



# ANNUAL REPORT

## HAMPTON UNITED CRICKET CLUB



2023/24



## **HAMPTON UNITED CRICKET CLUB**

(Formerly Hampton Methodists CC)

Est. 1926 Affiliated SECA. Incorporated 1992

ABN: 34 813 636 354

Cnr. Lawson & Olive Streets, Hampton 3188

PO BOX 1131, Hampton North Vic 3188

### **2023 / 2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

<b>President</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>David Pearce</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Sam Crigan</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Karthik Subbaiah</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Sam Crigan</b>
<b>Asst. Treasurer</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Lucas Blatchford</b>
<b>Committee</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Russell Moore, Josh Crigan</b>

### **Grades**

#### **Seniors**

<b>1st XI</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Woolnough Shield</b>
<b>2nd XI</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Pullen Shield</b>
<b>3rd XI</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>H Grade</b>
<b>4th XI</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>K Grade</b>
<b>5th XI</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>M Grade</b>

#### **Juniors**

<b>U14 B North</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Purple</b>
<b>U14 B Central</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>Gold</b>
<b>U14 C Central</b>	<b>:</b>	<b>HUCC – Highett West U14</b>

## Selection of pictures from the season 2023/24



New Sillitoe Pavilion inaugurated! Dendy Ward Cr Hanna El Moullem with HUCU President David Pearce



Russell Moore – Receiving “Club Legend” award



Mark Bell – Receiving HUCU Life Membership



Steve O Shea – Receiving 1<sup>st</sup> XI numbered cap



Michael Moss – Receiving 1<sup>st</sup> XI numbered cap



**First XI – Woolnough Shield – First game at Sillitoe Reserve**



**Second XI – Pullen Shield – First game at Sillitoe Reserve**

## Milestones

HAMPTON UNITED CRICKET CLUB

# CONGRATS

200 GAMES

STEVE O'SHEA



*Congratulation*



3,000 RUNS

JOSH CRIGAN

HAMPTON UNITED CRICKET CLUB

# CONGRATS

50 GAMES

LUCAS BLATCHFORD




*Congratulation*



1,000 RUNS

KARTHIK SUBBIAH





ANDREW WOOLSTON

ROUND 4

# 100TH SENIOR 1ST XI APPEARANCE

CONGRATULATION



*Congratulation*



3,000 RUNS

DAVID PEARCE

HAMPTON UNITED CRICKET CLUB

# CONGRATS


WICKETS ACHIEVED

150 WICKETS

JACK REED



*Congratulation*



1,000 RUNS

MATHEW FREEMAN

## Performances

 **ANDREW WOOLSTON**  
**8-1-5-19**

**AGAINST**  
MACKIE 1

**ROUND 2**  
SILLITOE RESERVE



 **JACK REED**  
**14-3-6-29**

**AGAINST**  
MELBOURNE WANDERERS

**ROUND 3**  
FAWKNER PARK



 **AARON ROBINS**  
**8-2-7-24**

**AGAINST**  
EAST BENTLEIGH CENTRAL 3

**ROUND 10**  
CAULFIELD PARK



24	7	8
RUNS	WKTS	OVERS
GRAY NICOLLS		

 **TRENT THOMPSON**  
**16-4-6-25**

**AGAINST**  
WEST BENTLEIGH 2

**ROUND 12**  
SILLITOE RESERVE




 **LUCAS BLATCHFORD**  
**2.5-1-5-2**

**AGAINST**  
CHELTENHAM PARK 2

**ROUND 13**  
CHELTENHAM PARK



2ND INNINGS



 **JACOB TRAVERS**  
**50\***

**Balls faced** 49    **SR** 102.04    **1 X 6**    **3 X 4**

3RD XI  
H GRADE  
GRAND FINAL



**Matt Larkworthy Cup – Retained!**



**U14 B Central – Juniors – Grand Finals Team**



**H Grade Premiers!**

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## President's Report

Committee, players, and supporters; I am pleased to submit the presidents report for season 2023/24.

Although our most important KPI, the number of players and supporters who stay involved with our club, won't be apparent until next season, by several measures, we have had another successful season on and off the field and through the efforts of all involved with the club, we continue to build a sustainable foundation that I'm confident will see Hampton United Cricket Club thrive leading up to our 100-year anniversary and continue in the years following.

The much-anticipated Sillitoe Reserve pavilion was ready just in time for the commencement of the season. Besides providing first class amenities and a magnificent viewing and social area, the pavilion was all we could have hoped for in terms of a facility with the capacity to host club events.

Moreover, several out-of-scope items including a dishwasher, oven, frier, coffee -machine, pantry refrigerator and freezer were included in the fit-out in addition to the normal fixtures and fittings. All the social area tables and chairs were included as well saving the club considerable expense.

We welcomed a record number of debutants this season and for the first time since 2008/9, the club fielded five senior teams in the SECA competition with the addition of a father and sons' team in M-Grade. The balance between competitiveness and fun playing cricket was achieved in the main as evidenced by the greatly improved availability of all the playing group.

Stalwarts such as Andy Hore returned to play, and I hope this is a trend that continues.

In collaboration with Highbury West, we maintained a 3<sup>rd</sup> junior team and consequently we competed in the U14B North, U14B Central and U14C Central competitions. I extend my thanks to our parent group for the enthusiastic support of our junior program and for choosing to play with Hampton United.

Congratulations to all the teams on a terrific season. We made finals in Pullen Shield, H-Grade and K-Grade as well as the U14B Central competition. The firsts were competitive in Woolnough Shield again and a win against eventual premiers West Bentleigh during the home and away season was testimony to our competitiveness. Our sincere thanks must go to captain George Fry for his leadership this season and when he was unavailable, Matt Freeman stepped in to take charge.

If anything, the standard of Woolnough got tougher this year and the personal contributions of George and Matt went a long way to keeping HUCC competitive. There is the talent to even better with renewed commitment and effort in 2024/5.

Without doubt, the highlight of the season was the performance of the H-Grade team, our 3rds, going all the way to a premiership! Brilliantly lead by Jacob Travers, the "engine room" or "backbone" of Hampton United capped off an almost perfect home and away season, clear top finish with 10 wins, to bring home our first senior flag since the triple flags of 2021/22.

The captain's reports will elaborate further on the individual team performances however let me thank the other captains as well. Lachlan Pearce and Cameron Stewart for steering the 2nds to a top four finish, Danny Dawson and the 4ths made it through to a grand final and Tony Dowling for his expert management of the 5ths. Captaincy in club cricket is more than organizing the batting and bowling order on game day and what to do if the toss is won. All the pre-game organization, sorting last minute changes (even of venue!), compiling match reports and umpires' reports, selections and

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coming up with an entertaining Saturday after-game speech at the rooms is all part of it and takes mental energy. The club is grateful for the effort put in by all our captains.

The new pavilion facilities were put to good use and in a first, we held a highly successful Reverse Raffle night (after a good deal of lobbying by Lachlan Pearce). This single event, well patronized by the entire club, was the biggest revenue earner for the season. It was great to see the return of the HUCC Trivia Night. Emily Spicer-Stuart and Tony Dowling along with Sam and Jayne Crigan put on a fantastic night which raised a lot of revenue as well. The junior presentation night and the senior presentation day were the other two formal events held in the new facilities and each was well attended and a great success. I expect we will expand the number of social events in the coming seasons.

As always, we couldn't run our club without the support of our wonderful sponsors. This season, generous sponsorship from Bendigo Bank, Highett Branch, Russell Moore, Moore's At Your Service, Andy Hore & Billycart Architecture, South City Meats, Hampton Fruit & Vegetables and Tim Hunt's Highett Flooring all aided financing of our club and helped cover the substantial cost of ground hire, cricket balls, umpires fees and playing uniforms.

A generous donation from former player and great HUCC patron, Glenn Thompson greatly assisted the player welfare initiative. On the topic of player welfare and mental health, we were fortunate to have Angus Wood come to the rooms and deliver an excellent discussion and presentation on his Lost and Found Project initiative. Forums like these all help to break down taboo topics of substance abuse and depression and break down the barriers that prevent young men and boys to reach out for assistance. Gus's journey is ultimately a positive message and an initiative we will continue.

SECA preferred suppliers, Knight's Sport and Swivs Locker provided competitive pricing on cricket equipment, match balls and apparel respectively.

These are important contributions which help keep our full year subs and match fees to affordable amounts. We will certainly look to increasing revenue from sponsorship in the coming seasons especially as the fees for our Sillitoe tenancy increased substantially now that the reserve is an "A-List" venue.

The generous grant provided by Cricket Victoria funded 60% of the cost of replacing the centre wicket, one of several major expenditures incurred this season. Great work by Tony Dowling secured the three TVs from JB Hi-Fi that completed the pavilion fit out.

In a season highlight, we elevated a former club great, Mark Bell to "Life-Member" status and we look forward to Mark's return next season. Mark was a giant of Hampton United whose deeds on and off the field were a massive factor in holding the club together through some lean years and we look forward to Mark and the Bell family coming back into the Hampton United fold.

Finally, I extend my thanks to the committee without who we simply couldn't function. The season saw a lot of change in the way the competition runs, and the advent of Play HQ certainly added to the workload pre-season. Thanks to Karthik Subbaiah, our club secretary for leading that Play HQ roll-out process at HUCC and for diligently chasing up match and umpires reports and his great support managing all the compliance tasks that must be done behind the scenes to remain part of this great competition. Thanks to treasurer Sam Crigan for managing the finances and the many hours spent at the rooms, long after most of us called it a day, taking care of the pavilion and organizing replenishment of the bar and kitchen, organizing umpires' payments. Sincere thanks to Russ Moore, for his team management and scoring for the 1<sup>sts</sup> along with the huge task of cleaning the rooms on

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Sundays and his watchful anticipation of matters arising through the season that ensures Hampton United are never blindsided to important developments and issues that impact the club.

In another commemorative milestone, we celebrated Russ Moore's 50 years with Hampton United. Possibly the event of the year (along with the H-Grade flag), Russ is the embodiment of Strength Through Loyalty! We are fortunate to have the support of Russ and Liz Moore who do so much to keep this club running.

Neil Byrne continued his amazing role ensuring milestones and important statistics were posted regularly on the Facebook page and it was great to have some new faces on the committee in Josh Crigan and Lucas Blatchford. Just as playing groups do, committees need replenishment, and I am grateful that Josh and Lucas volunteered their time to assist the committee.

No report would be complete without a nod to our indomitable Chairman of Selectors Stuart Murray! Stu's passion for grass roots sport and in particular, junior cricket is a wonderful drawcard for our club and a big reason parents choose to sign their kids up with Hampton United.

Selection of 5 teams each round takes a lot of patience, cajoling and persuasion and yet somehow, by Saturday morning, everything comes together in no small part thanks to Stu!

Thanks also to Emily Spicer-Stuart and Tony Dowling for their fantastic coordination of the junior program and help with the social events and latterly, management of the bar. Bit of a coin toss but Tony deservedly received our nod for volunteer of the year. I can't emphasise enough the crucial role volunteering plays in running HUCC. My sincere thanks to Tony and Emily and also to Dan Strachan, Damien Gill and Owen Cooke for donating their time to run our junior teams.

Last but by no means least, thanks to Darryl Reed for running the Thursday BBQs and of course Malcom Twining for organising all of the team apparel and also assisting with the juniors and all of the social events. We can't do what we do without Mal!

With that, I'll sign off and wish all a safe and happy winter. I look forward to season 2024/5, our 99<sup>th</sup>!

David Pearce  
President, Hampton United Cricket Club.

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## Treasurer's Report - 2023/24 – as of 5/5/2024

HUCC's 2023/2024 financial result shows an **operating loss of \$3876**. Overall, our operating revenue (\$71,700 approx.) was up by nearly \$30,000 on last season's revenue. However, our expenditure (\$76,500 approx.) was nearly **\$35,000 more** than last season. This dramatic increase in expenditure can be attributed to various reasons but a primary one was some one-off expenses relating to facilities and the pitch at Sillitoe.

Revenue from subs was over **\$19,800**, up on last season due to an extra senior team. Thanks to those that paid their full subs or match payments throughout the season. We also had an income of **\$9960** in subs from our junior players as well. Huge thanks to Mal Twining, Stu Murray, and Emily Dowling for all your efforts with our juniors. The club appreciates the support of all players in paying their subs and keeping the club financially viable.

**Sponsorship revenue was up significantly from last season.** This season we had valuable contributions from our main sponsors Bendigo Bank, Hihett Floors and Billy Cart Architecture. This, along with income from current and former players Mal Twining, Glenn Thompson, Andy Hore and Russell Moore, **amounted to \$7030**. A huge appreciation again to all our sponsors!

Money spent on cricket equipment such as match balls and junior supplies was over **\$7,500** and expenses for playing shirts, new training shirts and other clothing totalled at over **\$11,000** which was also a significant increase.

The bar and kitchen's total **revenue was approximately \$27,500**. This increase of over \$10,000 on last year can be attributed to modest price increases to our food and drink and more players and supporters coming back to support the club. Big appreciation to everyone for the support this season. A big thank you to Tony Dowling for his work managing the stock of the bar this season. Many thanks to those who helped out with service behind the bar, in particular Karthik, Russ and Lucas. Also, thanks to Daryl Reed for helping run BBQs for Thursday trainings as well as Mirelle and Lisa for your work in the bar and kitchen this season.

Our special events including our reverse raffle, trivia night and presentation day helped generate over \$20,000 in revenue. Many thanks to Dave and Lachlan Pearce in particular for your work in setting up and monitoring the sales of reverse raffle tickets. Also, much appreciation to Tony Dowling for your support in making the trivia night a success.

Next page contains details regarding sources of income and major costs (approximated).

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**Primary income sources included (approximate values):**

- Subs: \$19,800
- Bar: \$27,550
- Special Events: \$20,000
- Sponsorship: \$7030

**Major costs included (approximate values):**

- Bar and Canteen costs: \$19,565
- SECA and Umpires: \$8,090
- Special event costs (catering, prizes etc.) - \$6,088
- Equipment and Clothing: \$18,700
- Pitch replacement, new BBQ, TVs, and other facilities expenses - \$15,900

Whilst financially it hasn't been an ideal result this season, there have been significant funds directed towards beneficial long-term investments as we establish ourselves in the new facilities at Sillitoe Reserve.

A more detailed profit and loss statement will be finalised before 30<sup>th</sup> June in line with statutory requirements.

Sam Crigan  
Treasurer, Hampton Untied Cricket Club.

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## 1<sup>ST</sup> XI Report 2023-2024

For the second season George Fry captained the 1<sup>ST</sup> XI, and when he was unavailable, the captaincy was handed to Matt Freeman. Both leaders in their own way and in a tough environment, they both are to be congratulated in the way they led the team on match day.

After finishing in the top four the previous season in Woolnough Shield, the team had high expectations on once again challenging for the Premiership. Unfortunately, our season was dotted with inconsistent team performances, as we hovered in and out of the top four, finishing the season in sixth position, missing a place in the final four by six points.

Our inconsistent performances were spread across the three cricket disciplines batting, bowling, and fielding. Fielding over the last few seasons has been our real strength, however, this season we let ourselves down, dropping vital catches, especially in the session between the start of play and the tea break.

In a season where you play all teams twice, we achieved wins against three of the top four teams Hampton Central C.C, Omega C.C and Premiers West Bentleigh C.C. However, we were soundly beaten on the return fixture in each game. The luck of the draw also played a part as the wash out in round eight across both Saturdays meant we shared the points with Cluden C.C, at that stage of the season were on the bottom of the ladder and, who we have beaten in our last three encounters.

Having said that we still held our place in Woolnough Shield. HUCC is one of the few Clubs in the top two grades that does not have paid players, offers other incentives, or looks to recruit from overseas. If you are lucky, you might win the player of the round competing against the other four teams for a \$20 HUCC card. We look forward to once again next season competing for the Premiership.

### **Matt Larkworthy Cup**

In round six we once again played Cluden C.C for the Matt Larkworthy Cup and had a convincing win. HUCC has won all three encounters since we started playing for the Cup.

HUCC 3/195 (Nick Freeman 47, Max Murray 41, Hugh Hamilton 40) defeated Cluden 193.

### **New Players**

This season we had a couple of personnel changes with Oliver Gunning, last season Club Champion, returning to Premier cricket with Melbourne. We wished him good luck and hope to see him return one day. We also missed our regular number three batsman Max James who only played four games. Three new recruits, Spencer Wood, and Aidan Nicholls both from Premier Club Camberwell Magpies, and Hugh Hamilton from Brighton C.C boosted our playing stocks. All three having an impact in our pursuit of wins.

Congratulations to Matt Freeman achieving the double, winning his second Shane Thompson memorial Club Championship & the David Tomlinson Most Valuable player award. Matt had a consistent season finishing with 309 runs & 23 wickets including match figures of 6/41 against Mackie C.C in the last round of the season.

Max Murray was also a shining light opening the batting with 308 runs and a high score of 93 batting all 40 overs in our One Day game against Hampton Central C.C

Nick (Hack) Freeman finished with 274 runs. That is still a reasonable total however Hack has set some very lofty standards in the previous two seasons scoring over 600 runs each season. We know he will get back around that mark next season.

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Other outstanding performances with the ball were Andrew Woolston 5/19 against Mackie C.C and Aidan Nicholls 5/30 against Omega C.C

It was also great to have Felix & Sam Flockart playing in the 1<sup>ST</sup> XI adding to our bowling strengths. The all-round skills of George Fry, Harry Hill & Fergus Murray continue to provide us with stability. Thank you to Angus Edgar & James Larkworthy who shared the wicketkeeping duties.

This season we used nineteen players in the 1STXI. We are lucky to have quality members on our playing list that are prepared to fill in when asked. Special mention to Luke Barker, Jayden Crosby, David McCaig & Jacob Travers.

Once again as Team Manager and scorer, it has been a pleasure to interact with this group of quality club members both on and off the field. The reports we get back from the umpires are always positive regardless of the results.

Russell Moore  
Team Manager

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## 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Report 2023-2024

As we reflect on the season, I am immensely proud of the strides we've made together as a team. With 9 new players joining our side, we embarked on a journey that was both challenging and rewarding, forging new bonds and experiences on the cricket field.

Despite the challenges of moving up a grade, we showed our mettle by qualifying for the finals, a testament to our commitment and hard work at training and on game day.

In the batting department, Josh Crigan consistently led the charge, accumulating 418 runs, anchoring our innings, and setting strong foundations.

A standout highlight of our season was the exceptional performance of Trent Thompson, who claimed an impressive 28 wickets throughout the season, showcasing his talent and dedication to our team's success.

Our bowlers also shone brightly, with standout performances from Trent Thompson (6/25), Jack Reed (6/29), George Mihelakos (5/3), and Lucas Blatchford (5/2), who all delivered outstanding spells, bagging wickets, and turning matches in our favour.

A special mention goes to Angus Wood, whose mid-season inclusion injected fresh energy into our team. Angus proved to be a headache for opposing teams with his stubborn resistance at the crease, frustrating bowlers unable to dismiss him.

Each one of you contributed to our successes, and I look forward to seeing our team evolve and achieve even greater heights in the future.

Thank you for your commitment and efforts throughout the season.

Lachlan Pearce and Cam Stewart  
Captains – 2nd XI

## 3<sup>rd</sup> XI Report 2023/24

This summer was yet another successful one for the 3<sup>rd</sup> XI culminating in winning our second premiership in three years. Navigating countless changes each week and settling into a new grade provided challenges along the way, but no matter who the eleven were that got selected we were not only competitive each week but continued to maintain our great winning percentage from years gone by. The key to maintaining that strong winning percentage this year was having more well-balanced contributions from many players throughout the season. Looking through the season stats would confirm this with an even spread of wickets and runs across the 40 players who played in the 3<sup>rd</sup>s this season.

Despite the even spread of contributors naturally there were several memorable individual performances from the season. Kenny Gregson took 5 wickets against Diamond in Round 3 in a game that looked like we would otherwise lose, and Campbell Tweedie dragged us over the line against fellow grand finalist East Oakleigh retiring on 53\* off only 36 balls after coming in at 4/68 in a game we were chasing 153.

We have always been a strong bowling side; however, I think it was our approach to our batting that was a significant factor in having the success we couldn't find last year come finals. As opposed to everyone going out to bat with the intention of trying to belt opposition bowlers around the park, we adopted a much more mature mindset and had different gears we could go to throughout our innings. We also batted much better in partnerships compared to years gone by, understanding what the strengths of our batting partners are and complementing that style by either simply rotating the strike or being the aggressor against certain types of bowling. This level of maturity is something that was perhaps missing in previous years and has resulted from having a core group of players that have now consistently played with each other for several seasons. Knowing that we have someone like Cal Charlton opening putting a high price on his wicket to anchor the innings to allow the likes of Dev Nicholls to attack the new ball and keep wickets in the shed for the likes Campbell Tweedie, Kenny Gregson, and Dave McCaig to steer the ship home in the later overs provided a great platform when either setting or chasing a total.

Our bowling remained as strong as ever bowling sides out six times across our fourteen matches and keeping sides under 100 on three occasions. Whilst our opening bowlers often changed week to week, Dave McCaig was a regular early in the innings, taking wickets and keeping the run rate under control by always challenging the stumps. Kenny and Tweeds would often then break through right before drinks before Tom Wallace and Aussie Parker applied the handbrake throughout the middle overs with their spin bowling. Our bowlers were constantly backed up by great fielding, a benefit of having comfortably the youngest side in the comp!

There is no reason why this team can't continue to find success in coming seasons with more and more grades becoming one day competitions. The confidence and growth that we gained from this season should ensure that we all return to the purple haze next year to start our premiership defence. A huge thanks to Stu, Pearcy, Neil, Karthik, and the entire committee not only for their assistance but for their ongoing support in how this team likes to approach Hampton United cricket, we are all very appreciative for the opportunity.

Jacob Travers  
Captain – 3<sup>rd</sup> XI

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## 4<sup>th</sup> XI Report 2023/24

After competing in the M grade grand final last season, the 4<sup>th</sup> XI were promoted 2 grades to K Grade this season. We certainly didn't get off to a great start, being comprehensively defeated in the first 2 rounds. We then started to reap the rewards of the strength of the club in the higher grades with a gradual filter down from the higher teams and the return of some late starters.

We eased into our tilt at another grand final with a win over Aspendale in round 3, who would turn out to be one of the cellar dwellers. Our muscle memory began to return as we began our resurgence. The only thing standing in our way was the draw and week after week playing the top team. I believe we played the top team 7 weeks in a row.

It was a huge help having the talent starting to filter into the team with the likes of Karthik Subbaiah, Marcus Barber, Sam Crigan, Steve O'Shea, Rowan Doyle, and Aaron Robbins putting their hand up to help the charge. The result of this was a 10-week winning streak (including defeating the eventual Premiers), and snaring 3rd position on the ladder (by percentage) at the end of the season.

The finals were a very exciting time for us. We managed to field one of our strongest teams for the season in the semi-final against Mackie who had stacked their team with higher grade players. With Mackie batting first they piled on 205 runs which was always going to be a bit of a daunting task. We managed to stay on the required run rate for the innings and timed our victory perfectly with a last ball win.

The grand final was a little different, playing a very strong opposition. We managed to set a good target for them to chase with 193 on the board and we all know that runs on the board in a final are always hard to chase down. Hellenic, with their powerful batting line up, managed to chase the score down with a couple overs to spare but the boys can hold their heads up with a tremendous performance.

I can't finish this without mentioning a couple of outstanding performance. Aaron Robbins with his 7 wickets in his first match for us was a highlight along with the consistency of Karthik Subbaiah with the bat who continually threatened the financial stability of the club with his contributions to the 100 club. Some other mentions go to Sam Crigan who was outstanding behind the stumps, David Pearce with his consistency with the bat, Marcus Barber with his miserly bowling and contribution with the bat, BJ with his 8 overs a week joined by a few wickets a game and Abhi with his manic performances on the field.

I can't finish this without also thanking all the other guys who contributed during the season. Unfortunately, we can't play 16 in the grand final, but our success was just as much due to these guys.

Onwards and upwards!

Danny Dawson  
Captain – 4<sup>th</sup> XI

## 5<sup>th</sup> XI Report 2023/24

The motivation to start up a 5<sup>th</sup> team was really grounded in the desire to give our juniors an opportunity to play in a 'Father/Son' team in a social environment, to continue their development and enjoyment of the game. We also wanted to give an opportunity to some of the 'retired' Dads to come back the cricket and play with their kids and bring new players into the club. Expectations were low given the format and our desire to play juniors and old blokes who hadn't played in some cases, for many years.

The team entered the lowest Grade (M Grade) where we hoped to play several other 'Father / Son' teams. HUCC had the most Father/Son representation throughout the season. In fact, during the year, we played some 12 Father/Son combinations, which was far more than any other club. Towards the back half of the year, we also played several of the existing seniors who came down from the higher grades.

In all, it was an incredibly successful season. The side was able to field a team every week and give our juniors both an opportunity and the confidence in playing against adults. All our boys held their own. On top of that, we introduced 6 new players who had not played for the club before this season. Our juniors were able to learn a lot by playing with their Dads and with other experienced seniors. Similarly, our seniors enjoyed mentoring the kids and seeing first-hand the amazing talent we have coming through.

A special shout out to Jase Anderson, who was new to the club this season. Jase and his son Kai were regular players for us, and Jase was able to take home both our batting and bowling awards for the season. Both Jase and Kai personify what our team is all about. Also, a shout out to Alex Lambert who as a junior, finished second in our team for bowling.

The team finished 5th and was competitive in every single game. We beat Dingley who finished on top of the ladder and were very competitive against the eventual premiers – Cheltenham Park. In all it was a great experience and I expect we will only be stronger again next year given this was our 'first crack' at competition.

### **Father / Son combinations who played -**

Dowling  
Lambeth  
Lambert  
Beasley  
Matthews  
Anderson  
Vella  
Atchison  
Strachan  
Edmonds  
Edwards  
Gill

Thank you for a great season.

Tony Dowling  
Captain – 5<sup>th</sup> XI

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# HUCC Juniors Program

## Season Summary

Another season done and dusted!!

What a joy it was to see our junior program grow from strength to strength this year! We might not be the largest cricket club in Hampton; however, we are building something very special for our junior boys to enjoy and cherish. Small but MIGHTY! We fielded 3 strong teams in the 2023/24 season, with players approaching us to join from 5 neighbouring clubs. A true testament to the reputation HUCC is building in the community, no matter your skill level, if you have a desire to play and are willing to commit, you will always be welcome at HUCC.

Some amazing results from each of the junior teams, individual accolades were celebrated yes, but what is more important is the consistent demonstration of team spirit and pride the boys have for the club they play at. Whilst we value the development of our players and to this end we run a comprehensive junior cricket program, managed by our junior parent volunteer coaches with the support of qualified senior coaches, we work hard to build values and team spirit into our upcoming boys.

We look to actively enable our junior kids to have a pathway to social senior cricket and this past season saw that unlocked with many of the junior boys playing Saturday senior cricket in the newly formed 'Dads and Lads' cricket team. There is only a small window when the boys are enthusiastic to play cricket with their dads and it was a joy to watch them relish the opportunity this season.

Huge thanks to Stu Murray, aka Mr Cricket at HUCC, his commitment and love for the Junior program oozes out of him, he is constantly recruiting players, providing support, guidance and coaching for our boys, not sure they realise how lucky they are to have such a legend leading the way!! Special thanks also to Mal Twining for his ongoing hard work in providing merch and uniforms for the boys, I have never seen them look so good on the field!

We were also lucky enough to open our brand-new club rooms, we moved from shack to chalet this year and boy did the kids know how lucky they now are!! Week in it was clear the boys were incredibly proud of the new club rooms we 'christened' this season, whether it was the canteen, the air conditioning, or the sparkly new change rooms, it was an honour for the boys to have a new space to call their own for the season.

I cannot thank the parents enough for their love and support this season. It is a funny game - cricket, it can be brutal if you go out early and must spend hours watching without your son on the field. We have a sensational group of parents, always willing to help with scoring, snacks, and moral support. It is not possible without your amazing taxi services every week, trying to make the 4pm arrival time! It does not go unnoticed, and I am very grateful to have you all as a part of the club.

On a personal level, as a mother of boys, nothing excites me more than seeing my children welcomed into a community sport with open arms. HUCC is their second home. The connection the junior boys are building with our senior players and with our club, is nothing short of heart-warming. The boys genuinely love Hampton United Cricket Club, they are in the nets every day of summer and in the clubrooms whenever the doors are open! They helped in the canteen, they sold raffle tickets, they delivered match reports each week, they listened to the politics and pain of senior selection with the magnets being moved around the board and actively watched as many senior games as they could. Their love for the game of cricket grew dramatically this year and as the season has

ended, I already know they miss the community spirit they experience over the summer cricket months. The HUCC club spirit saw a large gaggle of senior players at the junior's final games, how lucky they are to have the support and guidance of the seniors and how lucky the club is to have such an amazing group of cricket loving juniors coming up the ranks. The future of HUCC junior cricket is exciting!!!

I encourage you to get involved in the coming season, come down for a drink, put your hand up to help, what we are building as a club is something that is hard to put into words, come see it for yourself! Your children will thank-you for the opportunity in years to come.

Bring on season 2024... #GoHammers!

Emily Spicer-Stuart  
Junior Program Co-ordinator



## **UNDER 14B CENTRAL - GOLD**

With a new season looming, player numbers had the team return with ten players locked in and searching for the balance. Ieuan Hill and Charlie Ratcliffe arrived the week before round one from other clubs and then Harper Dressing landed after the Xmas break to give us a comfortable 13 players.

Friday night cricket was a hit again for both the kids and parents and a great way to finish the week. It saw us travel through the home and away season dropping points in just one of the ten home and away games. There were some outstanding team performances with some fabulous individual performances sprinkled across the season. It was really pleasing to see every player experience the thrill of performing at their personal best in at least one game with some doing it multiple times. On most occasions, these performances lead the team to victory, but more importantly instilled confidence for both the individual player and team.

We finished the season off with a wonderful Semi Final win against East Sandringham but unfortunately, ran out luck in the GF and finished a gallant second to Parkdale.

Special thanks to Emily Spicer-Stuart. She is simply the best Junior Co-ordinator and team manager going around. I have no doubt, HUCC is a much better place for having Emily and her awesome family around the club, which I hope continues for years to come.

Greg "Briggsy" Briggs was at it again this season and gets a huge thank you for assisting with ground set up at our home games. Thanks also to all the parents who took time out to support the boys coming to training and at the games, with extra thanks to those who assisted with the scoring.

Personally, it was a most enjoyable challenge to keep the boys focused, competitive and interested enough to keep playing cricket for the years to come. An energetic crew, with likeable larrikin personalities, it was a buzz for me every week.

Bring on 2024/5 and the rise to Under 16 cricket.

### **2023-24 TEAM**

Tim Lambeth  
Gus Occhiuto  
Jack Atchison  
Olly Hall  
Eddie Jennings  
Jimmy Dowling  
Tom Beasley  
Alex Lambert  
Ted Bartel  
Harper Dressing  
Ieuan Hill  
Tommy Edwards  
Charlie Ratcliffe

Stu Murray  
Coach – U14B Central - Gold

## UNDER 14B NORTH - PURPLE

The 2023/24 season was one of real growth for the team. Having finished runner up the previous season in the U12s, the boys may have expected to be similarly dominant in season 2023/24. The step up to U14 was a big one though and resulted in many competitive games. While we were pipped in several close ones, the defining feature of the season was the spirit shown by the boys and their tenacity to stay in games. This led to some pleasing wins but, more importantly, a season long ability to enjoy the game and each other's success.

This season we welcomed, Kai Anderson, Connor Mills and Louie McGann to the team and each had an immediate impact. All three readily put their hand up for tough roles with Connor opening the batting (and belting the bowlers) and Louie and Kai the bowling on several occasions. All added enormously to the spirit and character of the side.

All boys made vital contributions and grew their games through the season. They really developed as a team and would cheerily bounce back and support each other after setbacks which was a real credit to them. Their work together was so much greater than their individual contributions, but I have given a little individualised feedback below. Collectively, the focus was on keeping heads still while batting and scoring off the bad balls, building partnerships with singles (and good calling between wickets), following through in their bowling actions, building pressure with accuracy, and backing up each other with positive fielding and encouragement. We all worked on it at training and could see real development in the matches. The boys enjoyed their cricket and developed skills that will hold them in good stead for the coming seasons.

Of course, the boys were able to enjoy their cricket due to outstanding support from Damo and all the parents (special mention for ferrying boys from new schools to Friday night games on time) as well as Briggsy and the other club leaders and champions, namely Emily, Stuart, and Dave. Thanks to all and bring on the new season!

Kade Cao	Had the courage to open the batting all season, technically gifted and works hard on his game, closed the season strongly and always encouraging of his teammates.
Jayce Cantwell	Regularly put his hand up for hard jobs, athletic in the field, great arm, always committed and in the game.
Tom Gill	Played several big innings, grew his ability to manage tempo in his batting and build partnerships, offies developing nicely. Won the batting award.
Nathan Jones	Match winner in last game, works on his game continuously, intimidated some teams with his fast bowling, batting coming on nicely.
Mason Vella	Always competitive and in the game, plays the game conditions and often performs when most needed – v mature in this regard. Won the fielding/all-rounder award.
Connor Mills	Ready to put his hand up to bat, bowl or tell a joke. Smashes it, vice hands, cheeky banter, works on his skills, great for the team.
Arlo Strachan	Involved in many key batting partnerships when the game was on the line, vocal and supportive in the field, offies (and pace) developing well.
Harry Veness	Solid, reliable, and determined to positively contribute, great resilience to bounce back after not performing as he wanted, swung the ball massively at times and made the opposition look silly. Won the bowling award.
Harry McAlister	Bullet arm in the field and often unluckily parked at fine leg as a result! Took key wickets and was calm and accurate. Batting developed well through the season.
Kai Anderson	Natural athletic talent with great eye hand coordination, ability to hit the seam regularly with the ball and was unplayable at times.
Louie McGann	Always 100% effort, at training and in games. Never shirked a challenge and always threw the ball up and gave it a chance to swing. Won the coaches award.

Daniel Strachan  
Coach – U14 B North - Purple

Damian Gill  
Team Manager

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## **UNDER 14C CENTRAL**

U14C was a combined team this year with players from Hampton United Cricket Club joining forces with Highett West Cricket Club. The boys had a great season overall with the 3 wins, 1 draw and 4 losses, leaving us sitting just outside a final spot on the Ladder.

Some great batting from Jackson with two 50 not outs, Tristan with one 50 not out & Sebastian scoring 46 runs not out - his highest score ever! Barney, Sebastian & Jackson have led the bowling each taking 4 wickets. Two new players Charlie and Zach who never played cricket got 4 wickets each.

It was great to see the improvement in all the players from the start of the season to the end. The boys had lots of fun and enjoyed their cricket, they can't wait to get into the next season. Big Thanks to all the parents for their support in getting the boys to training and to the games.

Owen Cooke  
Coach – U14C Central

**HAMPTON UNITED CRICKET CLUB**  
**SENIOR PRESENTATION Saturday 23<sup>RD</sup> March**  
**AWARD WINNERS 2023-2024**

**AWARD**

**WINNER**

Club Champion  
(Shane Thompson Memorial)

Mathew Freeman

Most Valuable Player  
(David Tomlinson Medal)

Mathew Freeman

Hampton United Cricket Club  
2023-2024

Volunteer of the season  
Most Determined Player  
Fielding Award  
Wicket Keeping Award

Tony Dowling  
Stewart Levy  
Devan Nicholls  
Sam Crigan

1STXI Batting Average	Mathew Freeman	34.33 (309 runs)
1STXI Bowling Average	Mathew Freeman	19.13 (23 wickets)
2NDXI Batting Average	Josh Crigan	41.80 (418 runs)
2NDXI Bowling Average	Trent Thompson	17.42 (28 wickets)
3RDXI Batting Average	Jacob Travers	44.0 (220 runs)
3RDXI Bowling Average	Campbell Tweedie	12.5 (12 wickets)
4THXI Batting Average	Karthik Subbaiah	66.25 (265 runs)
4THXI Bowling Average	Brett Johnston	16.06 (18 wickets)
5THXI Batting Average	Jason Anderson	34.80 (174 runs)
5THXI Bowling Average	Jason Anderson	16.88 (8 wickets)
Senior Aggregate Runs	Josh Crigan	418
Senior Aggregate Wickets	Trent Thompson	28
3RDXI Player of the Finals	Campbell Tweedie	
4THXI Player of the Finals	Karthik Subbaiah	

**5 or more Wickets in an innings**

1STXI	Andrew Woolston	5/19	v Mackie Round 2
1STXI	Aidan Nicholls	5/30	v Omega Round 3
1STXI	Mathew Freeman	6/41	v Mackie Round 14
2NDXI	George Mihelakos	5/3	v Brighton Union Round 2
2NDXI	Jack Reed	6/29	v Melbourne Wanderers Round 3
2NDXI	Trent Thompson	6/25	v West Benteigh Round 12
2NDXI	Lucas Blatchford	5/2	v Cheltenham Park Round 13
3RDXI	McKenzie Gregson	5/46	v Mackie Round 3
4THXI	Aaron Robins	7/24	v East Benteigh Central Round 10

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### **Games milestones this season**

**Club Games:** Steve O'Shea - 200

**1<sup>st</sup> XI Games:** Andrew Woolston - 100, George Fry - 50

**Runs:**

3000 David Pearce, Josh Crigan

1000 Mathew Freeman, Josh McPherson, Karthik Subbaiah, Jacob Travers

**Life Membership**      Badge & Plaque      -      Mark Bell

<b><u>CLUB CHAMPION</u></b>	<b><u>TOP TEN</u></b>
Mathew Freeman	1063.5
Josh Crigan	825.5
Karthik Subbaiah	813.5
Sam Crigan	780.5
Trent Thompson	674.0
Stewart Levy	669.0
Aaron Robins	616.0
Campbell Tweedie	604.0
Max Murray	582.0
Marcus Barber	579.0

## **SEASON STATISTICS**

<b>50's (52)</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Round</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Score</b>
Max MURRAY	11	1st	93*
Angus WOOD	11	2nd	91*
Josh CRIGAN	5	2nd	90*
Angus WOOD	6	2nd	82*
Massey PARKER	1	5th	75*
Lachlan PEARCE	2	2nd	73
Matt FREEMAN	4	1st	69*
Stewart LEVY	11	2nd	69
Matt FREEMAN	10	1st	67
Justin ISAAC	13	2nd	65
Cameron STEWART	2	2nd	65
Spencer WOOD	12	1st	65
Fergus MURRAY	14	1st	65
Max JAMES	3	1st	64*
Devan NICHOLLS	9	3rd	64*
Stewart LEVY	14	2nd	63
Alex KELSEY	12	5th	59*
Josh CRIGAN	6	2nd	56
Grant TWEEDIE	1	5th	56
Andy HORE	12	5th	56*
Angus WOOD	14	2nd	56
Daniel SHAW	3	3rd	55*
Jason ANDERSON	14	5th	55*
Campbell TWEEDIE	5	3rd	53*
Rowan DOYLE	9	4th	53*
Josh CRIGAN	12	2nd	53
Jason ANDERSON	10	5th	53*
Robert MATTHEWS	3	5th	52*
Luke BAKER	13	1st	52
Karthik SUBBIAH	13	4th	52*
Marcus BARBER	5	4th	51*
Spencer WOOD	2	1st	51
Max MURRAY	3	1st	51
Jayden CROSBY	7	2nd	51
Dave PEARCE	10	4th	51*
Grant TWEEDIE	13	5th	51*
Sam CRIGAN	S/F	4th	51*
Martin EDWARDS	3	5th	50*
Tony DOWLING	3	5th	50*
Karthik SUBBIAH	3	4th	50*
Dave PEARCE	4	4th	50*

Andy HORE	5	5th	50*
Jacob TRAVERS	8	3rd	50*
Karthik SUBBIAH	9	4th	50*
Marcus BARBER	9	4th	50*
Karthik SUBBIAH	10	4th	50*
Karthik SUBBIAH	14	4th	50*
Abhishek CHOUGAONKAR	14	4th	50*
Jacob TRAVERS	S/F	3rd	50*
Campbell TWEEDIE	S/F	3rd	50*
Jacob TRAVERS	G/F	3rd	50*
Steve O'SHEA	G/F	4th	50*

\* = Not Out

Wickets				
Name	Round	Grade	Wickets	Runs
AARON ROBINS	10	4th	7	24
Trent THOMPSON	12	2nd	6	25
Jack REED	3	2nd	6	29
Mat FREEMAN	14	1st	6	41
Lucas BLATCHFORD	13	2nd	5	2
George MIHELAKOS	2	2nd	5	3
Andrew WOOLSTON	2	1st	5	19
Aidan NICHOLLS	3	1st	5	30
Mackenzie GREGSON	3	3rd	5	46
Tom GILL	13	5th	4	7
Karhik SUBBIAH	5	4th	4	8
Sam FLOCKART	5	1st	4	20
Bayley WARNER	9	2nd	4	25
Barrie LAMBERT	11	5th	4	29
William CRAWFORD	11	3rd	4	33
Josh CRIGAN	6	2nd	4	40
Trent THOMPSON	14	2nd	4	40
Tom WALLACE	5	3rd	4	42
Lucas BLATCHFORD	11	2nd	4	43
Sam FLOCKART	12	1st	4	47
David McCAIG	4	3rd	3	6
George FRY	11	1st	3	7
Abhishek CHOUGAONKAR	11	3rd	3	8
Campbell TWEEDIE	4	3rd	3	11
Grant TWEEDIE	4	5th	3	11
Daniel STRACHAN	5	5th	3	13
Trent THOMPSON	4	2nd	3	14
Campbell TWEEDIE	12	3rd	3	15
Paul KNIGHT	13	5th	3	15

Steve O'SHEA	13	4th	3	18
Jason ANDERSON	14	5th	3	18
Felix FLOCKART	5	1st	3	20
Mat FREEMAN	6	1st	3	21
Trent THOMPSON	6	2nd	3	21
Brett JOHNSTON	12	4th	3	22
Bayley WARNER	2	2nd	3	23
Mackenzie GREGSON	1	3rd	3	24
Jack REED	4	2nd	3	28
Austin PARKER	11	3rd	3	28
Mat FREEMAN	11	1st	3	30
Karhik SUBBAIAH	12	4th	3	30
Aarron ROBINS	5	2nd	3	32
Rowan DOYLE	14	4th	3	32
Lachlan MATTHEWS	4	5th	3	38
Brett JOHNSTON	14	4th	3	38
Mat FREEMAN	4	1st	3	40
Brett JOHNSTON	3	4th	3	44
Brett JOHNSTON	S/F	4th	3	46
Trent THOMPSON	1	2nd	3	47
Sean SEASER	E/F	2nd	3	56
Kai ANDERSON	12	5th	3	57
Trent THOMPSON	13	2nd	3	65

### Achievements

Name	Games
Cal CHARLTON	50th game in Round 4
Lucas BLATCHFORD	50th game in Round 12
Steve O'SHEA	200th game in K Grade Grand Final

Name	Runs
David PEARCE	3,000 runs achieved in Round 5 (142nd game)
Mat FREEMAN	1,000 runs achieved in Round 10 (33rd game)
Karthik SUBBAIAH	1,000 runs achieved in Round 9 (41st game)
Jacob TRAVERS	1,000 runs achieved in Round 11 (41st game)
Josh McPHERSON	1,000 runs achieved in Round 12 (35th game)
Josh CRIGAN	3,000 runs achieved in Round 13 (146th game)

Name	Wickets
Jack REED	150th wicket achieved in Round 3 (131st game)

Name	1st XI games
James LARKWORTHY	50th game achieved in Round 1
Andrew WOOLSTON	100th game achieved in Round 4
George FRY	50th game achieved in Round 5

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Runs</b>
1st	CRIGAN, Josh	417
2nd	LEVY, Stewart	326
3rd	FREEMAN, Matthew	309
4th	MURRAY, Max	308
5th	PEARCE, Dave	300
6th	SUBBIAH, Karthik	289
7th	WOOD, Angus	276
8th	FREEMAN, Nick	274
9th	TRAVERS, Jacob	247
10th	WOOD, Spencer	244

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Wickets</b>
1st	THOMPSON, Trent	26
2nd	FREEMAN, Matthew	23
3rd	JOHNSTON, Brett	18
4th	REED, Jack	18
5th	ROBINS, Aaron	18
6th	BLATCHFORD, Lucas	15
7th	FLOCKART, Sam	14
8th	WARNER, Bayley	14
9th	McCAIG, David	12
10th	TWEEDIE, Campbell	12

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Catches</b>
1st	CRIGAN, Sam	16
2nd	NICHOLLS, Aidan	10
3rd	NICHOLLS, Devan	10
4th	LARKWORTHY, James	8
5th	WOOD, Spencer	8
6th	BYRNE, Neil	8
7th	FREEMAN, Matthew	7
8th	ROBINS, Aaron	7
9th	SUBBIAH, Karthik	7
10th	LEVY, Stewart	6

	<b>Name</b>	<b>4's</b>
1st	TRAVERS, Jacob	43
2nd	PEARCE, Dave	41
3rd	CRIGAN, Josh	38
4th	CRIGAN, Sam	35
5th	SUBBAIAH, Karthik	35
6th	LEVY, Stewart	32
7th	MURRAY, Max	30
8th	FREEMAN, Nick	29
9th	KELSEY, Alex	26
10th	PEARCE, Lachlan	26

	<b>Name</b>	<b>6's</b>
1st	TWEEDIE, Campbell	14
2nd	SUBBAIAH, Karthik	11
3rd	DOYLE, Rowan	9
4th	NICHOLLS, Devan	8
5th	CHOUGAONKAR, Abhishek	7
6th	CRIGAN, Josh	7
7th	ISAAC, Justin	7
8th	PEARCE, Lachlan	7
9th	FREEMAN, Matthew	6
10th	MATTHEWS, Robert	6

## **SEASON DEBUTANTS**

<b>Player Name</b>	<b>Senior Debut</b>	<b>Round</b>
HAMILTON, Hugh	1st XI	Round 1
NICHOLLS, Aidan	1st XI	Round 1
WOOD, Spencer	1st XI	Round 1
ISAAC, Justin	2nd XI	Round 1
LEVY, Stewart	2nd XI	Round 1
MIHELAKOS, George	2nd XI	Round 1
ROBINS, Aaron	2nd XI	Round 1
THOMPSON, Trent	2nd XI	Round 1
MOXEY, Luke	2nd XI	Round 2
SHAW, Daniel	3rd XI	Round 1
DOWLING, James	5th XI	Round 1
LAMBERT, Alex	5th XI	Round 1
BEASLEY, Tom	5th XI	Round 1
LAMBETH, Steve	5th XI	Round 1
LAMBETH, Tim	5th XI	Round 1
WELLS, Ben	3rd XI	Round 2
SEASER, Sean	2nd XI	Round 4
OP'T HOOG, Barry	5th XI	Round 3
MATTHEWS, Lachlan	5th XI	Round 3
EDWARDS, Marty	5th XI	Round 3
EDWARDS, Tom	5th XI	Round 3
WOOD, Angus	2nd XI	Round 6
SANDHU, Vinerjit Singh	2nd XI	Round 7
EDMONDS, Brendan	5th XI	Round 4
EDMONDS, Xavier	5th XI	Round 4
WORCESTER, Peter	5th XI	Round 4
GRIFFITHS, Hayden	5th XI	Round 5
STRACHAN, Dan	5th XI	Round 5
STRACHAN, Arlo	5th XI	Round 5
VELLA, Mason	5th XI	Round 5
BHASIN, Kevin	5th XI	Round 8
ANDERSON, Jason	5th XI	Round 8
ANDERSON, Kai	5th XI	Round 8
CRAWFORD, Will	3rd XI	Round 8
ATCHISON, Jack	5th XI	Round 8
FORSTER, Jackson	2nd XI	Round 10
VELLA, Haydn	5th XI	Round 9
GILL, Damien	5th XI	Round 13
GILL, Tom	5th XI	Round 13
CANTWELL, Jayce	5th XI	Round 14