

MEN IN GREEN

MIG



PROTECTING WELDON OVAL
FROM THE SCUM
OF THE SHIRES COMPETITION

EDITORIAL

Hello, and welcome, to another cricket season at Warringah Cricket Club with the 'Men In Green'. As we begin our 22nd season in the Municipal and Shire's competition, we take the opportunity in this publication to preview our opposing clubs, look at some rising stars (and falling stars), and other assorted rubbish. You'll also find a draw for this seasons premiership rounds (surprise, surprise – First Grade don't play at Hutchinsonson this year), including the U/24's. It all starts today (well, last week actually but we're a little bit behind schedule) fellas, so let's start with a win in all grades to kick off the defence of our Club Championship (apparently John McEnroe said last year that we were one cup wonders – let's stick it right up his date!)

This years committee shapes as follows:

El Presidente, HeadHoncho, the Big Cheese : Roger Curry	
Club Secretary:	Mike Fittler
Club Treasurer:	Cath Beesley
Senior Vice President:	Greame Beesley
Club Captain:	Mark "Errol/Mickster/Mirken" Stewart
Club Coach:	Gavin Fletcher
Captains:	Sean Monahan 1st grade Dave Morris 2nd grade Steve Dinning 3rd grade Antonio Roy Formica 4th grade
Chairman of Selectors:	Murray Pitt
Committee:	Mark Anderson Dave Millar Jason Lawes Ben Johnson Narelle Johnson

Players To Watch in 1998/99

Jimmy "Merv" Castisos

Has been part of the Warringah scene now for a number of years now, forgetting that Jimmy was only about 14 when he first came down to Weldon (the accompanying picture shows Jimmy at one of his first practice sessions). After showing promise as a young left arm quick, Merv's ability with the bat has really stood out. Word has got around the Shire's clubs that anything pitched further back than a half volley will be pulled to the boundary by Merv, so should expect to improve his driving this year!



Roger Curry

Relieved of the captaincy duties this year of his beloved Two's, "Big Warney" can expect plenty of bowling from his new skipper, the "Once Angry Young Man", especially on those hot, humid days at Auburn and Blacktown (what was that about Leopard Seals in the heart?). Apparently asked to work as Drew Carey's stand in during the winter but declined due to cricket commitments!



Josh Hamill

After leading the trialists at Manly during the off season in hit up's and off loads, the Manly selectors had a brain explosion, picking big Shane Webke in 5ths. As a result he has come back to where it all began for the big man, and he is keen to rub the Manly selectors face in the dirt with a big year. Expect his work rate to improve and to lead the tackle count in several games! He's not just a bench player now days!



1998/99 Season Draw

Round No.	Dates	Against	Ground
1	26/9-3/10	Epping	Weldon 1 Epping Weldon 2 Nth Epping
2	5/10-10/10	Blacktown	JoeMacleer Weldon 1 Whalan Weldon 2
3	17/10-24/10	Pennant Hills	Weldon 1 P Hills 1 Weldon 2 Mona 1
4	31/10-7/11	Lane Cove	Weldon 1 Tantallon Weldon 2 Joke Park
5	14/11-21/11	Macquarie Uni	Mac Uni 1 Weldon 1 Mac Uni 3 Weldon 2
6	28/11-5/12	South Sydney Pty Ltd 1	Weldon 1 Chernoble Weldon 2 Alexandria
7	12/12-19/12	Roseville	Roseville Chase Weldon 1 Roseville Weldon 2
8	2/1/99	Auburn	Mona 1 Weldon 1 Mona 2 Weldon 2

				Semi	Semi	Final
				20/3-21/3	27/3-28/3	3 rd and 4 th April
Weldon 1	1	Canterbury-Bexley	9/1-16/1	9		
Hutchinson	2					
Weldon 2	3					
Bland	4					
Rothwell	1	Burwood	23/1	10		
Weldon 1	2					
Ron Routley	3					
Weldon 2	4					
		BYE	30/1-31/1	11		
Weldon 1	1	Strathfield	6/2	12		
Weldon 2	3					
Bark Huts	4					
Weldon 1	1	Lindfield	13/2-20/2	13		
Weldon 2	2					
Acron	3					
Weldon 2	4					
Weldon 1	1	Holroyd	27/2	14		
Weldon 2	2					
Monty Bennett	3					
Weldon 2	4					
Weldon 1	1	Hills District	6/3-13/3	15		
Weldon 2	2					
Weldon 1	3					
Castlewood	4					
Weldon 2	1					

Under 24's Season Draw

Round No.	Date	Against	Ground
1	1/11	Roseville	Roseville Chase
2	15/11	Lindfield	Acron
3	29/11	Lane Cove	Weldon 1
4	13/12	Macquarie Uni	Weldon 1
5	3/1	Epping	Epping
6	17/1	Burwood	Rothwell
7	14/2	Pennant Hills	Weldon 1
Semi Final	28/2		
Final	7/3		
Res Final	14/3		

1998-99 SHIRES CLUB PREVIEW

It's that time of year again where all the experts will be pulling out their predictions for the upcoming cricket season, however, no-one is in a better position than our own people here at MIG. After successfully predicting last season (before a ball had been bowled) that Warringah would take out the coveted Club Championship trophy, we now present to you our well awaited tips for 98/99 :

Auburn

Mona Park has been hit by troubled times this winter. The Joyce Mayne furniture warehouse was forced to close due to the troubled economy, resulting in a mass exodus from the area. Recruiting has been difficult for the Club, with most activity centring around the Mosque, where they hope to find the next Wasim Akram or Javed Miandad. Rumours are still persistent that the Dusty Lurker will be backing up for them, and is set to take 100 wickets and score 1500 runs (or so he says).

Expected Club Championship Finish: Equal Last

Bexley

Bexley really benefited from the merger with Canterbury last season, picking up their home ground, as well as their positive attitude to the game. This has resulted in a huge player drive in the off season with no fewer than 34 Fairfield players wanting to be on their books (if you were really desperate to play at Lance Hutchinson Oval, imagine what Fairfield's home track must be like). Warringah First Grade should prepare to play there again this season, as why should this year be any different to the last 7.

Expected Club Championship Finish: Equal Last

Blacktown

The reigning First Grade and Under 24's premiers will be extremely watchful this season. Not from other teams trying to knock them off their perch, but from the locals trying to knock off the silverware they won last season. Also, Shire's groundsmen are out to beat the Joe Macleer Park groundsman from his spot at the top, and this should result in an increase in Boral Asphalt sales, as there will be a number of roads prepared to delight the quicks.

Expected Club Championship Finish: Equal Last

Burwood

A number of questions to be asked here! Will Gerard lose his outswinger and become just another average trundler? Will Burwood average player age drop from 39 to the mid 30's? Will Bart Pazeulo figure out Ando's straight ball? Will someone score a 50 in first

grade in the Warringah game? Will there be another mankad attempt (although I'm sure the previous batsman deserved to be run out in this manner)?
Expected Club Championship Finish: Equal Last

Epping

After struggling last year following the retirement of the greatest Shires player in history (hint – Errol dropped him, and it's not Toohey or Beard), Epping have figured out a number of other ways to avoid defeat. One of these tricks involves telling the groundsman that the competition breaks for Christmas two weeks beforehand, thus leaving a deck that is more suitable for slip and slide. Could trouble more sides this year with other tricks like fake hailstorms, exploding cricket balls, and trap doors on the wicket.

Expected Club Championship Finish: Equal Last

Hills District

Having been chosen as the site for the World Legoland Exhibition in January 1999, the whole of the area is buzzing with anticipation. There are rumours however that Meccano buildings are being designed around the region, which could lead to serious factions occurring amongst the locals. This may result in Hills losing players during the season, as they go into battle to defend Legoland from infiltrators.

Expected Club Championship Finish: Equal Last

Holroyd

Bowlers will experience unexpected bounce and movement in the wicket this year at Monty Bennet Oval after a considerable rise in the water table resulting in a fair bit of moisture at the surface. This has had something to do with the ground being used as a place of relief for weary travellers returning from excursions far west. Also, schooner school has reappeared at Wenty Leagues Club, which could prove to be the downfall of many a young player (just ask Messers Milliar, Stewart and Pitt).

Expected Club Championship Finish: Equal Last

Lane Cove

Still in court after being sued by an elderly woman who lives on Epping Road. Apparently her cat was killed by a lofted Craig Fittler off drive last season, and she is seeking damages under the "Fruit Pie" Clause, Article 17, Paragraph 5. This states that "any cricket side willing to employ the services of ex-Grade players are liable for any expenses or fallout which may occur, as a result of this player being (a) a pretender, (b) a goose, or (c) mediocre." The case continues!

Expected Club Championship Finish: Equal Last

Lindfield

Stunned after last years defeat in the First Grade semi, Lindfield have taken drastic action. To get back on the winning track this season, the lads have spent many a bonding session, spending fine weekends away supping red wine in the Hunter Valley, taking in the odd Volvo show, attending a number of conferences on self motivation and leadership skills, ensuring that rugby remains the elite football code at schools either side of the Pacific Highway, and halting any attempts of Labour picking up a minute swing in the upcoming election. Beware of the wounded lawyer!

Expected Club Championship Finish: Equal Last

Macquarie University

Had a disappointing year last season, but what do expect from a bunch of blokes who go to Marsfield High School!

Expected Club Championship Finish: Equal Last

Pennant Hills

After being exposed in this publication last year of doctoring wickets, the latest scandal to come out of the woodwork is bribery. It appears that a certain former Australian test player on their books , while on (his only) tour with an Australian side to Pakistan, offered bribes to the Pakistani batsmen. This revolved around the batsmen getting themselves out to make him look good in front of his peers and the selectors. Keep reading future editions for more details!

Expected Club Championship Finish: Equal Last

Roseville

A change in ground for the First and Second Graders see them taking on the might of the Shires competition from Roseville Chase this season. New improved facilities including a grandstand, change rooms, an upgraded lighting system, indoor training nets, swimming pool, full ground covers, and guaranteed afternoon tea every week! Apparently this was all funded by the Ladies Auxilliary Drive at Roseville Primary School during the off season (audits are being conducted as we speak).

Expected Club Championship Finish: Equal Last

South Sydney Pty. Ltd

Some shrewd work on the stock market during the off season has seen South Sydney Pty. Ltd go quietly about their business. After the "great slide of 1998" which saw them go from 1st to 3rd on the Club Championship ladder in a matter of minutes (rumour has it that the Club President was stopped from jumping into one of those large chimney stacks at Chernoble in a failed suicide attempt), they have adopted the "Ken Arthurson" attitude to

the game – if we can't win it, we'll buy every bloody player we can until we do! Also, in further business news, expect the club to be floated on the stock exchange by early next year (opening shares expected to sell at \$3.40)
Expected Club Championship Finish: 87.33 against the green back

Strathfield

After a number seasons at Airey Park, the groundsman has been replaced this year by a Cook's Island native who specialises in a tribal dance guaranteed to bring the type of weather wanted for any particular day. It seems that after years of rain, heat, humidity, etc., the boys at Strathfield have come to the conclusion that they play in a bastard of a spot, and that it would be a nice change to play in standard 25 degree weather, with a cool breeze blowing across the ground! Good luck!
Expected Club Championship Finish:Equal last.

Warringah

The defending Club Champions will be out to fight off the lurkers from all over Sydney as they attempt to become the Patrick Rafter of the competition. It could be tougher than expected however, as many players are still feeling the effects of Silvo poisoning from drinking out of the cup, with a number of players unable to back up this season as a result of this illness. All this aside, they will give it a real nudge again if they want it bad enough.
Expected Club Championship Finish: First