



**NORTH SYDNEY DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB**  
**130<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**MINUTES**  
**21 July 2023 at 7:30pm**  
**At Norths Cammeray and via Zoom**

**Invited:** Management Committee, Life Members, Vice Presidents, Members

**Apologies:** Adam Wayling, Anushka Dongre, Alexander Perry, Glenn Aitken

**Members present:** Patrick Lindsay, Sarah Berman, Rob Lavery, Nihal Desai, Hamish Reynolds, Simon Jagot, Kathy Campbell, Olly Knight, James Campbell, Christopher Savage, Tim Reynolds, David Rodgie, Tony Johnson, Izaak Merlehan, Ash Perrott, Chris Lloyd, Sam Alexander, Justin Avendano, Alan Gibbons, Evy McKay, Robert Aitken, Sam Williams, James Aitken, Kaustav Karan, Tom Jagot, Michael Lloyd, Vrushab Kumar

**Welcome:** Leah Poulton (CNSW), Karen Robbins (CNSW), and Graham Gorrie (SCA)

Start time: 7:40pm

**1. Welcome address** – completed by President Patrick Lindsay;

- Lindsay welcomed all members and guests to the 130<sup>th</sup> AGM of the North Sydney District Cricket Club.
- Special welcome to Cricket NSW Board member Karen Robbins, Cricket NSW Head of Female Elite Cricket Leah Poulton and SCA Chair Graham Gorrie.
- Lindsay motioned that the prior year's AGM minutes (link shared in hard copy and in the meeting chat) are carried. Secretary Sarah Berman seconded the motion.

**2. Management Committee Annual Report** – tabled by Patrick Lindsay

- The Annual Report has been shared on the club website and in the meeting chat.
- Lindsay commenced by acknowledging the hard work of the club's members, volunteers and coaches. 2022/23 felt like a return to a normal cricketing operating rhythm post COVID (and not just due to our strong performances on the field), but normality doesn't make delivering nine teams on the field and everything associated with that, any easier.
- Lindsay acknowledged Cricket NSW continuing to guide the cricket community with a steady hand and the SCA managing the competitions in a progressive manner, seeking to provide the best product for the players and volunteers.



- On the field, the season was a great success, bouncing back after a difficult 2021/22 with six teams in finals and really strong performances in the Club Championships. On the men's side, after being second in the Club championships around Christmas it was a bit of a letdown to ultimately finish sixth, but four of our grades made finals and two semi finals. Congrats to 3s, 4s, 5s and PGs for strong seasons. Green Shield narrowly missed out on finals cricket and Mac Jenkins, Tim Reynolds and the boys are to be commended for their season. Thanks must go to all men's coaches, John Saint, Gary Whitaker, Ash Perrott and Tom Jagot, for their contributions at training and on game day this season.
- On the women's side we did what we had to do which was win and win a lot. After the disappointment we suffered at the start of the season, the club can be proud of everyone involved who committed themselves to having as successful season as possible on the field. To have both teams make the finals and Brewers made the Grand Final was really superb. Special praise must also be reserved for Head Coach Michelle Goszko, who we welcomed back full-time this season following her illness. To have both teams make the finals was a great achievement. Thank you to Rob Aitken, Julien David and Alan Gibbons for their assistance in coaching during the season.
- Lindsay congratulated Shiloh Julien on a truly amazing season both personally and in leading the Brewer Shield side to the Grand Final. In season 2022/23 Shiloh was awarded NSW Premier Cricket Brewer Shield Player of the Year, Brewer Shield Captain of the Year, Player of the Brewer Shield Grand Final, NSW Women's Cricket Umpires' Association Player of the Year, as well as becoming the first ever female winner of our club's Bevyn White Cricketer of the Year award.
- Lindsay also highlighted that Bernie Vince was once again, was awarded the Lower Grades Ground of the Year for Tunks Park. This award has now taken permanent residence in the groundskeeper's shed down at Tunks!
- Lindsay acknowledged the hugely-valued partnership with UTS which is key to our success, and expressed delight that the partnership has been extended for a further three years, as well as thanking Fudge Atshan, Sam Colless, Sonja Balic, Chris Savage and all of the team at UTS Sport.
- The club continued its relationships with major sponsor Access RnD, as well as Kieser Cammeray, Hartford Partners and Lavender Ridge. These relationships play a pivotal role in the maintaining the financial stability of the club, and Lindsay thanked them all. We also welcomed Norths Collective into the fold in 2022/23. Norths are hosting us this evening and we are very proud to have commenced a relationship with such a well-regarded hospitality group on the North Shore. The club has also continued to receive extensive grant support from Cricket NSW, Cricket Australia, the Australian Cricketers' Association, local and State governments in 2022/23. Much of this support has been to improve infrastructure, such as sightscreens at North Sydney Oval, as well as to financially support our women's cricket program.
- We also continued our successful alliance with Roseville District Cricket Club, which allows us to place young Bears with Roseville to get experience in men's turf cricket in the Shires competition.



- Lindsay thanked Karl and Jenny Riseborough and the North Sydney Junior District Cricket Club for their continued support of the seniors, and noted that one of the key roles of the senior club is to provide pathways for local juniors, both boys and girls, to represent the club at the NSW Premier Cricket level. He acknowledged the contribution of our senior club members who coordinate and provide coaching to the juniors, giving them great guidance through midweek training sessions. Lindsay also played tribute to the North Sydney Council grounds team for providing some of the best facilities in the competition.
- Lindsay concluded by expressing his excitement for what the 2023/24 season will bring, including welcoming some new faces on the field including Nic Bills as First Grade captain as well as a standalone team in Women's Second Grade.

### **3. Statement of Income and Expenditure – Sarah Berman:**

- The club's statement of income and expenditure was provided in hard copy and shared in the meeting chat and tabled by Berman in the absence of Treasurer Adam Wayling.
- The club has continued to maintain its healthy financial position in FY23 by continuing to secure a number of new grants as well as strengthening existing relationships. Whilst an overall loss was recognised for the year, there were a lot of positives, the main one being a 34% growth in revenue from the prior year. Even when the \$24,000 of grants in relation to the North Sydney Oval sightscreens are removed since this was passed through to North Sydney Council, the revenue growth sits at 23%. The contra to that \$24k sits in the other expenses line of the expenditure.
- As well as the addition of the sponsorship from Norths Collective (which is shown in the accounts through a reduction in events costs due to their sponsorship in kind), we saw new revenue streams through our relationship with our junior club with the running of the Monday Night and Development squad sessions. Thanks to all coaches and players involved who have helped with these sessions, and, along with smaller initiatives such as the Good for Cricket raffle and increased canteen sales, it all contributes to the Club's bottom line.
- The club is not immune to the inflationary pressures currently being experienced by most businesses. The use of our fantastic grounds and training facilities is a significant contributor to the increased costs this year, driven by far fewer weather-related cancellations and a full season following the COVID disruption to the start of 2021/22. In addition, coaching costs increased to service the winter academies and junior sessions, there was a substantial increase in UTS scholarships, and overseas player costs of \$10k were incurred in addition to player incentives.
- Despite the increased expenditure and shortfall for the year, the club still has a healthy cash position to cover increased costs but also help with the continued investment with the club heading into the new season.
- Berman noted that we are not an organisation that exists to accrue cash – we are a community organisation that seeks to provide a pathway for people to play this game that we all love, to the highest



standard they wish and are able to. To this end, the committee will spend what the club earns to bring success on the field for our members. That said, we will of course do so in a responsible way to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of our club.

- Berman concluded by thanking our auditor, Mark Scott of Scott Chartered Accountants, for his assistance in preparing the accounts.

#### **4. CNSW Address** – Karen Robbins (CNSW Board) and Leah Poulton (CNSW Head of Elite Female Cricket)

- Robbins opened by thanking the club's volunteers and volunteers involved in cricket across the State. She highlighted a substantial increase in numbers of 5 to 12-year-olds playing cricket, although there has been a drop in adult and older junior participation so CNSW is focused on keeping numbers up without increasing the volunteer burden.
- Robbins noted that CNSW has moved into a fabulous new facility at Cricket Central, which will be hosting Sheffield Shield and WBBL next season.
- CNSW has recently entered strategic partnerships with Major League Cricket in the USA and UTS in Sydney, and is seeking to grow its reputation as a leading provider of cricket.
- On the financial side, costs have had to be managed as a result of lower-than-budget returns from the BBL, but CNSW is on track to achieve a small deficit in line with budget. Some additional funds have been received from Cricket Australia due to the T20 World Cup, and club grants will be increased by 3.5%.
- Poulton summarised the on-field performance of the NSW teams, highlighting the strong performance of the Sixers in the WBBL in particular, while the performances of the Breakers and Blues were disappointing by recent NSW standards. Poulton also noted the changes to the Blues coaching staff and selectors, and desire to strengthen the relationship with Premier Cricket. NSW won three out of four underage tournaments and contributed a significant proportion of national reps for girls, boys, women and men, and CNSW is very proud of Alyssa Healy being appointed Australian captain.
- Poulton noted that there has been a slow return of crowds in the BBL, a challenge also felt in Melbourne. However, the BBL is still the most watched competition per match in the country, with the WBBL fourth.

#### **5. SCA Address** – Graham Gorrie (SCA Chair)

- Gorrie congratulated our club on the season, noting the success of our men's lower grades and women's teams. Brewers making the Grand Final was a fantastic effort, and big things are ahead for our women's section.
- Gorrie highlighted a range of changes to the men's competition which were discussed at a recent club administrators' forum and confirmed in correspondence from Roy Formica. This includes revising the T20 competition to 4 pools of 5 with double headers and completion early in the season, coloured clothing and



a white ball for Second Grade limited overs matches, and amendments to playing times and over rates for lower grades.

## 6. **Constitutional Amendments** – tabled by Sarah Berman

- Berman explained that the Management Committee had identified the need to update the Constitution to reflect the club's women's section, which was not envisaged when the Constitution was drafted and most recently updated. This review also identified a number of other areas where updates would be beneficial to reflect modern administration (such as the presence of online banking, online meetings and minutes and accounts being kept electronically rather than in hard copy).
- The proposed constitutional amendments had been circulated with the notice of AGM and were provided in the meeting in hard copy and via the Zoom meeting chat.
- Codifying the amendments requires a majority of 75% of members eligible to vote at a General Meeting, and also approval from the Cricket NSW Board, which will be sought after this meeting.
- The motion was proposed by Sarah Berman and seconded by Robert Lavery, and was carried unanimously.

## 7. **Election of Office Bearers**

- **President** – The President reported that Patrick Lindsay was the only nominee for the position of President and therefore elected unopposed.
- **Senior Vice President** – The President reported that Robert Lavery was the only nominee for the position of Senior Vice President and therefore elected unopposed.
- **Honorary Secretary** – The President reported that Sarah Berman was the only nominee for the position of Secretary and therefore elected unopposed.
- **Honorary Treasurer** – The President reported that Adam Wayling was the only nominee for the position of Treasurer and therefore elected unopposed.
- **Assistant Honorary Treasurer** – The President reported that Michael Lloyd was the only nominee for the position of Assistant Treasurer and therefore elected unopposed.
- **Assistant Honorary Secretary** – The President reported that Cameron Herbert was the only nominee for the position of Assistant Secretary and therefore elected unopposed.
- Lindsay welcome Herbert to the Committee and the Executive, and Lloyd on his return to the Executive.

## 8. **Election of Delegates**

- The President reported that three (3) nominations had been received for the three Delegate to the SCA roles (noting the third is subject to Cricket NSW approval of the amended constitution, as the previous constitution allowed for only two Delegates to be elected) and one (1) nomination for the role of Delegate to Cricket NSW and as such were elected unopposed.
- The SCA nominations were as follows;



- Patrick Lindsay
- Kathy Campbell
- Sarah Berman (women's section representative)
- The CNSW nomination was as follows:
  - Patrick Lindsay

### **9. Election of up to 8 General Committee Members**

- The President reported that six (6) nominations had been received for the General Committee Members and as such were elected unopposed. Those individuals were as follows:
  - Kathy Campbell
  - Anushka Dongre
  - Simon Jagot
  - Evy McKay
  - Ash Perrott
  - Christopher Savage
- Lindsay congratulated and welcomed McKayb as a new committee member. Lindsay also paid tribute to departing committee members Fudge Atshan, Adam Cavenor, Alan Gibbons and Urzana Ghadially

### **10. Election of the Grading Committees**

- **Men's** - The President reported that Patrick Lindsay was the only nominee for the two Grading Committee roles and Gary Whitaker has been nominated by the Management Committee. As such, Lindsay and Whitaker were elected unopposed. Lindsay thanked Craig Tomko and Chris Thomas for their service as selectors, paying particular tribute to Tomko who was an active and present selector for the past four seasons which saw continued improvement on the field.
- **Women's** - The President reported that Cameron Herbert was the only nominee for the two Grading Committee roles and Michelle Goszko has been nominated by the Management Committee. As such, Herbert and Goszko were elected unopposed. It was noted that these appointments are subject to Cricket NSW approval of the amended constitution as they were not provided for in the previous Constitution,

### **11. Election of Auditor**

- Upon confirmation that current Auditor, Mark Scott of Scott CA, was willing to remain as club Auditor, it was determined to elect the firm of Scott Chartered Accountants to act as the NSDCC's Auditor.

### **12. Election of Vice President**

- The President explained that the Management Committee was proposing one (1) Vice President be elected, namely Mitchell De Lorenzo. De Lorenzo is the President of Roseville District Cricket Club and Lindsay



noted that, in respect to our relationship with Roseville, it is appropriate that he be confirmed as a Vice President. This reciprocates Lindsay's appointment as a Vice President for Roseville District Cricket Club.

- The motion was proposed by Lindsay and seconded by Sarah Berman, and carried unanimously.

### **13. Life Membership: Robert Lavery** – tabled by Patrick Lindsay

- The NSDCC Management Committee nominated Robert Lavery to become the 51st Life Member of the club.
- Lindsay noted Lavery's contributions to the club as both a player and an administrator.
- Lavery joined the club in 2011/12, starting in Fourth Grade but quickly demonstrating his wares and moving up to Second Grade. At his peak, Lavery was a formidable opening bowler. Possessing height, a smooth runup and an action reminiscent of Jason Gillespie, he was good value for his 32 wickets at 28 in Second Grade. Lavery's playing statistics for the Bears read 132 wickets at 22.11 with a best bowling of 5/28 and 391 runs at 9.53 with a top score of 38. That Lavery has skippered every grade from 2nd to 5th pays testament to his maturity, leadership and tactical acumen.
- Lindsay paid tribute to Lavery's off-field contribution, which has been immense. He has had two stints on the Management Committee and the second, which commenced in 2016/17, is still ongoing with Lavery being our current Senior Vice President. Before this, Lavery stepped into the breach as President at short notice in 2018/19 and served in the role for three seasons. Lavery has juggled his range of roles – including selector, coach, website operator, copywriter, President, Senior Vice President and effectively Director of Women's Cricket, with a young family and second job which actually paid him!
- During Lavery's time as President, the club strengthened in all aspects, and Lindsay indicated that by all measures, these years were some of the strongest in the club's history.
- Lavery has dedicated significant time and effort into our burgeoning women's program, leading its evolution into a three-team program with the recent approval of a standalone Second Grade team. Lindsay noted that although Lavery has not been the only contributor to this growth, without his involvement and calm leadership, it would not be in the position it is today.
- Lindsay concluded by remarking that Hall of Fame inductees in various sports are often chosen with a criterion of 'did they change the sport?', and in that vein Lavery has most certainly changed our club and undeniably for the better.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Meeting closed at 8:45pm