

Secretary's Report

John Cassidy

I am very pleased to submit my 23rd Secretary's report as part of Ringwood Cricket Club's Annual Report for season 2019-20.

What a way to finish a season with Our Women's P2 and Men's Third X1 ending the home and away season on top of their respective ladders. With a great deal of positivity and excitement both teams headed into the finals. Sadly, for our P2's who had a fantastic second half of the season, opponents Melbourne outplayed them and finished their season.

Our Men's Third X1 had the narrowest of wins over Northcote and looked ahead to the next final.

Then, as Australia started to come to grips with the devastation of Corona19 Virus our cricket season came to an immediate standstill. One by one all sport was cancelled including Premier Cricket finals.

Out of the confusion, mutterings and arguments came the decision by CV that declared our Men's Third X1 as Premiers for season 2019-20. A wonderful result for a great team effort throughout the season.

With no indoor gatherings being permitted, all presentation nights moved to the online platforms. Reminiscent of radio days, the committee gathered in isolation around their computer screens to listen and watch the Cricket Victoria Gala Awards on Friday April 24.

What a night it was to be with:

- **Bhavi Devchand** declared joint winner of the Una Paisley Medal.
- **David King** after 3 second places being declared joint winner of the Jack Ryder Medal.
- **Kylie Walters** runner up in the Sue Woolcock Award for Premier 2 Women.
- **Kelly Tarr** being selected in the Women's Community Cricket One Day Cricket Team of the year.
- **David King** yet again being named as opening bat in the Men's Premier Team of the year.
- **Bhavi Devchand** named in the Women's Premier Team of the Year.
- **Una Raymond-Hoey** named in the Women's Premier Team of the Year.
- **Tess Flintoff** the first female Ringwood player to play for the state winning the Commonwealth Bank Future Star Award.

A real night to celebrate but, as one of the committee commented by text, "*of all the years **not** to be at the Awards Night...Just Amazing*"

Hopefully, we will get to celebrate these magnificent achievements prior to the next season when the world returns to somewhere near normal.

Season 2019-20 provided some wonderful highlights. Amongst these:

- We witnessed the continued improvement of our **female First X1** side at the top tier of Women's Premier Cricket. Our side finished the year with 10 wins across their season of T20's and 50 over games playing in the T20 finals. The addition of Bhavi and Una certainly helped the side to a 6th position on the ladder.

- The spectacular finish of our P2 side with 5 wins after Christmas and finishing on top of the P2 ladder.
- We watched yet another stellar performance from **David King** who played in 16 matches across the season scoring 571 runs @ 38.07 with a top score of 106. David also took 25 wickets @13.52 and finally, after so many runner ups, scored 28 votes to share the Ryder medal with Essendon's James Seymour.
- We watched **Bhavi Devchand's** incredible first year at the club as captain of our P1 women's team where she played 13 one day matches scoring 539 runs @ 41.46 with a top score of 98. Bhavi also took 20 wickets @16.70 scoring 34 votes to share the Una Paisley medal with Dandenong's Kimberly Garth.
- We were thrilled to see two of our young players promoted to Victorian State Squads for season 2019-20 and even more thrilled to see **Tess Flintoff** play her first game for the state along with playing a number of games for the Stars in the WBBL. **Zac Evans**, with a difficult season of injuries fought back to make his debut for the Renegades in the BBL competition.
- We farewelled our senior men's coach of 9 years in Gavin Kellar and thanked him for his great contribution to Ringwood Cricket Club. Gavin coached our First and Fourth X1s to Premierships in 2015 and led the First X1 to two other grand finals in 2013 and 2016. Gavin played 109 games for our club including 34 games in the First X1. We thank Gavin his wife Priya and their 3 children, James, Mitchell and Gemma for their involvement at Ringwood.
- We welcomed the appointment of former player **Michael Oxworth** as head curator at Russell Lucas oval. Michael takes on this role following his outstanding work at "The Rock", Bayswater Oval, Proclamation Park and Heathmont over the past 6 years. Jubilee Park is already responding and I feel certain that with little or no football on the ground this winter that our ground will jump ahead.
- We welcomed back Club Legend, Dual Premiership Captain and Life member **Sean Flynn** as club coach for season 2020-21 following his successful stint at Bayswater Cricket Club.
- We saw the retirement of two stalwarts of our Committee of Management in Peter Kaspar and Mike Dudley. Between them they have over 50 years of service. Mike Dudley retires as Treasurer and Peter Kaspar as Assistant Secretary with Peter having previous stints as Junior Coordinator and Treasurer. Thank you to both gentlemen for your outstanding contribution to Ringwood Cricket Club.
- We watched approximately 125 of our female members and friends celebrate Pink Stumps day on February 8 2020 raising almost \$7000. A great effort guided by Mandy Freeman and Cherie Holland and their committee.

Ringwood Cricket Club is indeed fortunate to have numerous people in varying roles who manage both the day-to-day and ongoing nature of our club. The club was extremely pleased to be awarded the Australian Premier Club of the Year for the 2018-19 season. This is a richly deserved award for the time and effort all committee of management members have devoted.

On your behalf I offer special thanks to the following:

- **Mark Freeman** who once again led our club and deserves the thanks of tall club members for his determined efforts in season 2019-20. Mark leads the Executive group of the committee and is assisted by Treasurer **Mike Dudley** and myself.
- Your Club's **Committee of Management**, Peter Kaspar, Chris Nash, Tamara Mason, Jason Hartill, Jason Evans, Jas Harrison, Deb Loughnan and Jason Henry.
- Our massive group of **club sponsors** both corporate and individual players.
- **The fantastic volunteers**, without whom our club would grind to a halt, provided for the various team, social and individual player needs throughout the season. A very special thank you to Bernie Holland and Jason Hartill who took on the set up duties for the boys along with Peter and Di Kaspar who did the same for the Women's teams. **Thank you all for your fantastic support.**
- **Thursday Night Dinners** were again popular and reasonably well attended. There was once again a magnificent variety of food on offer. We averaged an attendance of 35 through the season where players were treated to a variety of dishes. A very big thank you to **Sonia Lukens** who took over the main cooking duties and everybody who helped make these meals a success.
- **A big thankyou to Mandy Freeman, Siena and Elyse Harvie** for their enormous efforts in making sure afternoon teas were on the right table at the right time and that the canteen was always available. My sincere thanks also go to **Tony Dineen** who coordinated the parents who assisted with lunch preparations on match days.
- Thanks to **Paul's IGA/Club Foods, Coach and Horses Hotel, Original Joe's, Grilled Eastland** and **The Firehouse** for their invaluable support and coverage of many of the Thursday meal nights.
- **Priya Kellar, Kate Harvie and Jenny Cassidy** for making sure players had the correct uniforms to play in, a tedious but very necessary role.
- **Kate Timms**, who continued her role as bar manager in season 2019-20. Kate looked after most Thursday nights and many of our major functions. Kate Timms is always the ultimate professional whose friendly nature is an integral part of our club. **On your behalf I thank Kate for all her work throughout the season.**
- Thank you to **Carmel Walshe** our erstwhile cleaner who keeps all our rooms clean and tidy and generally does the jobs

- To our scoreboard heroes in **Peter and Di Kaspar, and Ian Roberts** who kept our electronic scoreboard up to date for all those watching. A very big thank you. Thank you in particular to **Ian Roberts** for all his work connecting the scoreboard to our indoor TV which certainly made a difference for those who struggle with “distance reading” and the late afternoon sun.
- **Jan and Lindsay Howard** for everything that they do at the club! New honour boards, Ram of the Year, statistics & scoring are just some of the tasks they undertook for the club in 2019-20. **Thank you both.**
- My sincere thanks must be extended to the officials and office staff of **Cricket Victoria**. I would like to thank **Paul Barker (Chairman), CEO Andrew Ingleton, Mike Ronchi, Will Rice and Peter Binns** for all their advice and support last season. Tragically, the Pandemic forced Cricket Victoria into a massive staffing re-structure that saw long time staff members Peter Binns, Paul Montgomery and Mike Ronchi along with many others leave the organisation. I thank each of these men for their guidance and assistance over many years and wish them all the best for the future
- All our coaching panels deserve congratulations for another very productive year. To male coach Gavin Kellar and women’s coach Kim Littlejohn and their respective panels thank you for all the time and effort you spend making sure our players are well prepared for the season’s battles.
- Coaching panel members, **Akshay Kodoth, Graeme Fox, Richard Armstrong (Chairman of selectors Male), Darren Roe, Steve Box, Tyson Freeman and Len Hayes-Rosario** for all their work with our players.
- I thank the **Australian Players Association** again for their generosity in providing additional funding to our club for coaching by former first-class players.
- **Jason Evans** and **Jas Harrison** for all their efforts as male and female operations managers.
- **Jason Hartill** our head of Cricket Operations.
- Our club’s on field leaders in our Team Captains, **Bhavi Devchand, Deb Loughnan, Kelly Tarr, Pat Ashton, Michael Campbell, Jordan Roberts and Sam Wade**, thank you for all your efforts in undertaking these difficult roles.
- Our band of hardy scorers in **Jan and Lindsay Howard, Ian Roberts, Jeff Beaumont, Sue Tarr, David Sykes, Janet Moseby and Peter and Di Kaspar** for all your work over the season.
- To the Maroondah Sportsfield team and in particular **Chris Furzer and Michael Oxworth** who prepared the wickets our teams played on at Jubilee Park & Jubilee Park 2 (The Rock), a very big thank you.
- Our Vice President **Chris Nash** for all his work with the development of our Strategic Plan along with his work with various Cricket Victoria sub committees.

- Our Vice President **Tamara Mason** and **Len Hayes-Rosario** for their efforts with regard the proposed new pavilion at Jubilee Park. This has been an enormous task and we sincerely hope the end is in sight.
- A very large thanks you to our Junior Committee for all their work during a very difficult season. Sadly, it appears that our junior club may cease to exist in the years to come owing to declining numbers. Thank you to Jason Henry for all his work in endeavouring to keep the junior club afloat.
- **To the Mayor of Maroondah**, along with **Steve Kozlowski, Tim Cocks & Kirstie Dench** the club offers our most sincere thanks for your continued proactive support throughout the season particularly with respect to our efforts to re-develop the clubroom facilities of **Jubilee and Proclamation Park**.
- We continue to enjoy a strong working partnership with both the Ringwood and Spiders Football clubs. On your behalf I thank these clubs and their committees for the success of this partnership.
- A very big thanks you to our **No.1 Ticket Holder** in **Ken Jacobs** for his continued support throughout the season.

I invite all readers to read carefully **the coaches, co-ordinators, captain's reports and statistics** contained within the annual report giving you some idea of the improvements made during the season.

As always, I invite readers of this report to follow our progress online, on Facebook or on Twitter. I thank Jan Howard and Matt Fotia for their great work in updating members on these formats.

We need you all more than ever at Ringwood this coming season. **Roll on season 2020-21.**

Finally, to my greatest supporter my wife Jenny, thank you once again for all your listening, support and encouragement last season.

