's competition awards for the most wickets and best average. Ahmad's bowling included two six wicket hauls out of six completed matches, an incredible performance.



UNDER 14s

The Under 14s team was led by Andrew Morgan and Darren Rose, who took the challenge on for the season head on and with the team all improving vastly. As with all teams, this side was a combination of existing players along with many new players joining the club with all of the players learning valuable lessons through training and matches played.

Whilst the team did not end up on the winning side of several matches, there again were some terrific individual performances and the level of effort displayed by the team cannot be underestimated.

UNDER 15s

Moving in to the Under 15s, the boys switched to Saturday morning matches under the guidance of Jacques Nel and Luke Howard, who from day one of pre-season had the team focused, determined and disciplined.

During the season we saw the team win four matches and come agonisingly close in a number of others. Led by their captain, a team and champion player James Free, the boys worked tirelessly at training to hone their skills and fitness which was showing dividends on match days. There were some excellent contributions with both bat and ball including two half centuries to Ben Walling, along with a dynamic fielding display throughout the season.

An additional congratulations is in order to go to James Free and Noyan Rostame for their selection to attend the WACA Under 15's talent carnival which was held during the season. Well done boys!

UNDER 17s

The elder statesmen of our juniors, the Under 17s had a year which included many challenges not just from the start but along the way as well. Coached by the experienced team of Christian and Peter Agostino, Brad Dixon and Tim Horan, the boys started out as a squad of 23 players.

Early in the season, this squad was reduced significantly due to a combination of injuries and other player loss which left them almost short of fielding a starting 11 players. The recruitment of players including Savar Deeplaul, Ian Sharma and Connor Third bolstered the team and saw them fight on for three wins and one draw.

As with other grades, there were stages of the season where the team were challenged physically and mentally but with the guidance of Christian and his team, the boys were able to push on strongly and represent themselves and the club as well as possible.



Significantly, there were a total of ten junior players who played seniors for GCC during the season, allowing them great opportunities to learn and be part of the senior group. Of these players, Connor Southam and Savar Deeplaul made their way through to play regular Second Grade matches along with Connor making an outstanding century in Third Grade. Sebastian Gangemi played in the Colts T20 team and others performed a variety of roles in other grades.

I would like to thank all of the amazing volunteers who made the season possible. This includes our Board, Team Managers, Coaches, members of our Junior Committee plus those parents who assisted with scoring, teas, ground set up etc. Without your help, our children would not be able to play and learn as much as they have.

As we now head into the off season, teams for next season have been selected and communicated. I wish all of the players returning next season all the very best and those who will not be continuing their journey at GCC good fortune in their endeavours either with cricket or otherwise.

PAUL MARSHALL
Director of Junior Cricket

JUNIOR AWARD WINNERS

Under 17s

Batting: **Savar Deeplaul** – 296 Runs @ 26.91

Bowling: **Ismail Yousaf** – 17 Wickets @ 17.59

Fielding Award: **Jack Sutton**

Coaches Award: **Jacob Deckers**

Player of the Year: **Savar Deeplaul**

Under 15s

Batting: **Ben Walling** – 278 Runs @ 23.17

Bowling: **James Free** – 15 Wickets @ 21

Fielding Award: **Armand Nel**

Coaches Award: **Riley Wilson**

Player of the Year: **James Free**

Under 14s

Batting: **Noyan Rostame** – 124 Runs @ 24.8

Bowling: **Noyan Rostame** – 9 Wickets @ 16.44

Fielding Award: **Vibhor Khangaonker**

Coaches Award: **Niyor Sharma**

Most Improved: **Amien Murdoch**

Player of the Year: **Noyan Rostame**

Under 13s

Batting: **Josh Anish** – 137 Runs @ 22.83

Bowling: **Ahmad Nadeem** – 18 Wickets @ 6.61

Fielding Award: **Bayley Southam**

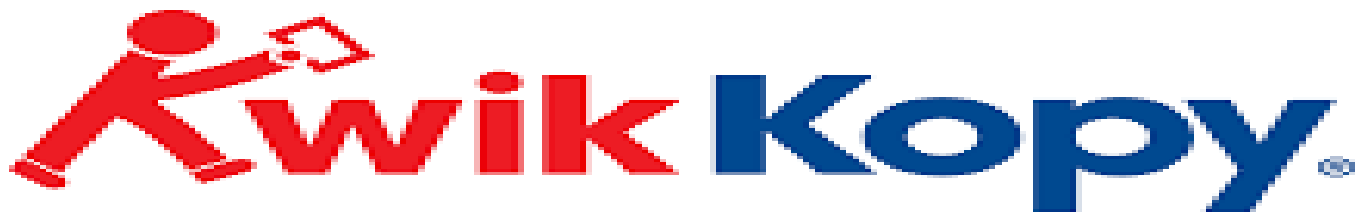
Coaches Award: **Elijah Crocker**

Most Improved: **Lucas Winnett**

Player of the Year: **Ahmad Nadeem**



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