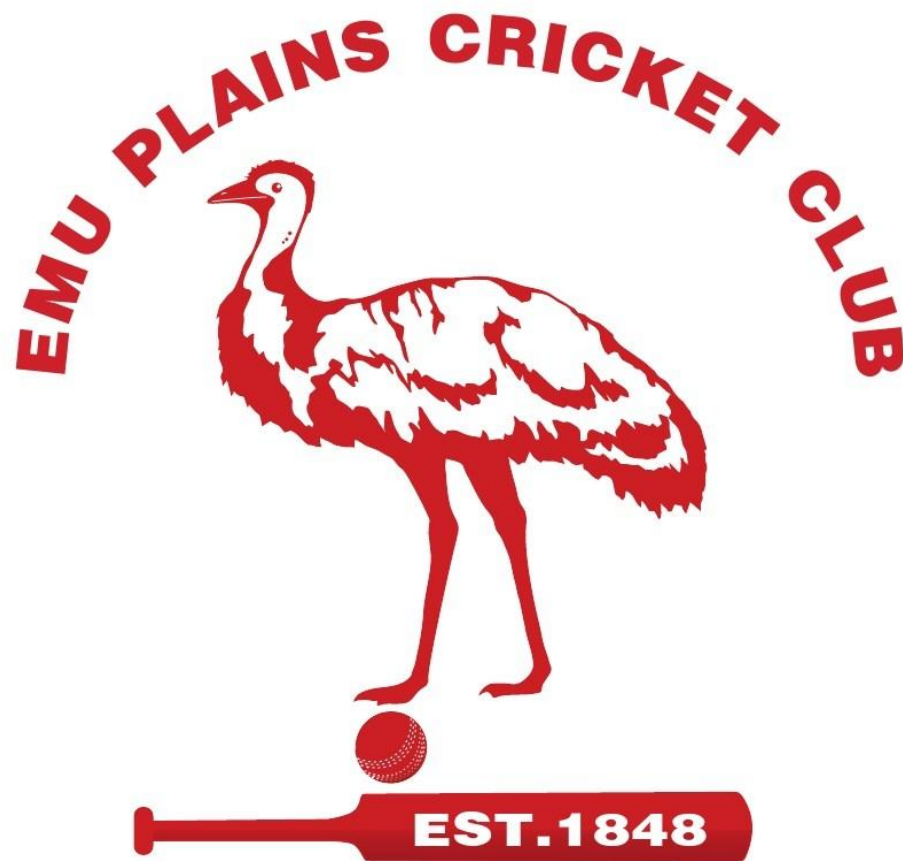


EMU PLAINS CRICKET CLUB INC.



SEASON REPORT 2011 / 2012

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OFFICE BEARERS

PATRONS

Alma Ristau (appointed 1996)
Lionel Gylar (1996)

Eddie Ristau (1996)
Phil & Phyllis Huthnance (2006)

Betty Coleman (1996)

LIFE MEMBERS

Leslie Mitchell (appointed 1990)
Garry Ross (1992)
Tony Hoy (1992)
Darran Harvey (2004)
Miles Anderson (2007)

Paul Ryan (1990)
Peter Watts (1992)
Lionel Gylar (1996)
Martin Romer (2004)
Trevor Wilson (2008)

Tim Pedlar (1992)
Peter Mitchell (1992)
George Stanowski (2000)
Greg Bottrill (2005)
Jamie Large (2010)
Andrew Williams (2012)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Martin Bowerman

Vice-President: Sam Barbaro

Treasurer: Ange Barbaro

Secretary: Jim Micsko

Junior Secretary: Elizabeth Dowd

Committee members: Sue Masters, Chris Longhurst, Ryan Graham, Regan Rist, Andrew Kennedy.

SENIOR PREMIERSHIPS

1st Grade: Evans Memorial Shield

1923/24, 1925/26, 1931/32, 1932/33, 1935/36,
1937/38, 1946/47, 1947/48, 1948/49, 1949/50,
1950/51, 1951/52, 1952/53, 1955/56, 1957/58,
1993/94, 1995/96, 1997/98, 1990/00

2nd Grade: Donald Reay Memorial Trophy

1990/91, 1996/97, 1999/00, 2007/08, 2009/10, 2011/12

3rd Grade: W & E Cammack Trophy

1993/94, 1995/96

4th Grade: Trevor Wholohan Trophy

1990/91

5th Grade: Darcy Smith Shield

1979/80, 1992/93, 1999/00, 2007/08

6th Grade: Howell Cup

1996/97

7th Grade: T.J. Rance Trophy

1980/81

9th Grade: J.L. Mason Trophy

1996/97

"A" Grade Twenty20 Cup

2011/12

"B" Grade Twenty20 Cup

2008/09, 2009/10

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Season 2011/12 proved another one of great success for Emu Plains, both on and off the field. In a season much interrupted by poor weather, the Club managed a 2nd Grade Premiership, 1st and 3rd Grade in Grand Finals, a 1st Grade 20/20 Premiership, and a u/12 premiership in the Junior ranks. With better weather over the Grand Final weekend, I am sure we could have produced another one or two premiers.

This year we fielded seven Senior and ten Junior sides, an increase in one team from last year. This is quite an achievement in itself that our numbers have actually increased where other cricket clubs have experienced dwindling numbers against other emerging markets. Our In2Cricket program saw a further 45 children enrolled.

Congratulations should particularly go to our 2nd Grade side that have now won 3 premierships in 7 years across 5 different grades starting in 2005-06 in 8th Grade then playing in 7th Grade to 5th Grade to 4th Grade and finally 2nd Grade. This is a fabulous achievement, and doesn't even include their 3 T20 premierships, which I feel has certainly been aided by the development of a closer bond between the 1st and 2nd Grade sides over the past few seasons. The Club is seeing the benefit of some of its better younger players gaining experience on turf against quality opposition, and it has improved their cricket.

The weather aided our u/12 team on Grand Final weekend, but congratulations to Martin Romer and his boys on a terrific season and a thoroughly deserved win. This was capped off by the team making the semi-final of the U/12 State 20/20 competition – another tremendous achievement.

Thank you to all the team captains, Junior coaches, managers and parents, for your commitment throughout the year. Banding together our 200+ cricketers does not happen without hard work, and on behalf of the committee please know that these efforts are appreciated.

Our In2Cricket program continues to be a great success, due in no small part to Chris Longhurst, and the committee supporting him. The Club views this program as pivotal to the continual regeneration of our Junior ranks. Thank you once again Chris to you and your team for your commitment to this program.

Our season started with the official opening of our brick storage shed adjacent to the nets at Nepean High School, on the final Saturday before the season proper. This was attended by the Headmaster of Nepean High School, Tony Baldacchino, and several of our Life Members, as well as many players. Several local papers ran a story about the Shed and the Club itself, generating some good, positive publicity for the Club.

The Club's committee has again worked tirelessly to keep the Club moving forward. How Jim Micsko manages his time between Secretary, 3rd Grade captain, Treasurer of the NDCA, and his family and work, is remarkable. The female influence of Liz Dowd and Sue Masters is highly valued and they both do a terrific job with whatever they tackle.

To Sam and Ange Barbaro, Chris Longhurst, Ryan Graham, Regan Rist and Andrew Kennedy, thank you all for your ideas and input throughout the year.

As always, I encourage anyone who would like to contribute the Club through a position on the committee to attend our AGM. A date will be announced in due course.

Our relationship with the Emu Sports Club continues to be strong. It is a great central venue for us all to meet, swap our stories, and enjoy a quiet drink together. We will continue to foster our relationship with the Emu Sports Club and I encourage all cricket club members to use Emu Sports' facilities as often as you can.

All the best to all involved with Emu Plains Cricket Club.

Martin Bowerman, President

TREASURER'S REPORT

EMU PLAINS CRICKET CLUB INCORPORATED Statement of Income and Expenditure as at 31 March 2012

Income		Expenditure	
Junior Registrations	8,930.00	Equipment, Clothing and Plant Purchases	15,345.34
Senior Registrations	7,323.00	Phone, Fax, Internet & Website	169.00
In2Cricket Registrations	2,200.00	Postage	211.80
Income from Previous Season	550.00	Umpires	50.00
Grants	2,500.00	Stationery/Ink	22.49
Bank Account Interest	7.49	Junior Team Registrations	3,100.00
Sales	2,672.00	Senior Team Registrations	2,590.00
Refunds	75.00	Funeral Flowers	100.00
Miscellaneous Cash Receipts	500.00	Cricket NSW Coaching Course	240.00
		Nepean High School - Hire of Fields	500.00
		Fines	25.00
		Bank Fees	18.00
		Turf Wicket fees	825.00
		Miscellaneous Expenses	934.30
Total Income	<u>24,757.49</u>	Total Expenditure	<u>24,130.93</u>

A complete set of accounts will be presented at the Annual General Meeting in July. Note that a significant amount of club expenses were met after 31 March 2012 including trophies, premiers' prizes and presentation expenses. Additionally, there was over \$4,000 in unpaid registration fees still to be paid.

Ange Barbaro, Treasurer

SENIOR REPORT

2011/12 was another very successful season for the Emu Plains Cricket Club. We kicked off senior training in August with our new storage shed providing a home for our bowling machine and all of our gear and clothing. We fielded 7 senior sides again in the NDCA competition and the highlight was our 2nd Grade side winning the competition once again, making it two premierships in three seasons for Anthony and the boys in 2nd Grade. This team has been very successful over the seven years they've been together and really enjoy their cricket and mateship in that team.

We had 4 sides into the semi finals this year with 1sts, 2nds, 3rds and 7th Grades making it and 4ths narrowly missing out after a heartbreaking round 14 loss. 6th Grade finished 5th on the ladder and 8th Grade, although officially finishing last, in reality would also have finished 5th but lost 12 points for playing a player outside of his grading. A lesson to be learnt for all skippers!

7th Grade bowed out in the semi finals in a tough match after taking first innings points over minor premiers Cranebrook, who eventually went on to win the comp. 1st, 2nd and 3rd Grades had very good semi final wins with 1st and 3rd knocking off higher placed teams and 2nd Grade minor premiers confirming their favourites tag with a solid win over Springwood. The 1st Grade victory over Consumers was particularly satisfying for Marty and his team who have had a number of tough battles against this team over many years. Read Marty's report below for an idea of the conditions they played in at Shaw Park. 3rd Grade, having squeaked into the top 4 were not expected to cause the minor premiers Colyton St Clair too many problems as they had been beaten convincingly by them twice during the regular season. Against all odds and after two long tough days of cricket, and despite an LBW count of 8-3 against our boys, EPCC triumphed to make it to two grand finals in two years.

Unfortunately the amount of rain that hit Penrith in the week leading up to the grand finals meant that all three of our top sides were going to struggle to get a game started as all were playing on turf wickets. 2nd Grade were looking good as minor premiers but 1st and 3rd Grades did their best to ensure covers were put down during the week at Dukes and Darcy Smith Ovals. 2nd Grade started celebrating early on Saturday as their opponents conceded that they would not get on but 1st and 3rd Grades turned up hoping for a start. No play at all was possible on the Saturday and with Dukes Oval resembling a swamp, Marty knew his team were no hope of getting on for Sunday too. This was a disappointing end to a very good season for the 1st Grade team. They fielded the strongest side they've had in a number of years and would have been every chance of claiming the club's first 1st Grade premiership since 1999/00. If Marty can keep this side together and get them playing every week, they'll be right in the mix again next season.

3rd Grade got to the ground early on Sunday morning hopeful of getting play started at 1pm. The pitch was in good shape but some water on the runups was raised as a problem by the umpires and Springwood players. Half a tonne of sand later and with Springwood still claiming the conditions were unsafe, time was running out. Eventually the umpires agreed to start play at 2.40pm and with dark clouds looming Emu needed to win the toss, put Springwood in, roll them cheaply then throw the bat in a chase for victory. They lost the toss and were sent in, threw the bat and were dismissed for 65 in the 18th over. The storm was now very close and only 6 overs were bowled in Springwood's innings (0/7) before it bucketed down at 5pm and the game was over.

To get all of our top three sides into grand finals was a huge achievement by the club and one that hasn't happened for a very long time, if ever. It shows the strength of the club and the commitment to submit teams in grades where they will be competitive rather than trophy hunt like some clubs do. The good performances of 4th, 6th, 7th and 8th Grades also shows that our strength is right through the club. Unfortunately we could not back up and defend the Club Championship which we won for the first time in 2010/11 but we still finished 3rd, very narrowly missing 2nd spot. I'm sure that we can achieve another Club Championship in the seasons ahead.

The club also won the Twenty20 A Grade competition in another rain-marred final. Solid performances in the preliminary rounds ensured that as minor premiers, we were crowned champions after only 15 overs of play were possible with EPCC in a strong position.

The club is touring Hawaii in July for our third annual trip. After poor showings in July last year, we're hoping to redeem ourselves as we play not only Honolulu, but also make a side trip to Maui for a double header with the Maui CC and Honolulu CC in a triangular tournament over the weekend of 7-8 July. This tour is a huge amount of fun and I recommend it to anyone looking for the excitement of playing cricket overseas with your mates and holidaying in paradise. The Honolulu guys are terrific hosts and really look after us while we're there.

The club is also fielding a team in the SMCC Winter Cricket competition and have already played two games, both very narrow losses. A big thanks to Andy Kennedy for organising the team and captaining the side. Good luck to the boys as they try to keep fit for summer!

Enjoy the off season. We hope to see all players backing up in 2012/13.

Jim Micsko, Secretary

JUNIOR REPORT

It's been another great season for the Emu Plains Junior Cricket Club, although most of our teams and their results were impacted by the amount of rain, which at times was a huge frustration.

This season was a little different to previous seasons in that two of our teams were merged with other clubs. Our U10 Johnson team had six Emu Plains players return and our U14 Div 2 team had eight players. At the PJCA meeting prior to the commencement of the season, it was decided that clubs could merge teams and have a combined team in order to give these players the opportunity to take to the field and play cricket. Glenmore Park Cricket Club were in a similar position with one of their U10 teams and RSL Cricket Club with an U14 team. And so EPCC began the season with two merged teams and both for different reasons, have had very successful seasons. In all we had ten junior teams take to the fields, with a total of 118 players.

Two of our teams were district premiers this season. The U10 combined EPCC/Glenmore Park team were outstanding in the U10 competition. Congratulations to Terry Jacobs for his efforts in bringing the team together and coaching them to successfully take out the premiership. Our U12 team were also successful in taking out the premiership in their age group. Marty Romer's team were well-deserved premiers. This team also entered the Cricket NSW Weet-Bix Twenty20 Cup. This competition is conducted across the Sydney region and requires three games to be played mid-week during October and November 2011, with regional semi-finals beginning in December. The grand final is played out at the Sydney Cricket Ground. The U12 team were incredibly successful and made it all the way through to the Finals. It was a fantastic effort from the boys. Congratulations to you all on your achievements.

Again, this season we have had a high number of representative players chosen from EPCC to play at district and state level. Congratulations to you all on your achievements.

Our players and official representatives for 2011-12 were:

- U16 Presidents Cup - Christopher Hinkley
- U14 Presidents Cup – Mikayla Hinkley
- Walter Gee Shield – Nicholas Arnold, Hugh Kermond, Aiden King, Brendon Speechley
- U13 Presidents Cup – Max Turner
- Arch Cawsey Shield – Lachlan Charlton, Jarrod Morley,
- U12 Presidents Cup – Thomas Charlton, Ethan Clout, Bailey McNulty
- J H Creak Shield – Adrian Agius, Matthew Sullivan
- U11 Presidents Cup – Luke Cook
- U10 Development Squad – Jackson Bentvelzen, Jacob Bulluss, Luke Gale, Lachlan Jacobs

There are three players who have made it into this year's NSW Cricket Academy squads, which have replaced what was known as the Emerging Blues and Emerging Breakers program.

- U15 Girls Mikayla Hinkley
- U16 Girls Samantha Arnold
- U14 Boys Hugh Kermond

Congratulations to every player who wears the red and white. EPCC is always well presented during matches, both on and off the field. Other club officials and district umpires speak highly of our teams and the manner in which they represent themselves and their club. To those players who joined us in the merged teams, congratulations and thank you and your parents for the spirit in which the game was played.

A huge thank you to all the parents, grandparents and carers of our children. Your support and encouragement is fantastic.

Finally a huge thank you to all the coaches, managers and the EPCC committee. All volunteers who give their time and energy to do their best for our children and our club. They do a fantastic job and, once again, I thank each and every one of them for the past season and their support.

In the Junior Club Championships, EPCC came in at third place. With the strength and talent coming up in our younger teams, I can see us making our way to the top of the ladder in the near future!

Our club is growing as a community celebrating their love of cricket.

Go the bird!!

Elizabeth Dowd, Juniors Secretary

MILO IN2CRICKET REPORT

This season's nine-week training program couldn't have gotten off to a better start. Coaches Kimberley Longhurst, Nathan Christensen and I went to the latest induction to the training program at Blacktown, where coaches from other centres brainstormed their ideas.

From this, I came up with a great training idea for this season. It starts off with having the children, in each session, placed into partnerships. They then throw and catch a ball to each other. As was expected, most of the children had no idea how to catch a ball. But through repetition over the nine weeks, they were training in slips catches (one of the hardest things to do) and enjoying it thoroughly. Whilst in that partnership, they moved around to the training activities, which taught them not only the value of teamwork, but the importance of partnership and the foundations of new friendship.

Whilst in the beginning some of the younger participants didn't understand this concept, at the end of the nine weeks they flourished.

The first six weeks of the program were aimed at working on partnerships and individual techniques. The final three weeks were allocated to encompass the knowledge and the experience that they gained in game situations.

I would like to thank all of my coaching staff – Kimberley Longhurst, Nathan Christensen, Mark Stafford and the new incumbent, Stuart Ericson. Their enthusiasm and expertise have been a vital contribution to the success of this season. A special thank you Martin Bowerman and Jim Micsko for their help this year.

A great thanks goes out to all the parents who helped out this year. Parent participation is always welcome and appreciated.

I hope to see you all again next season. (Bring a friend)

Chris Longhurst, In2CRICKET Coordinator

PERPETUAL TROPHY WINNERS

KEITH COLEMAN MEMORIAL SHIELD (SENIOR ALL ROUNDER)

Awarded to the Senior Player who has accumulated the most points during the season. Points are allocated for the 1st innings of each game, semi-finals and finals excluded. Allocation of points is outlined in the constitution.

Ben Carter 594 points

TONY HOY SHIELD (SENIOR CRICKETER OF THE YEAR)

Awarded to the senior player who has accumulated the most points, obtained from each round. Players doubling up with a second team in the same round shall also be included. Players from each senior team shall vote at the end of each round on best performed player. Points shall be awarded as 3 for the player who contributed the most to the match followed by 2 and 1 for the next best performed players. At the completion of round 14 player's points are to be tallied.

Ben Carter 26 points

DAVE RISTAU MEMORIAL TROPHY (SENIOR WICKET KEEPER)

Awarded to the senior cricketer with the most dismissals as a Wicket Keeper during the Season.

David Williams 21 dismissals

CRAIG HUTHNANCE MEMORIAL TROPHY (1ST GRADE CRICKETER OF THE YEAR)

Awarded to the most outstanding player in the first grade team for the season, final games included. Allocation of points is outlined in the constitution.

Andrew Williams 416 points

A & E RISTAU AWARD (U/21 BATTING AGGREGATE)

Awarded to the player (Junior Competition only or Senior Competition only) who is under the age of 21 years at 30 September of that season, who has scored the most runs for the Club. Competition matches only – semi & final games not included.

Robert Carter 361 runs

THE HALLY AWARD (U/21 BOWLING AGGREGATE)

Awarded to the player (Junior Competition only or Senior Competition only) who is under the age of 21 years at 30 September of that season, who has taken the most wickets for the Club. Competition matches only – semi & final games not included.

Alex Mullen 30 wickets

SENIOR CATCHING AWARD

Awarded to the senior player that has taken the most catches as a fielder (non-wicketkeeper) in competition rounds only. Finals games are not included.

Anthony Tonks 15 catches

CLUBMAN OF THE YEAR

Awarded to the person deemed to have contributed the most to upholding the spirit of the Club during the past season. The winner, chosen by the Executive Committee, may be a player (junior or senior), a committee member, a coach/manager, a parent, a supporter or any combination of these. It is not compulsory that the award be given if an appropriate candidate is not nominated that season.

Ange Barbaro / Sam Barbaro

SHIELD OF SHAME (MOST SENIOR DUCKS)

Awarded to the senior cricketer who has achieved the most ducks during the season.

Sam Barbaro 6 ducks

LONG SERVICE AWARDS

OFFICIALS (EIGHT YEARS SERVICE)

At the completion of eight years service as a coach, manager or executive committee member (or a combination of these) the Executive Committee may approve by majority vote the award of a Long Service Award to such person. Service need not be continuous.

None Awarded

SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD – UNDER 16 YEARS

Players who play continuously with the Club from Under 9 to Under 16 shall receive an award at the annual presentation in recognition of their contribution to the Club. Team Coaches and Managers who meet the criteria shall also be eligible to receive the award.

Peter Hardy

John Klincke

SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD – SENIORS

Senior players who have played with the Club for a period of ten years shall receive an award. Years of service need not be consecutive.

None Awarded

100 GAME CAPS

Awarded to players who play 100 games for the club, without breaking that service to play for another club within the Nepean/Penrith District.

Ange Barbaro

Jim Micsko

Chris Tonks

Sam Barbaro

Anthony Tonks

Peter Hardy

SENIORS

DISTRICT AWARDS – NEPEAN DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

NDCA Club Championship

RANK	CLUB	POINTS
1	Cranebrook	69.72
2	Colyton St Clair	53.57
3	Emu Plains	52.77
4	Glenmore Park	52.63
5	Springwood	49.74
6	Glenbrook Blaxland	47.59
7	Penrith RSL	32.66

NDCA Minor Premiers and Premiers - 2nd Grade
2nd Grade

A Grade Twenty20 Premiers

NDCA 2nd Grade Player of the Year
Ben Carter

NDCA 2nd Grade Batting Aggregate & Average
Ben Carter

NDCA 7th Grade Wicket-Keeper of the Year
David Williams

SEASON STATISTICS – ALL GRADES

Win / Loss Record

GRADE	MAT	W1	W2	DRAW	L1	L2	%WIN
1 st	16	7	0	6	3	0	44%
2 nd	16	7	1	5	3	0	50%
3 rd	16	4	1	5	5	1	31%
4 th	14	5	0	3	6	0	36%
6 th	14	5	0	3	5	1	36%
7 th	15	4	1	4	4	2	33%
8 th	14	4	1	1	8	0	36%
Total	105	36	4	27	34	4	38%

Batting Statistics

GRADE	RUNS	WKTS	RUNS/WKTS	OVERS	RUNRATE	100s	50s	DUCKS
1 st	1803	70	25.76	421	4.28	0	9	11
2 nd	1900	101	18.81	459	4.14	1	6	12
3 rd	1544	131	11.79	578	2.67	0	4	28
4 th	1315	97	13.56	396	3.32	0	3	17
6 th	1481	113	13.11	390	3.79	0	2	18
7 th	1719	134	12.83	575	2.99	0	6	31
8 th	1576	126	12.51	500	3.15	1	2	25
Total	11338	772	14.69	3319	3.42	2	32	142

Bowling Statistics

GRADE	WKTS	RUNS	RUNS/WKT	OVERS	RUNRATE	5W
1 st	84	1518	18.07	412	3.68	1
2 nd	106	1394	13.15	452	3.08	3
3 rd	112	1694	15.13	492	3.44	4
4 th	96	1278	13.31	424	3.01	1
6 th	99	1539	15.55	419	3.67	4
7 th	121	1850	15.29	544	3.40	7
8 th	123	2160	17.56	528	4.09	3
Total	741	11433	15.43	3271	3.50	23

BATTING & BOWLING – AGGREGATE AND AVERAGE AWARDS – ALL GRADES

Batting & bowling aggregate and average awards are calculated on non-finals games only.

Batting

1st Grade	Agg - Andrew Williams	348 runs
	Avge - Geoff Sullivan	298 @ 59.60
2nd Grade	Agg & Avge - Ben Carter	412 @ 41.20
3rd Grade	Agg & Avge - Curtis Shuttleworth	187 @ 31.17
4th Grade	Agg - Patrick Anderson	243 runs
	Avge - Nathan Christensen	174 runs @ 21.75
6th Grade	Agg - Jai Mohan	209 runs
	Avge - Mitchell Falke	205 runs @ 22.78
7th Grade	Agg & Avge - Robert Carter	326 @ 25.08
8th Grade	Agg & Avge - Shane Richards	177 @ 29.50

Bowling

1 st Grade	Agg - Craig Sheens	13 wickets
2 nd Grade	Agg & Avge - Chris Tonks	21 @ 10.00
3 rd Grade	Agg & Avge - Curtis Shuttleworth	24 @ 7.88
4 th Grade	Agg & Avge - Andrew Luzzi	19 @ 10.95
6 th Grade	Agg & Avge - Jai Mohan	23 @ 8.52
	Agg - Alex Mullen	23 wickets
7 th Grade	Agg - Daniel Kelly	25 wickets
	Avge - Jake Denoord	21 @ 9.33
8 th Grade	Agg & Avge - Alan Tran	27 @ 11.26

CENTURIES – ALL GRADES

Anthony Tonks - 174, 2nd Grade, Round 1 vs. Springwood @ Jamison Park No 3

Shane Richards - 125 NO, 8th Grade, Round 1 vs. Glenmore Park Red @ Kingsway No 2

BOWLING – 6W IN INNINGS – ALL GRADES

Alan Tran - 8/17 vs. Springwood Oriental, 8th Grade, Round 12

Daniel Kelly - 7/32 vs. Glenmore Park, 7th Grade, Round 2

Curtis Shuttleworth - 7/35 vs. St Clair United, 3rd Grade, Round 1

Todd Waugh - 6/10 vs. Glenbrook Blaxland, 7th Grade, Round 11

Alex Mullen - 6/17 vs. Glenmore Park Black, 8th Grade, Round 13

Chris Tonks - 6/18 vs. Glenbrook Blaxland, 2nd Grade, Round 3

Jake Denoord - 6/18 vs. Penrith RSL, 7th Grade, Round 1

Hugh Arnold - 6/24 vs. Springwood, 7th Grade, Round 3

Daniel Kelly - 6/33 vs. Glenmore Park, 7th Grade, Round 2

Grady Tapping - 6/37 vs. Colyton St Clair, 6th Grade, Round 4

Simon Masters - 6/38 vs. Springwood, 7th Grade, Round 3

BOWLING – HAT-TRICKS – ALL GRADES

Chris Tonks vs. Australian Arms, 2nd Grade, Round 2, Jamison Park No 6

BATTING PARTNERSHIPS – ALL GRADES

WKT	PARTNERSHIP	BATTERS	GRADE	RND	OPPONENT
1 st	159	Andrew Williams - Geoff Sullivan*	1 st	8	Glenmore Park
2 nd	89	Nathan Christensen - Peter Gibson*	4 th	5	Springwood
3 rd	106	Curtis Shuttleworth - Ryan Gander*	3 rd	10	Colyton St Clair
4 th	60	Nathan Christensen* - Chris Longhurst	4 th	3	Glenmore Park
5 th	172	Anthony Tonks* - Chris Tonks	2 nd	1	Springwood
6 th	88	Robert Carter - Simon Masters*	7 th	3	Springwood
7 th	58	Brett Savage - Martin Romer*	1 st	1	Glenmore Park
	58	Shane Richards* - Jordan Abbott	8 th	1	Glenmore Park Red
8 th	62	Jai Mohan - Alex Mullen*	6 th	1	Glenmore Park
9 th	63	Shane Richards* - Alan Tran	8 th	1	Glenmore Park Red
10 th	34	Isaac Clayton - Jamie Mansfield*	8 th	9	Jamison Hotel

1ST GRADE CAPTAINS REPORT

Season 2011/12 was a successful and enjoyable season. On paper we fielded the strongest team we have had in a quite a few years, having everyone available at the same time proved a lot more difficult.

We started our season well winning a couple of close games and keeping ourselves in the top 4. We had a couple of old blokes (Andrew Williams and Geoff Sullivan) opening the batting for us this season who really wound back the clock and got us off to great starts. This set the foundation for the rest of our batsmen to play aggressive, score quick runs, and set up very competitive totals for our bowlers. We have some great young bats in our side this year who I hope will stick with us for years to come.

Our bowling attack lead by another old bloke (Luke Murphy) again proved lethal and ripped through sides having the confidence of some decent runs behind them. Our bowling attack is a mixture of young and old, with the old blokes quite happy to sit back and watch these young blokes do their thing. Although they still can't match the pace of the older bowlers they are improving every year!!

After the regular rounds we managed to get ourselves into 3rd spot. Our highlight being a last round flogging we gave Springwood.

We drew Consumers (our biggest rivals) in the semi finals. The week preceding the game, rain bucketed down and we thought our chances of playing were minimal at best.

Somehow (and to Consumers disgust) we managed to get on to an oval which was too wet to play football on, to play a cricket semi final game. We won the toss and elected to bat. Conditions in the outfield were atrocious with puddles of water and mud everywhere. Grass in some areas was just below your knees!

With this in mind we managed to score over 200 runs with the highlight being Todd Marshall's brilliant 95. This would have been worth 140 on most grounds. Todd bashed the Consumers bowlers to all parts of the ground hitting sixes at will.

After our innings we were extremely confident of being able to bowl Consumers out and comfortably win the game. While they did put up a brief effort they were eventually bundled out for around 150. Our young off spinner Tom Romer managed to jag 5 for 20 ripping the heart out of the Consumers bats. Unfortunately the umpires believe he is still not as quick as his Dad.

It was a fantastic feeling to knock Consumers off so comfortably and gave us some great momentum heading towards the grand final against Springwood who we beat two weeks prior.

Unfortunately for us that was to be our last game as Sydney received a bucket load of rain that week killing any chance of us playing.

Overall it was a very enjoyable season with a great bunch of blokes who I hope back up and play again next season. I would like to thank the 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade players who helped us out when required. Congratulations to 2nd grade on your win and commiserations to 3rd grade.

Thank you to the committee for your support without you guys our great club wouldn't function.

Go The Emu's.

Martin Romer
Captain 1st Grade 11/12

2ND GRADE CAPTAINS REPORT

The 2011/2012 season was probably the wettest one I have seen. It was another successful season for the 2nd grade boys. In 7 seasons we have managed to get to 8 Grand Finals and have won 6 premierships. While we made 2 Grand Finals this year (including T20), we did not get to play any due to bad weather. But it was the hard work we put in the normal season that gave us the 2 premierships. Finishing minor premiers turned out to be very important with the washouts in the Grand Finals.

There were many highlights for 2nd grade this year. The first one being my own score of 174 in round 1. This was after getting a golden for 3rd grade the day before (Sorry Jim). Have to admit I was pretty nervous when I went out to bat for 2nd grade in the 7th over with the bowler on a hat trick. I quickly settled in to an innings that included 23 boundaries and 4 maximums and was pretty disappointed that I didn't get to 200 when I was bowled in the 51st over. A 172 run partnership with Chris in the same innings was pretty special.

The next highlight came in the very next game. After being rolled for 100 we were not looking good with Aussie Arms sitting on 7 for 92 with 2 batters on 19 and 21. Along came Chris Tonks who won the game for us with a Hat Trick. The boys were pretty excited about that one. In the very next game Chris was on another Hat-Trick but did not get that one. He had to settle for 10 wickets in that match.

This season saw Ben Carter join Emu Plains. Carter was a massive asset to our team. There are too many highlights for Carter to mention them here. I just have to show his stats for 2nd grade with 470 runs at an average of 42.73 and 15 wickets. This includes a 5 for 34 with the ball and 4 half centuries with the bat. It does not include a 99 for 1st grade and another half century in A grade T20. With 644 overall runs, I'd say that Carter's season was a good one.

Dave Tickle's maximum against Colo also needs a mention. So does the roar from the crowd that helped the umpire put his arms in the air even though the ball fell about a metre inside the boundary!!!

There were a couple of important games this year for us. A close one against Springwood up at Lomatia saw Jake Sultana score the winning run for us in the 39th over for a 1 wicket win. Arguably the most important win for us would be v Aussie Arms in round 12. We won this game on the first week of a 2 day game. The 2nd week was washed out but the 1st innings win gave us the minor premiership by 1 point. This meant that when the GF was washed out, we won the Premiership. Not the best way to win a Premiership but I guess it shows the importance of finishing as high as possible in the normal season.

The semi-final win v Springwood was a massive team effort. Our team plays every game like a T20 so to bat out 83 overs was a first for us. Scores of 58 for Carter, 49 for Chris, 34 for Shane, 28 for Tony, 21 for Gib and 19 for Dylan backed up with 5 wickets from Josh and 2 wickets from Tickle. It was a good all round team effort and although we did not play the GF I feel that we were in a good place to kick some GP butt.

I think the NDCA 2nd grade batting stats says a lot about how our team went this year. With Carter on 470 runs, Myself on 326 and Chris on 323 we had the top 3 batters for the grade. The closest to us was another 80 runs behind.

Thanks goes to all the 2nd Grade boys for another enjoyable year. 2nd grade squad includes Chris Tonks (onfield captain), Ben Carter, Peter Gibson, James Wood, Josh Wood, Mat Davey, Kyle Siczak, Shane McPherson, Dylan Reeder, Jake Sultana, David Tickle, Mat Marshall and Super Sub Jeffrey Jones. A special thanks goes to Joe Masters, Ryan Gander, Luke Fitzpatrick, Andrew Williams, Craig Sheens, Jon Philliponi and Luke Stanowski. These players filled in for us out when we were short and we would not have got to where we did without them.

Last but not least I have to thank the committee (especially Jim) for all the hard work they put in behind the scenes. A club does not run itself and there are a lot of hours the committee put in to ensure the club runs smoothly.

I look forward to 2012/2013. I hope the weather is a little kinder and allows more of our teams to fight out some more GF's.

UP THE BIRD!!!!

Anthony Tonks
Captain 2nd Grade 11/12

3RD GRADE CAPTAINS REPORT

What an interesting season! On the back of two very successful seasons where we'd only lost a handful of games, we entered 2011/12 confident on improving on our semi final and grand final losses in 09/10 and 10/11. We started the season quite well with 2 wins, christening the new turf wicket at Jamison Park 5 in round one. From then until the second round after the Christmas break, we didn't win another game with two rained out draws being the highlight! We'd simply forgotten how to win. We lost a number of players to unavailabilities and higher grades but we still played very poorly and could not build partnerships while batting or hold our catches in the field. We looked nothing like the side that had only lost one match the previous season.

We started the new year in round 10 with a close loss then followed this up with a solid outright win over a weakened Penrith RSL. Martin Bowerman came out of retirement for his only 2011/12 appearance and took 4 wickets and we were also assisted by Luke Stanowski and Anthony Tonks, backing up from higher grades.

Coming into round 12, we were somehow, miraculously, still in with a shot of making the semi finals. It was a must-win two day game over second-placed Glenmore Park. Losing the toss and after being sent in on a damp and very slow Shepherd Park 2, we slumped to 4/8 then 6/20 before stand-in skipper Sam Barbaro (17) and Jon Philliponi (17) restored some pride with a 28 run partnership. From there we lost another 4/11 to be dismissed for 59, our lowest total in memory. Things weren't looking good. Time for Luke Fitzpatrick and Curtis Shuttleworth to step up. Fitzy and Curtis completely decimated the Glenmore Park batting line up with some outstanding bowling backed up by some great catching. 0/7 quickly became 5/17, then 6/23, 7/27, 8/32 and 9/33. With only a few minutes left in the day's play we were pretty keen to wrap up 6 points in case it rained the following week and Fitzy did the job taking the 10th wicket to dismiss GPCC for 40. Curtis took 5/17, Fitzy 4/20, Mark Roser with a direct hit runout and it was all over inside 17 overs. What a fantastic effort! With this win we were now in 4th place on the ladder. Washouts in rounds 13 and 14 saw us limp into the semi finals in 4th spot although we had now started to resemble a strong team in our last two victories.

Having squeaked into the top 4, we were not expected to cause the minor premiers Colyton St Clair too many problems in the semi final as they had beaten us twice during the regular season. Losing the toss and bowling and without Fitzy who was away at a hip-hop camp, a brilliant spell of bowling from Joe Masters demolished Colyton St Clair's top order leaving them at 4/2 and in serious trouble. They recovered slightly but key wickets at crucial times from Joe (5/16 off 16 overs), Curtis (2/29) and Mark Roser (3/12) saw them dismissed for 69. A good opening stand of 19 saw us 50 runs away from victory with all 10 wickets in hand but as we know, cricket is a funny game and we suddenly went from 4/46 to 7/46 and in some trouble. Chris Longhurst (13) and Mark Roser (14) got us past 69 but we lost the last 3 wickets for 3 runs to be bowled out for 76, a small but important 7 run first innings lead. Batting for the second time, Colyton St Clair cruised to 62 without loss until Mark Roser broke the partnership on his way to an outstanding 5/22. Joe Masters also continued on his fine 1st innings form to take 4/50 and 9 wickets for the match and Colyton St Clair were dismissed for 106. EPCC required 100 runs for an outright win or we had to survive 60 overs to get into the grand final. It wasn't pretty but when stumps were pulled at 7pm on that Sunday we had crawled our way to 7/51 off 59 overs to save the match and win via 1st innings. It was pretty gutsy with John Lennon leading from the front with 19 and Curtis scoring 12 not out. Some poor umpiring and 8 LBW decisions against us in the match couldn't take away from the victory.

Onto the grand final and constant rain was a problem. Andy Kennedy, Ange Barbaro and I felt like we were living at Darcy Smith Oval that week as we were down there every day covering the wicket then removing them when dry as we did our best to ensure we could get on for a game. Great help from Fitzy and two guys who weren't even playing in the grand final – Chris Longhurst and Ryan Gander – was also appreciated. No play at all was possible on the Saturday so we got to the ground early on Sunday morning hopeful of getting play started at 1pm. The pitch was in good shape thanks to a great job by the curator Mal Sheens but some water on the runups was raised as a problem by the umpires and Springwood players. Springwood did not want any part of playing this game which is ironic because if we had lost our semi final you can bet they would have tried everything, as we did, to get the game started. Half a tonne of sand later and with Springwood still claiming the conditions were unsafe, time was running out. Eventually the umpires agreed to start play at 2.40pm and with dark clouds looming Emu needed to win the toss. We lost the toss and were sent in, threw the bat and were dismissed for 65 in the 18th over. The storm was now very close and only 6 overs were bowled in Springwood's innings (0/7) before it bucketed down at 5pm and the game was over. It was a very disappointing and unsatisfying way to finish the season but it shows the importance of leading the comp at the business end of the season.

A huge thanks to all of the guys in the team. We struggled at times throughout the season but finished strongly and only the weather stopped us from possibly winning the comp. It has been a great three years with this side and we've been quite successful but ultimately failed to win a premiership for the club. We had fun, you're a great bunch of blokes and I'm hoping everyone will be back next season to give it another crack.

Jim Micsko
Captain 3rd Grade 11/12

4TH GRADE CAPTAINS REPORT

So close and yet so far.

This year 4th Grade missed out on playing Finals by 13 runs in the final game and half a point on the table. However we all know, no season comes down to one game.

Despite falling just short, this was a successful and highly enjoyable season for myself and I would say, the whole team. Adding to a great season by Emu Plains Cricket Club. A club that continues to go from strength to strength both on and off the field.

Nathan Christensen, in his first full year opening the batting, was a stand out, scoring his maiden half century, ably supported by Patty Panda Anderson who again grew as a cricketer and yet shrunk in size.

Stuart Ericson showed his skill with both bat and ball, being reminiscent of a young Jacques Kallis. JR blossomed as an opening bowler and started to show some of the firebrand attitude, hidden beneath the Taylor Swift loving, smiling exterior we all know.

Franky fitted in well to our team set up, scoring heavily both on and off the pitch, finding true love at Dukes oval, at the time of writing this report, he and his new girlfriend remain very happy and will be continuing the cricket/romantic journey in Hawaii with the EPCC tour this year.

A solid rookie year from Andrew "Ashley" Kobryn added something fresh to the side, although his average was reminiscent of an 80's beer (2.2) he added much to the side and picked up a few wickets also on the way.

DC showed the class one would expect of the statesman of the team with a mudflap to rival any mullet in history.

DW played a few nice cameo innings along with Brocky.

A 4th Grade legend and current fill in The Gib, amassed runs for our side, including a Stella 91 at St Johns that left a lasting impression on all that watched it, specifically me, who was hit by the ball so hard while standing at square leg, my life flashed before my eyes, I wasn't even in it.

Chris Longhurst again showed all the heart you would expect from him, having a good year, but failing to live up to his own high standards. From a captains perspective, I was happy to see him enjoying his cricket. As with us all, enjoying the hours we spend together is the most important thing, good cricket is a bonus.

I must mention Robbie Drake, a 16yr old Fire brand that will do great things for the club and hopefully 4th Grade. Special thanks as well to Pony who filed in several times, thanks to others also who helped us out throughout the year.

Manderson (Miles) was as always a constant support to us and its appreciated by all. (most of the time)

Mark "Golden" Staf, also had a great all rounders year, taking the Most Catches for the club. Staf, was my team player of the year. I hope he continues to play for many years to come.

I must congratulate Chris Longhurst, Mark Stafford, John Ryan, Kim Longhurst, Stuart Ericson and Nathan Christensen, who all gave up their Saturday mornings to assist with Into Cricket programme. I am so proud that this group come from my team and hope they continue to assist with the growth of cricket in our club and the district, going forward.

I look forward to many more great seasons for The Bird and I trust EPCC will continue to flourish for many seasons to come.

Andrew Luzzi
Captain 4th Grade 11/12

6TH GRADE CAPTAINS REPORT

Being my first season captaining a young, somewhat inexperienced side, the team performed admirably and despite not meeting an objective of finishing in the top 4 only marginally missed out in 5th place, 6 points behind the fourth placed Glenbrook Blaxland (whom we beat throughout the year). One of the matches that stands out in my mind is our round 4 clash with Colyton-St Clair. While we were able to bowl them out cheaply for 113, at drinks they were 1 for 92 (notable mention to Grady with 6/37). We underperformed with the bat to fall agonisingly close in reply with 101. After winning 2 out of our first 3 matches this would have provided additional momentum and we would have more than likely played semi-final cricket but for a few disappointing games such as this one. Although it proved our never-say-die attitude which we took into every game, win lose or draw.

Despite the minor set back of not achieving the objective set out by the team as the season progressed, there was greater team cohesion and it is my intention to keep all the boys together for a few years to grow and develop as a group.

As captain of the team I would like to thank all of those who supported us, be that through turning up to games or filling in when we were short a player or two. Special mention to the side for putting in a great effort all year - Jai Mohan, Mitch Falke, Dave Schramm, Josh DeMartin, Jef Miles, Nick Sciberras, Matt Keeley, Grady Tapping, Stewart Gales, Jason Paterson and Ryan Gander. I can speak on behalf of all who played in the team this year and say that although we may not have won every game, there was certainly plenty of enjoyment had on and off the field (our end of season trip was definitely a highlight) and an honourable mention to Blake Knox our "12th man" who came along to watch the team, also supplying a BBQ, which was well received by the boys. Last but not least also a special thanks to Stuey Gales for the effort he put in with scoring every week (he thoroughly enjoys the job) and always gives it his all on the field as well. While everyone contributed throughout the year here are the notable performances with the bat and ball for the year:

Batting Top 3

Jai Mohan	209 runs @ 20.90
Mitchell Falke	205 runs @ 22.78
Dave Schramm	109 runs @ 15.57

Bowling Top 3

Alex Mullen	23 @ 10.65
Jai Mohan	23 @ 8.52
Dave Schramm	14 @ 15.36

Notable Match Performances

Batting

Jai Mohan	53 vs. Glenbrook (Round 2)
Ryan Gander	54 vs. Penrith RSL (Round 14)

Bowling

Grady Tapping	6/37 vs. Colyton-St Clair (Round 3)
Patrick Cromie	5/20 vs. Glenbrook (Round 2)
Jai Mohan	5/15 vs. Penrith RSL (Round 7)
Jai Mohan	5/34 vs. Springwood (Round 10)

Fielding Top 3 (including wicketkeeper catches)

Joshua De Martin	11 catches (7 as keeper)
Mitchell Falke	7 catches (5 as keeper)
Nicholas Sciberras	5 catches

See you all next year boys.

Alex Mullen

Captain 6th Grade 11/12

7TH GRADE CAPTAINS REPORT

Another successful year for 7th grade making the semi finals and some great individual performances along the way. Most pleasing for me as captain this year was how the team played as a team. At times during the season we were put under pressure and every player stood up and gave 150%. Most frustrating part of the year was getting a full side on the park week to week. Many times during the year we had to call on other players to fill in. Saying that I would like to thank Jef Miles, Michael Gilles and Junior player Bailey McNulty for helping out during the year.

I have to mention some players who performed outstandingly during the year. Rob Carter who had easily his best season ever with the bat and he is a great 1st slipper. Also proud to have him as vice-captain and I would like to personally thank him for his effort throughout the year. Jake Denoord and Daniel Kelly who headed our bowling attack both had super seasons and got plenty of wickets during the year. Simon Masters, Joel Sutcliffe, Hugh Arnold and Todd Waugh bowled extremely well and had a great season. We had some new team members join us this year in Owen Williams, Simon Masters, Colin Powell, Craig Vicary, Joel Sutcliffe and Todd Waugh who all contributed each week.

Overall a great year. Disappointed to lose the semi final, but looking forward to a bigger and better season next year with all the boys.

David Williams
Captain 7th Grade 11/12

8TH GRADE CAPTAINS REPORT

Despite reaching the semi-finals last year, 2011/12 was always going to be a difficult season due to the loss of several key players to higher grades. This was confirmed halfway through the season when we found ourselves with one win from seven rounds. The boys fought back well however, finishing the season with several strong performances, including an outright win.

The highlight of the season was undoubtedly the continued improvement of opening bowler Alan Tran. Al was new to cricket in 2009/10 and managed one wicket at an average of 76 in his debut season. Two years (and countless hours in the nets) later, his haul was 27 wickets at 11, and he is certainly now one of the most feared bowlers in 8th grade. In one remarkable performance towards the end of the season, Al took 8/17 in the first innings, 3/30 in the second and was part of a last wicket partnership which produced more runs than the rest of the team put together.

The pace attack was well supported by the slow bowling of Mick Mullen and Isaac Clayton who bowled well throughout the season. Unfortunately, our batting was less potent and we struggled to consistently make competitive totals, although there were two individual performances deserving of recognition. In round one, Shane Richards came in at number seven with a soft ball and a slow, wet outfield to contend with. When the last wicket fell, Richo walked off the field undefeated with 125 runs at a strike rate Virender Sehwag would be proud of. Incredibly, he had hardly seemed to take any risks at all and never looked like getting out. From one extreme to the other, opener Matt Kobryn dug in against Cranebrook in round three to carry his bat on a day where the bowlers were well on top.

Finally, thanks to all the players who filled in for us throughout the year, both from the higher grades and from juniors. Your support is much appreciated.

Andrew Kennedy/Regan Rist
Caretaker Co-Captains 8th Grade 11/12

JUNIORS

BATTING & BOWLING – AGGREGATE AND AVERAGE AWARDS – ALL AGE GROUPS

Batting & bowling aggregate and average awards are calculated on non-finals games only.

Individual Awards					
Team	Batting Aggregate	Batting Average	Bowling Aggregate	Bowling Average	Coach's Award
U8 Cummins	Jake Hennessy Batting Award		Xavier Haynes Bowling Award	Jake Hennessy 5 wickets in an innings	Blake Skinner Coach's Award
U9 Smith	Max Prendergast Batting Award		Robert Pain Bowling Award		Nathan Farrell Coach's Award
U10 Clarke	Joshua Patterson Batting Award	Jeremy Skinner Batting Avg 10.00	Minimum qualification not achieved		Lachlan Jones Coach's Award
U10 Johnson	Lachlan Jacobs Batting Agg 130 runs	Jacob Bulluss Batting Avg 50.50	Joel Reeves Bowling Agg 12 wickets	Lachlan Jacobs Bowling Avg 7.00	Jack Trezise Coach's Award
U11 Gilchrist	Matthew Sullivan Batting Agg & Avg 250 runs @ 125.00		Matthew Sullivan Bowling Agg 12 wickets	Luke Cook Bowling Avg 7.43	Ethan Parker Coach's Award
U11 Ponting	Justin McColl Batting Agg & Avg 142 runs @ 71.00		James Weir Bowling Agg & Avg 10 @ 4.60		Justin Geri Coach's Award
U12	Lachlan Charlton Batting Agg & Avg 232 runs @ 116.00		Lachlan Charlton Bowling Agg & Avg 10 @ 4.60		Isaac Kennedy Coach's Award
U14/2	Dean Reeves Batting Agg & Avg 96 runs @ 12.00		Thomas Phelps Bowling Agg 7 wickets	Bryce Walton Bowling Avg 16.83	Corey Sanderson Coach's Award
U14/1	Nicholas Arnold Batting Agg & Avg 229 runs @ 28.63		Jarrod Morley Bowling Agg & Avg 12 @ 8.92		Aidan King Coach's Award
U16	Jake Couchman Batting Agg & Avg 287 runs @ 57.40		Keegan Jones Bowling Agg 11 wickets	Jake Couchman Bowling Avg 8.85	John Klincke Coach's Award

UNDER 8 CUMMINS REPORT

It was a great year for Emu cricket with many talents making themselves known. With team cohesion and a passion for cricket, these players will be watched and admired by future fans.

Tim CRUMPTON: A great range of shots in his possession saw the ball visit most parts of the field. Perfect forward defensive play coupled with an interesting and effective bowling action sets Timmy apart.

Scott GRAY: Absolutely dedicated to the game, Scott even showed up once when he was actually too sick to take the field. Scott was a regular contributor to the batting score card and his bowling improved through the year – resulting in some well-earned wickets.

Mali HAYNES: In striving for the best possible results for his effort, Mali has developed a great range of shots, he is also a consistently valuable contributor with the ball and therefore indispensable.

Xavier HAYNES: Bowling the full length of the pitch, Xavier's deliveries still whizzed through to the keeper often. A great bowling action, plenty of pace and plenty of wickets resulted in Xavier earning the Bowler trophy.

Jake HENNESSY: From the first match when he blasted several boundaries, Jake looked very comfortable and was a consistent scorer through the season. Plenty of power and a cool head have earned him the Batters trophy.

Scott ROOTS: With all round skills, Scott has been a vital part of the team. Great with the bat and as one of our Hat Trick takers, Scott has secured a legend status in the team.

Blake SKINNER: With both Ray Price and the energizer bunny in his family tree, Blake scored a truckload of singles, got a few wickets but also chased down many balls, keeping the game lively and therefore earning him the coaches award.

Kristian VOGELS: Persistence of effort and practice saw his first wickets come towards the end of season in the form of a two-wicket haul – a great reward for straight bowling. Handy with the bat, he added runs regularly for the team.

SPECIAL MENTIONS: Scott ROOTS Hat Trick.

- Michael HAYNES - Umpire at every match.
- David SKINNER - Coaching duties when I was unavailable.

Paul Vogels, Coach

UNDER 9 SMITH REPORT

We started the season with a squad of 8 players, of which only three had any previous cricket playing experience. With only one training session before the season started, it was always going to be difficult but the guys managed to score a few runs and take a few wickets in their very first game, which was excellent.

Within weeks, Chris Sanderson's excellent coaching of the newcomers started to shine through and we started to see some great improvements with bat and ball. Maintaining interest during fielding is still an issue, but the new rules for this year helped, although it was disappointing that the innovative new rules were not being adopted by all other coaches and their teams.

The Christmas break was a catalyst as the boys all seemed to get some extra time to practice and Chris ran a session on one of the days of the school holidays. The games after the Christmas break saw a great improvement, especially in the batting department.

The squad of Max, Robert P, Nathan, Robert T, Leo, Brock, James S, James W and Matthew had a great time and all improved throughout the year thanks to the efforts of Chris.

John Tooth, Manager

UNDER 10 CLARKE REPORT

What an awesome start to the season for our little cricketers!

Although we didn't win very many games, we had the best team spirit out of all the teams! We bonded very quickly and strongly as a team. Everybody's skills improved out of site. We were able to bowl overs with a lot less wides, and much more speed and accuracy.

Everybody was awesome in the field, stopping and catching balls, as well as keeping. There was never a day without the other teams coach mentioning how much our kids talked! Just us doing our own sledging.

As for batting, technique and shots were improved dramatically. We scored more runs off the bat every game, and everyone pulled off awesome shots! Without fail our boys came off the field with a big smile on their face, no matter how their performance was, proud of you boys.

Overall, I enjoyed every second of coaching this team. Both the boys and I learnt a lot over the season and will be able to use this in our cricketing careers.

Big thanks to Jen, our manager, and all the parents for turning up and supporting, not to mention the scoring, drinks, and oranges! Thanks for all your help this season.

Matt Large, Coach

UNDER 10 JOHNSON REPORT

A week out from the season starting, only 4 players turned up, all backing up from last season. I was approached by the Emu Plains Secretary Liz Dowd, if I would be interested in coaching a combined team of Emu Plains and Glenmore Park players. After a little apprehension from most parents, we all decided that the players are here to play cricket, so a team was formed.

From the first training session I knew I had something special to work with. This team went through the season as Minor Premiers, losing only one match with three washouts, this with three players still eligible to play Under 9s. All players were able to contribute in there own way toward the team performances, with all players improving throughout the season.

We didn't score the most runs in the competition with 1285 runs, but we were very consistent, they had an edge over their opposition, when asked to kick up a gear that's what they did. Our bowling, taking 88 wickets won us most of these games regularly taking wickets when required.

A few words on this talented bunch:

Jacob Bulluss	Jacob's batting has shown natural improvement scoring 101 runs @ 50.50. Players playing in older age groups could learn from you and how you value your wicket. Whilst you only took 4 wickets, your economy rate was the best in the team, keep up the hard work
Jared Calear-King	Your Keeping is something you should continue to work on, it's a difficult art that needs plenty of practice. Your batting 75 runs, really ignited the team when you where at the crease. Chipping in with your spinning/meds taking 6 wkts
Jake Grosse	When you put your mind to it, with bat & ball, your performances are very good, 67 runs & 3 rd leading wicket taker with 8. Concentrate a little harder and longer and it will show in your performances, its there somewhere
Lachlan Jacobs	Your ball striking is something that you need to work on to be more consistent. Our leading run scorer with 130 runs @ 32.50, this could have been much better had you been more patient later in the season. Your bowling has become quite quick, many times you were unlucky not to get more wickets, our 2 nd leading wicket taker with 11 wkts @ 7.00
Tazma Miles	Your enthusiasm in the later part of the season was fantastic and certainly showed the boys how it should be done. Both your batting and bowling improved throughout the season 26 runs & 6 wkts. Thank you for listening, you're a pleasure to have in the team

Joel Reeves	Your bowling got better as the season went on, our leading wicket taker 12 wkts @ 8.33. Stick to the medium pace bowling at this stage, its working. Your batting has plenty of potential you just need to make sure you hit that bad ball
Luke Riik	Your bowling action is fantastic, with some fine tuning and getting you to bowl over the wicket, you will reap the rewards. Taking 7 wkts is well below your potential, at least we have something to work on. With your batting 31 runs, as you know, we need to improve your ball striking
Ryley Smith	After only playing from Rd 6 onward you showed potential beyond your years, with both bat & ball. Scoring a hard hitting, 68 runs @ 34.00 and taking 5 wkts. If you continue to listen to suggestions on how to improve your game, you will feature high up the individual ladder in years to come
Cody Stone	Only played 7 games until he moved up the coast, his enthusiasm was infectious and a pleasure to have in the team
Jack Trezise	Your improvement throughout the season was fantastic, you should be proud of being our 3 rd leading run scorer with 94 runs. With your bowling, even though you only took 4 wickets this didn't reflect how you bowled. Thank you for listening at training and taking this to the game
Lochlan Watts	you're the quickest bowler in the team, when you get it right. You need to be more consistent with your accuracy and the wickets will come, taking 6 wkts this season. Your batting improved later in the season, thanks for listening, scoring 56 runs

Congratulate to Lachlan Jacobs, Jacob Bulluss & Jared Caele- King who were selected in the PJCA U/10 development squad. After these sessions they all came back better players, well done.

Many thanks must go to the parents in assisting in making this merger work as well as it did. Thanks to Cath for your organisational help, John Grosse for your assistance at training and our chats during the week and the other parents who helped out at training when required.

It was an absolute pleasure coaching this team and I hope we can keep all players together for many years to come.

Finally, thank you to both Emu Plains & Glenmore Park committees for this opportunity and support throughout the season.

Terry Jacobs, Coach

UNDER 11 GILCHRIST REPORT

The season was again a very enjoyable one for all involved in and around the "Gillies". Very ably lead by our Super 'Ger .. Matt Graham, I was again blessed with a wonderfully supportive group of parents and grandparents who shared the load with scoring, training, warm ups, catering and cheering which made sure all those things 'off the field' were always sorted. I am very grateful for their continued support and encouragement of our team.

On the field, each player continued to show improved skills and teamwork with our season resulting in 9 wins, 5 losses and 4 draws which saw us finish in second place. Our semi-final match was an exciting 'first' for our team and while we all hoped we may find ourselves in a grand final we were all very proud of the boys, their efforts and sportsmanship in the semi ... next year is another chance!

It was wonderful to welcome Patrick, Lachlan, Mitchell and Kalen into our team this year and they all made significant contributions during the season. Some fond memories and achievements this year included; the classic diving catches taken, four players scoring over 100 runs in the season and retiring on 35 runs in an innings, some awesome running between wickets, each player taking at least 3 wickets and some great fighting partnerships when the chips were down.

With each season, it is marvellous to watch how our boys continue to learn the skills, intricacies and game play of this wonderful sport, some are hard lessons and others are wonderful celebrations. Regardless, their sportsmanship and support of each other and their opposition always makes the coach proud!

A word on each of our players:

Lachlan Askew	One of our 'newbies' but keen as mustard in all facets of the game. Scored some very handy runs and greatly improved his bowling as the season progressed due to his dedicated practice.
Jackson Bentvelzen	A very compact batting technique with a great cut shot. Scored 113 runs with a best of 35*. Took 4 wickets and a couple of absolute screamers in the field. Selected in the Penrith Junior Development Squad.
Kai Brown	One of our lefties who always grabbed us a vital wicket. Snared 8 victims this season with his best being 2/3 of 4 overs. Also scored some good runs and as always a rock in defence!
Max Buckley	Loves the mateship of cricket .. and rallies our team war cries! Our own Lasith Malinga took 3 wickets with a best of 2/15. Scored some handy runs and loves to hook through slips!!
Luke Cook	Emu's own Glen McGrath, sent down 46 overs for only 63 runs! His great line and length snared him 7 wickets with most batsman unable to get bat on ball. Scored 117 runs, his best 35*. Selected in the Penrith U11's President Cup team.
Patrick Daley	In his first season of cricket, 'Patty' displayed great poise at the crease with a determined defence and some handy runs. Always in the wickets, Pat grabbed 7 wickets with a best of 3/11. A great slips catch in the semi too!!
Luke Gale	Luke loves all aspects of cricket and often keenly took on the keeping gloves. His left arm 'chinamans' snared 4 wickets, he took 4 catches and scored 45 runs. Selected in the Penrith Junior Development Squad.
Ryan Graham	An improved player in all areas, Ryan's fuller deliveries grabbed him 12 wickets, his best 3/10. 56 valuable runs achieved by some very positive running between wickets. Selected in the Penrith Junior Development Squad. Some very good outfield catches as well.
Kalen Homfray	A new 'Gillie', Kalen showed allround ability with bat, ball and in the field. He snared 4 wickets, 3 catches, 2 run outs and 36 runs. He ran well between wickets and was involved in some good partnerships.
Ethan Parker	Another cricket tragic, loves the game and being involved. Scored very well to attain 127 runs with a best of 37*. Claimed 9 wickets, his best 2/3. He also took 7 catches and 4 run outs. A good allround season!
Mitchell Price	Another new 'Gillie' and avid cricket fan! Mitchell loves all aspects, scored 64 runs, his best a telling innings of 20. Also 5 valuable wickets. Involved in some great partnerships, his lengthy and patient semi -final innings a highlight which kept us in the game.
Matthew Sullivan	A consistent performer, Matt had a very good season with bat and ball. Took 12 wickets with a best of 4/7, 8 catches. Topped the district with 250 runs at an average of 125. Retired 3 times on 35 with a best of 40*. Selected in the Penrith U/11 Creak Shield and Junior Development Squad.

I would also like to thank Jerry Crumpton and Lachlan Jacobs from the Under 10's who each played a match for us during the season and showed plenty of ability.

Finally, thank you to the twelve great "Gillies" who each week gave their best both on and off the field and let's aim to go one better in Season 2012-13.

Geoff Sullivan, Coach

UNDER 11 PONTING REPORT

This season started on a high note with all boys that finished last season returning, for some of these boys this was their fourth season of cricket for Emu Plains. We had four new boys joined us and instantly contributed with bat and ball. I saw a massive improvement in the boys bowling accuracy and speed; reducing the number of sundries we bowled by more than half over the course of the season. From a batting perspective we lost less wickets than any other team in the under 11 competition.

Season 2010/2011 was a year of millimetres for the U11 Pontings, after being beaten comprehensively by Glenbrook/Blaxland on two previous occasions this season; in round 15 the boys really worked together as a team and came within 2 runs of a victory. We finishing the season 1 point behind fourth, just missing out on the Semi-final series, an extra victory would have made a real difference.

For the third year in a row **Justin McColl** has received our Batting award, on more than one occasion Justin stepped up and hit some quick runs to set us a good target or to get us across the line.

James Weir joined the team this year. James had a great first year with the ball claiming the bowling award with figures of 10/46 for the season. He is a tall left arm pace bowler with a great future in the game.

My only wish for season 2011/12 is that I had 13 coaches' awards to present, at different times throughout the season every player stepped up and performed above their own expectation. I will be presenting actual Coaches award this year to **Justin Geary**. Justin had a great first year he stepped up in a number of our games with bat, ball and in the field.

It was with sadness that at Christmas this year **Joshua Clift** and his family moved away to Canberra. Josh was a massive spinner of the ball, he was always looking for a quick run whilst batting, a real team player. Josh has been missed.

If there was an award for the straightest bat, **Paaras Dhaliwal** would easily have been given it. Paaras is a very stylish right hand batsman, who is very handy with the ball in hand. Paaras worked very hard on certain aspects of his bowling this year and I did see a great improvement.

The original Ponting player that stepped up on a number of occasions this year was **Harrison Field**. He opened the batting on two occasions top scoring on both. Against Colyton he scored 19 not out hit the winning runs, a real Boycott type inning.

Joining us from Glenmore Park, **Jesse Astill** performed most of our keeping duties. He is an enthusiastic fieldsman, who regularly contributed with bat and ball. He really stepped up against St Clair with a 28 runs, a wicket off his bowling and a great catch

Jeremy Fowler aggressive left hand batsmen, is another of the original Pontings that has improved every year. Jeremy also stepped up against St Clair with a 27 not out.

Nathan Roots started the season with a flurry setting himself two new personal best scores, with a 12 against Springwood and a 13 against Penrith RSL. Nathan is a hard worker, who wants to do well with bat and ball, a real team man.

Ben Dillon is an enthusiastic team player that bowls a consistent line and length, forcing opposition batsmen to play most deliveries.

Our lucky charm this year was **Angus McDonald**, he played in every game we won. In our final game of the season, a must win match against Penrith RSL, he bowled fantastically well and had the great figures of 2/3.

Daniel Tuppa, a self-motivated enthusiastic young man, he has a real future as a bowler taking 9 wickets and contributing regularly in the field with catches and run outs.

For the second year in a row I have seen a real improvement in **Liam Swist**, scoring 123 with the bat and taking 7 wickets, Liam was a real contributor to the team.

The season of 2011/2012 was another good development year for the Pontings, as with all other teams in all grades, the wet weather interfered with our ability to be constrict. The new boys have really contributed with bat and ball and all the boys have really been supportive and encouraging towards each other, a real team spirit has developed. These 13 young men are defiantly something their parents can be very proud of. I enjoyed coaching them and I look forward, if required to coaching again next year

Richard Field, Coach

UNDER 12 REPORT

After a heart breaking last ball of the season loss in last year's grand final we returned this season determined to go one better.

We managed to keep the bulk of our side together but we were also lucky enough to inherit a few new players to the club who added the little bit extra to the side.

While some players managed some fantastic personal achievements it was our strength of being able to play together as a team that made us successful. We had 14 players in our squad which meant two players had to sit out every week. To the players and parents credit this happened every week without a problem.

We managed to get through the regular season only losing two games. At the end of the rounds we found ourselves as minor premiers. This was due to a little help from the rain, where we were able to play and other teams were not as fortunate. This really gave us some great momentum into the semis and the belief that we can win the competition.

We managed to defeat Colyton in the semi final and progress to the grand final. Again everybody contributed to the win with the runs and wickets being shared around by the team. We had achieved our first goal for the season in making the Grand Final.

Unfortunately due to the weather our Grand Final was washed out. While we were pleased to be awarded the premiership at bit of the gloss of winning the competition was taken away with not being able to actually play in a grand final. Our commiserations to St Clair as this was a hard way to lose a grand final but our congratulations to them also with the sportsmanship they showed.

We also entered the NSW Weet Bix 20/20 competition this season. This was a great competition for the boys as they managed to play games on turf wickets. We were entered in the Sydney West division of the competition. Again we finished on top of our division and progressed through to the final s. Although we lost of grand final in our division we managed to go through to the last 4 teams in the state due to the unavailability of Kelly Ridge.

Unfortunately we were beaten in the semi final by eventual winners Revesby, it was a fantastic achievement by the mighty Emu's to get this far. We were one win away from playing on the SCG!

Congratulations boys on a very successful season the sportsmanship and team moral you display is a credit to yourselves and an inspiration to us who watch you every week. Enjoy your achievements and I hope to see you all back next season.

A big thank you to Kathryn Charlton who was our Manager you efforts are very much appreciated by all of us. Also to the parents thank you for your support and giving the boys the opportunity to play the great game of cricket!!!

Go The Emu's.

Marty Romer, Coach

UNDER 14-1 REPORT

It was a big year for the team this season. We said a sad farewell to "Big Ben" McCarthy and ran with 12 players. It was always going to be a big ask to step up to the under 14 competition in Division 1 and getting used to 2 day cricket, but the Emu Plains spirit shone through, never once giving up and always displaying the sportsmanship for which they are known. The highlights of the year in cricket terms, was defeating the eventual premiers who were unbeaten up to that point and defending a low total, winning the last game of the season to finish fifth.

Nick "Nitro" Arnold (229 runs, top score 88, 8 wickets, best bowling 3/4) – To speak only of Nick's highlights would still not do him justice and may take up pages. The first game of the season he took a catch at slip running back with the flight of the ball while nearly colliding with another fielder. Another reflex slip catch in the next game showed what a great pair of hands he has. His top score of 88 not out was a combination of guts to survive the early onslaught, finesse to find singles and by the end, brute power to guide the ball to the boundary. Bowling, he probably produced the ball of the season, an out swinging off cutter which bowled the batsman trying to leave it. Nick was also a member of the DCA Gee Shield side this year.

Samantha "Sorry" Arnold (35 runs, top score 9, 4 wickets, best bowling 1/1) – Sam is a very talented young cricketer who has already gone far and who will go much further. Some of her representative achievements include City under 15's and subsequent selection in the under 15's state team, member of the NSW indoor team to play Queensland in July, member of the winning under 15's Margaret Peden Shield team, vice captain of the under 17's Brewer Shield team which won the 20/20 competition, and member of the Combined Catholic Colleges open State team. For Emu, Sam has always been a standout for not only her cricket ability, but her sportsmanship and courage.

Blake "Blakey" Foster (14 runs, top score 4, 4 wickets, best bowling 1/10) – In only his second year of cricket, Blake took some big steps forward this year. He faced up to some big fast bowlers, never shirking the task, tucking the ball away neatly for his runs. He has always had a powerful arm in the field, and put that to use in his bowling by switching from leg spin to medium pace with great effect. Blake has both the ability and drive to succeed at this game in the future.

Joel "Big Bird" Grey (15 runs, top score 7, 3 wickets, best bowling 2/16) – Joel's best bowling came in a game that was anybody's to win. He took 2 wickets to keep the team in with a chance of winning when all looked lost, but Joel is best known for his courage. Always willing to have a go in the field and always willing to put his body on the line for his teammates. A number of times the ball was slammed at him close fielding, he always tried for the catch. Even when injured, he would return to the field so his teammates wouldn't be let down.

Ethan "E" Hennessy (105 runs, top score 29, 5 wickets, best bowling 1/3) – Ethan has always been known for his straight bat and his spin bowling. With the bat, he hit some beautiful drives and powerful pull shots showing his class. Whether fast bowlers or spinners in the opposition teams, they all knew that they would need to produce something special to take Ethan's wicket. His leg spin bowling can tie batsman up in knots, pitching the ball and spinning away into the keeper's gloves. We noted last year the E had his passion back for the game and that can only be good for the team. Ethan was selected for Sydney West Primary Schools boys team that participated in the NSW PSSA tournament held in Maitland.

Hugh "HK" Kermond (164 runs, top score 37*, 7 wickets, best bowling 3/9) – Hugh is, was and remains the team's rock. His is the wicket prized by all the other teams but he is stubbornly hard to remove. A beautiful defence with moments of expansive drives through the covers and pull shots through square leg are Hugh's trademark. Starting the year as an off spinner, Hugh has changed to a fast bowler achieving his best bowling for the season in the second last game. A diving catch in the covers probably earned the prize for catch of the season, to go with his 4 catches and 1 stumping as a wicket keeper. Hugh was the Gee Shield's no. 3 batsman and was selected for NSW CIS as an opening batsman and wicket keeper. Hugh has recently been selected for the Cricket NSW Academy's under 14 training squad.

Aidan "Wild Thing" King (157 runs, top score 39, 2 wickets, best bowling 1/7) – Aidan is the joker of the team, but when cricket is being played, he is all business. An attacking batsman who can change the course of a match with his powerful drives, and also a batsman who can save a game with his defence. His left arm fast bowling strikes fear into the batsman. However, it is not his development as a cricketer which was the highlight of the year, but his development as a person and a leader. Aidan was nominated as captain of the team for a good part of the year and it was a pleasure to see him grow into the job. He developed respect from the players from his efforts with the bat and ball and developed respect from the coaches and umpires through his demeanour on the field. Aidan is a real leader within this group of players and has the ability to take this role through his junior cricket years and into his adulthood. Aidan was also a member of the DCA Gee Shield side this year

Oliver "Wally" Masters (3 runs, top score 1*, 6 wickets, best bowling 3/1) – As always, Oliver showed toughness beyond his years. Never taking a backward step with a bat in his hand, always giving everything with the ball. His best bowling figures, 3/1 came when cleaning up the tail against Colyton St Clair, the eventual premiers. Oliver was often called upon to keep the team "up" in the field and was the only player this year to achieve an unassisted run out.

Jarrold "J-Rod" Morley (51 runs, top score 24, 12 wickets, best bowling 3/7) – An interesting, but very successful year for the youngest member of the team. Always noted as a good technical batsman, again that was the case this year. However, it was in other areas that J-Rod shone, leading the team with 12 wickets bowling his outswingers. This was even more impressive as J-Rod spent half his time in the field as wicket keeper, leading the district for wicket keeping dismissals with 12. It should be noted that J-Rod only took up wicket keeping 18 months ago, so it was a big step forward. Jarrold was also the wicket keeper for the DCA Cawsey Shield team, which was the only Penrith team to make the finals this year.

Brendon "Boof" Speechley (58 runs, top score 19, 11 wickets, best bowling 3/6) – Brendon worked hard on his game in the off season and it showed in his results this year. Invariably taking the new ball, Boof always bowled at good pace and with unerring accuracy. Wickets are not everything and in a very tough competition Brendon finished in the top 10 for economy rates with 2.03 runs per over. As part of the DCA Gee Shield side, his economy rate was even better, 1.76 runs per over. His batting has also improved enormously in the last 12 months, Boof becoming a reliable run scorer and power hitter in the middle order. Twice during the season Boof was at the crease guiding the team home for a win. Boof was selected for Sydney West Primary Schools boys team that participated in the NSW PSSA tournament held in Maitland.

Max "Pepsi" Turner (31 runs, top score 7, 5 wickets, best bowling 1/5) – It is said every year that Max has improved, and so it was again this year. A more expansive batsman with drives down the ground and through the covers, Max never said no to an opportunity to bat at the top of the innings, even against Emerging Blue fast bowlers. His spin bowling while always accurate, took another "turn" this year, getting more spin on the ball and improving his economy rate to become a valued member of the bowling attack. His highlight for the year was to be named captain of the under 13 President Cup side, which was undefeated in 20/20 tournament in January (and ran third???) and got their first ever win in the 50 over competition against front runners, Manly.

Mitchell "Mighty Mitch" Waugh (10 runs, top score 4, 3 wickets, best bowling 1/11) – Mitchell was an important part of the team, always willing to have a go with the bat and bowling line and length with the ball. Our highlight for Mitch occurred in the very first game of the season, clean bowling one of the Gee Shield team's top six batsman. Mitch is always quick with a funny line and it is a joy for the boys to have him in the team.

We would like to thank Mikayla Hinkley, Bailey McNulty, Tom and Lachlan Charlton for filling in for us this year. We would also like to make a very big special mention for Jake Hennessy who at 7 years of age filled in fielding in a very narrow loss. It was absolutely fantastic to watch this future superstar giving it his all in the field, then high fiving and fist punching the others in the team after each over. Look out for Jake in the future he will be a player for all of us to watch. We would also like to say a big thank you to Kate Turner, Barbara Speechley, Peter Foster, Steve Masters, Leighton King and all the other parents for helping with the thankless tasks of scoring, training and generally supporting all the team. We have a great bunch of parents involved with these children and it shows in the attitude and sportsmanship shown by every one of the team, every game.

Peter Kermond and Richard Morley, Coaches

UNDER 14-2 REPORT

This season I had the privilege of coaching the team's first game and their last and it was like coaching two differed sides.

Luke unfortunately had to work for some of the games and I was only too happy to help him out.

When Nathan Christensen I turned up the the first game, I decided to select a captain and asked Corey Sanderson to take the role. To look at him you would think my plan was to take the smallest player in the team and give him the biggest voice. But being honest it was because Corey Sanderson is a great name. Turns out he is a gifted captain too. Name well deserved.

Throughout the game we watched a group of strangers turn into a really close group of friends. Jack Nurrish was in great form with the bat scoring a solid 24. A great partnership with Jakim Whana, who was not out at innings close, helped keep us in the game. Thomas Phelps was in great form with the ball taking two wickets.

After just round 1 Nathan an I could see this team was going to be something special.

Nathan and I were asked to coach day 1 of round three and it was apparent Luke's training prowess was on show. Emu Plains' new women's cricket star, Eve Wakeling, was given a cricket bat from Milo In2cricket coach Kim Longhurst, and decided to test it's durability. In other words she was hitting the ball harder than an irate Matthew Hayden. Emu Plains veteran extraordinaire, Mikayla Hinkley, was a machine with the ball, absolutely unplayable, as was Dean Reeves who took 3 wickets and best bowling figures.

The last round was a highlight for all players. I told the batsman to concentrate on staying out there. The idea was, no matter what score you were on, stay out there for at least twenty minutes (5 overs). Except for a great ball to a very unfortunate Brandon Gray, who was the teams first and only six hitter, our top order batsman did this expertly. Ajay Kasina was outstanding lasting well over an hour for thirty runs. But it was his batting partner, Patrick Kamlade, who I believe played an inning that has no doubt changed his cricket forever, batted for over an hour too.

Some great fielding from Jack Byelong and Jesse Mackie made it difficult for the batsman to score quickly. Bryce Walton bowled exceptionally without luck. Moving the ball both ways and bowling an unplayable length.

I would like to thank the players parents for their help and support during the games I coached. I hope you all enjoyed this season.

The Emu/RSL hybrid side was a joy to coach and watch, and I hope they stay together next season. I can see a premiership winning side in them and the future stars of Emu Plains Cricket Club.

Chris Longhurst, Assistant Coach

UNDER 16 REPORT

This season was one of great reward for our side, this reward was built from great team spirit and belief that the boys taught themselves throughout the competition. This Competition was quite competitive and challenging at times for the boys, the main reason for that was that more than half of our boys were 14 and 15 year olds, playing in the 16's age group, which can be a big step up for some.

This was my second season coaching half of these boys, those boys I speak of didn't win a game at all last season, but had an unreal attitude to comeback together and tough out another season alongside myself, which was great. This season they were a year older, a year stronger and a year wiser. With this group of young men we gained a strong team, along with some new recruits from within the club and some other great talents around our local area that joined our club.

We finished the season in 4th place and took on the Minor Premiers in the Semi Final against St Marys Leagues, who were a real force. We took them down to the wire, only to fall short by 28 runs.

Out of the 4 sides who played in the semi's, we scored the second highest amount of runs and more importantly showed the most patience at the crest, batting through the most amount of overs at 56.3 overs, which to me is a massive plus in the game of cricket. By the boys achieving this, It showed me how hard we worked together as a team, with some outstanding partnerships and a never give up attitude. A lot of goals were achieved by our side in doing this, which was great plus!

I was extremely proud with this group of young men, who throughout the season showed not only to myself, but their parents, families, friends, opponents and match officials that they are very respectful, polite, competitive and entertaining bunch of cricketers with great pride for our club and the game itself, on and off the field, which is a great credit to them.

A huge thanks to our Committee, they do a massive job, a lot of behind the scenes work which is much appreciated by all!

To our Parents you guys have been an awesome support not only to your sons, but also to me, you've shown up in numbers each week to help out with scoring, putting up shade and collecting the markers which was great for the team and it's really appreciated, Thank You!

A Big Thanks to Margot our Manager, Margot is a wonderful Lady who stops at no end to make our side a huge success year in year out. It's been great working alongside her for the past three seasons, it's been great fun!

I really hope to see all the boys back playing for the mighty Emu's once again next season.

Remember "Go the Bird" and well played.

Your Coach.

Pat Anderson, Coach