



# 2024 - 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

THE PRIMARY CLUB  
OF  
AUSTRALIA



## 50 YEARS IMPACT - THE NEXT INNINGS



Our Charity partners, Sailability, Goalball and Wheelchair Basketball

[primaryclub.com](https://primaryclub.com)

Providing sports & recreation opportunities for people with disabilities

**JOIN**



# OFFICE BEARERS

THE SUCCESS OF THE PRIMARY CLUB PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE IS DUE ENTIRELY TO THE COMMITMENT OF PEOPLE SUCH AS YOURSELVES WHO HAVE DONATED TIME AND EFFORT.

Once again over 2,500 hours of time was donated by volunteers including the Primary Club of Australia Management Committee, the Charities Sub-Committee, photographers at events, the Auditors and Legal Advisors, volunteers and members who donated their time for events such as our North Sydney Oval Festival, various charity project openings, social cricket matches and the golf days.

## LIFE MEMBERS

D Benaud	BW Collins KC	R Coleman	JGW Erby AM
RJ Glover OAM	ACF Harris	PG Howarth OAM	RB Tubbs

## PRESIDENT

Jim Maxwell AM

## TWELFTH MAN & PATRON

Mark Taylor AO

## DEPUTY PRESIDENT

Richard Glover OAM

## PREVIOUS PRESIDENTS

Jonathan Erby AM 1974 – 1984  
Ken Archer AM 1986 – 1990  
Peter Philpott OAM 1996 – 2002

Peter Howarth OAM 1984 - 1986  
Rodney Tubbs 1990 - 1996  
Bruce Collins KC 2002 - 2009

## VICE PRESIDENTS

GS Chappell AO MBE	IM Chappell	M Coward AM	DW Fleming
RN Harvey MBE	RB Simpson AO	KD Walters MBE	ME Waugh AM

## AMBASSADORS

Alex Blackwell	Ed Cowan	Pat Cummins	Matt De Groot (on leave)
Shaun Marsh	Lisa Sthalekar	Simon Taufel	Liesl Tesch AM MP (on leave)
Damien Thomlinson			

## HON SECRETARY/PUBLIC OFFICER

Brad Oldridge

## HON TREASURER

Mark Phipps

## HON AUDITOR

Simon Joyce CA from  
SDJA Audit Specialists

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Derick Borean	Tim Breene	Stephanie Brantz	Gavan Carroll
Nathan Dale	Geoff Elliott	Colin Hackwood (Vic/Tas)	Kate Parker
Nathan Reay	Rob Stevenson	Andrew Wildblood	

## CHARITY DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Geoffrey Verco

## OFFICE MANAGER & EVENT COORDINATOR

Mahalia Hicks

## GOLDEN DUCK DONORS

The Primary Club of Australia gratefully acknowledges our major donors.

## GOLDEN DUCK INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Anthony Bartley SC	Edgar Baltins	John Benaud	Michael Beverley	Christine Bishop
Richard Blaiklock	Geoff Campbell	Anthony Clarke	Ian Coleman SC	Gordon Davis
Drew Dixon	Stuart Dixon	Peter Eichhorn	Christine Erby OAM	Jon Erby AM
Sheryn Foord	Patrick Gallagher	Rick Gazzard	Richard Glover OAM	Michael Gregg
Edward Griffin	Michael Hawker AM	Bob Hennessy	Alan Hill	Peter Howarth OAM
Greg Judd	Larry King SC	David Lee	Richard Lee AM	Robert Lee
Robin Low	Pamela Lumb	Peter Maiden SC	Alan McGibbon	John McMurtrie AM
Wendy Mesley	Michael O'Dea	Richard Pegum	Ernest Pope	Linton Ritchie
Joseph Scarcella	Julian Sexton	David Syme	Douglas Thompson AM	Gayle Tollifson
Stephen Toomey	Steve Whelan	Andrew Wildblood	Chris Wokes	Ian Wright

## GOLDEN DUCK CORPORATE DONORS

Allen & Unwin	Argenti	Australian Food & Beverage	Betr	Breene & Breene
CGU	Chubb	Equinix	ESPN/Disney	FDC Building
Goodman	Hentley Farm	Last Man Stands	Magnolia Lane	NOVA
NSW Government	Ord Minnett	Seccom Global	Steadfast	Sura
The Content Professionals	Vocus			



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As we close our 50th year of operations, this Annual Report provides considerable insight into the success of our special events in 2024/25, such as the Baggy Green Dinner, Primary Club Cricket Team's recent season, our Golf Classic at St Michael's Golf Club, Sydney Test Breakfast and the North Sydney Oval Festival. We also enjoyed a re-connection with our cricket cousins in Victoria, promoting events for Taverners Victoria and Australia Cricket Society.

Our financial reports demonstrate a healthy surplus with increased donations and profits from our events. Donations increased in part due to the Aussie cricketers who suffered the embarrassment of scoring a 'primary' in international cricket matches – 13 of them, in fact! This in turn enables the Club to assist more charity projects.

More importantly, chair of our Charities Sub-Committee, Derick Borean reports on the 10 new charity projects approved during the year and where they will make a positive difference. At the Dinner, we celebrated another three amazing athletes as winners of the Sir Roden Cutler Award.

We have an exciting summer of cricket coming up. Our Australia Women's teams command respect from all comers in all forms of the game. Our Men's teams have the potential to do the same, but seem to lack consistency, mainly in the top order batting ranks. The Ashes Summer, when we host traditional rivals in the 5-day format, promises to be one of the best in decades.

Already we have almost sold out our Sydney Test Breakfast, plus seats in our A Reserve sections at the Adelaide, Brisbane and Sydney Tests.

I wish to recognise the invaluable role played by our Ambassadors through the year. Recently, Damien Thomlinson joined their ranks. Damien, a former Sir Roden Cutler Awardee is a regular attendee at our functions. Liesl Tesch AM MP has agreed to be our parliamentary host at the next Baggy Green Dinner, now moved out to July 2026. Matt De Groot has sought 'leave of absence' while in the UK but will return to MC our Sydney Breakfast on 4th January.

During this 50th Anniversary Year, we encourage Members to renew your membership, invite your colleagues, friends and family members to join in the fun-raising, and volunteer where and when you have the time. Have a wonderful year ahead!

Jim Maxwell,  
President



(Above) Jim Maxwell presiding over the Baggy Green Dinner and Test Breakfast

(Right) the Pat Cummins signed cricket ball celebrating 50 years



# PRIMARIANS AT PLAY



**THE PRIMARY CLUB OF AUSTRALIA INC**  
ABN: 88 136 792 377  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 10757

PO Box 112 Collaroy Beach NSW 2097  
member@primaryclub.com  
0403 606 224  
www.primaryclub.com

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
All Member are invited to attend

DATE: Thursday 23 October 2025  
VENUE: Tattersalls Club  
181 Elizabeth St, Sydney  
TIME: 6.00pm  
RSVP: 16 October 2025

Members can attend via video conference.  
Details will be shared upon RSVP.

Members are encouraged to nominate for  
positions on the Management Committee in  
advance of the AGM.

## STAY CONNECTED

facebook.com/primaryclubofaustralia/

X.com/PrimaryClubAust

instagram.com/primaryclubaust/

## UPGRADE YOUR MEMBERSHIP TO GOLDEN DUCK DONOR STATUS!

Standard Members pay a subscription fee of \$50 per annum, plus the 'donation fines' currently \$130. However, you may wish to consider donating at least \$1,000 each year and we will recognise your contribution with the highly regarded 'Golden Duck Donor' classification. As you know, 100% of all donations go straight into our charities trust and are fully tax-deductible.

Golden Duck Donors enjoy privileges such as preferential seating at our events, access to our VIP guests, and invitations to special 'thank-you' functions. If you love the work the Primary Club of Australia does, then please help us by upgrading your membership today, by making a \$1,000 donation via the link on the website home page, or calling Mahalia on 0403 606 224.





# FINANCIAL REPORT

## PRIMARY CLUB OF AUSTRALIA INC SUMMARISED UNAUDITED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Year Ended 30 June 2025

### REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

The operating surplus of the Club for the year, post donations paid or committed, was \$53,729 (FY24 deficit of \$4,419). The Club's continuing efforts during the year consisted of organising and undertaking fundraising activities with the purpose of donating funds raised to specific causes as agreed upon by the Club, in accordance with the Club's Charter. A summary of the financial performance is set out below.

	FY25	FY24
<b>Total revenue</b>	500,320	397,910
<b>Surplus before donation</b>	170,738	95,356
<b>Donation committed/ paid</b>	(117,009)	(99,775)
<b>Operating surplus/deficit</b>	53,729	(4,419)

Comments on the operations and the results of those operations are set out below:

**a)** The Club has continued with the policies of recognising any commitment to pay a donation when the donation is approved by the Charities Sub-Committee, or General Committee, in accordance with the authorisation limits set. This provides a clearer picture of the Club's ability to meet current and future donation obligations.

**b)** After donations paid and committed to charities of \$117,009, the Club recorded an operating surplus of \$53,729 for FY25.

**c)** The Club recorded increased total revenue in FY25 compared to FY24, due to two major events, the Baggy Green Dinner and the St Michael's Golf Day.

**d)** Cricket match fees remained similar to last year.

**e)** Operating expenses (excluding donations paid and committed) were \$13k higher in FY25 compared to FY24, mainly due to increased function expenses. The committee continuously reviews our expenses and assesses ways to optimise our efficiency, although we are not unique in encountering challenges due to rising costs linked to increases in the cost of living. Where possible we have tried to keep event fees flat, so costs to members do not increase.

**f)** The Club remains in the position where every tax-deductible donation received by the Club is used in our charity program.

### Insurance

During the financial year, the Club paid a premium of \$2,341 (FY24: \$2,005) to insure the committee members, volunteers and special risks.

### Auditor

SDJA has been engaged to act as the Club's auditor since June 2020.

### Significant Changes in State of Affairs

There were no significant changes in the Club's state of affairs that occurred during the financial year.

### Principal Activities

The principal activity of the Club during the year consisted of organising and undertaking fundraising activities with the purpose of donating funds raised to specific causes as agreed upon by the Club, in accordance with the Club's charter.

Signed on behalf of the members of the Management Committee.

**Mark Phipps**

**Honorary Treasurer**

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS and other Comprehensive Income

	FY25	FY24
<b>Revenue</b>		
Revenue from contracts with customers	65,787	40,281
Other Income	434,533	357,629
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>500,320</b>	<b>397,910</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Administration & other operating costs	(41,335)	(45,537)
Contractors	(105,339)	(108,481)
Cricket match fees	(8,960)	(18,493)
Donations	(117,009)	(99,775)
Fundraising expenses	(173,949)	(130,043)
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>(446,591)</b>	<b>(402,329)</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit Before Income Tax</b>	<b>53,729</b>	<b>(4,419)</b>
<b>Net Surplus/Deficit for the year</b>	<b>53,729</b>	<b>(4,419)</b>
<b>Total comprehensive (loss)/income</b>	<b>53,729</b>	<b>(4,419)</b>

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	30-Jun-25	30-Jun-24
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Currents</b>		
Cash & cash equivalents	315,097	303,427
Trade & other receivables	9,448	4,076
Other assets	118,836	25,164
<b>Current Assets</b>		
<b>Non-Current</b>		
Other financial assets	1,164	1,164
<b>Non-Current assets</b>	<b>1,164</b>	<b>1,164</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>444,545</b>	<b>333,831</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Trade and other payables	73,181	65,557
Contract liabilities	71,721	22,360
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>144,902</b>	<b>87,917</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>144,902</b>	<b>87,917</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>299,643</b>	<b>245,914</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Accumulated Funds	299,643	245,914
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>299,643</b>	<b>245,914</b>



# OUR CHARITY DONATIONS

In the 2024-2025 financial year, the Primary Club of Australia approved 10 new applications for funding from our charity partners. In total, new grant commitments for the year came to \$117,009. Member contributions continue to make a substantial difference to the lives of countless people living with disabilities across Australia. Some of the funding approvals included:

- Boccia Australia, \$7,427 for 'start-up kits' for Vincentia, NSW.
- Autism Spectrum ('Aspect'), \$50,000 for gross motor skills play space at Vern Barnett School, NSW
- Making Waves Foundation, \$5,934 for safety equipment for training yacht, Geelong, VIC
- Disability Sports Australia, \$7,500 for 'accessibility champion' equipment kits
- Rainbow Club, \$8,346 for swim caps for 500 children in squad events
- Community Rowing, \$7,197 for ease-of-use rowing equipment, NSW
- Manly Wheel Eagles, \$7,500 via Sargood for junior wheelchairs for basketball, NSW
- Goalball Australia, \$6,394 for equipment for national squad
- Sailability Townsville, \$11,215 for new sailing dinghy, QLD
- Blind Cricket Aust, \$1,306 for equipment for BCA's women's training

I wish to acknowledge the great work by Shirley Beaumont Owles and Brad Oldridge who continue their valuable contributions on the Sub-Committee.

**Derick Borean**  
**Chair, Charities Sub-Committee**

## WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL

"Primary Club Members would be very pleased to know that the basketball wheelchair funded by the Primary Club is getting very good use indeed, by one of our players, Saxon.

"Saxon is one of our local players, who represented the Manly Wheel Eagles in the recent State League competition. He is 21 years old and sustained his spinal cord injury in the last two years. Having a purpose-built low pointer chair for people who have a high spinal cord injury, like Saxon, is imperative for safety and building confidence.

"The Manly Wheel Eagles won the State League competition a few weeks ago, which was a massive achievement."

### **Elisa Spano** **Wheelchair Basketball**



Saxon in action using the new wheelchair the Primary Club funded at Manly Wheel Eagles



# OUR CHARITY DONATIONS

## SAILABILITY TOWNSVILLE

"I would very much like to thank all at the Primary Club for your very kind donation of Golden Duck 2! Having a new boat makes a huge difference to our club and now we are able to get even more people out on the water and having fun. We are very excited to have another boat in operation and very much appreciate your generosity in making this donation.

"We held a launch ceremony for our new Golden Duck 2 on 5th of June at the disability pontoon at the Townsville Recreational Boat Park. Many thanks once again!"

**Andrew Shook**  
*President, Sailability Townsville*



Images from Sailability Townsville (above) and Abilities Unleashed (right)



## DISABILITY SPORTS

The kits funded by the Primary Club include 8 large kit bags, containing cones, first aid kits, audible footballs, ball nets, blind balls for soccer, basketball and cricket, tennis kit, hula hoops and more for DSA's Abilities Unleashed program. The kits have already been loaned out for events in regional centres such as Wyndham VIC, Georges River, Blacktown, Liverpool, Fairfield and Lake Macquarie.

Kristy explains, "These kits will be going to members of the community who are delivering inclusive programs and doing amazing work in the disability sport space. The initiative will be called Accessibility Champion of the Month, recognising and celebrating those who are making a real difference in creating opportunities for people with disability to participate in sport and recreation.

"We think this is a great initiative because it not only acknowledges the effort of individuals and clubs but also inspires others in the community to think about accessibility and inclusion in their own programs. It helps to build a culture where everyone's participation is valued and supported.

"We really appreciate Primary Club's support in making this possible for our community."

**Kristy Rohrer**  
*Disability Sports Australia*



# OPERATIONS & EVENTS

The spirit of volunteering is what helps our charity progress and achieve new milestones helping our target community of 4.4 million Australians living with a disability.

Our Members and their guests experienced a busy 2024/25 summer with all the international and local cricket being played, plus the range of the Primary Club's own events.

***Nathan Dale,***  
***Director of Operations***

## THE ST MICHAEL'S GOLF CLASSIC 2025

Ranked in the top 10 golf courses in NSW, and in the top 50 nationally, St Michael's golf course was in great condition despite many rainy days in the weeks prior to our event. The Club attracted 95 players on 14th May; 28 of them played in foursomes entered by our gracious hole sponsors - Allen & Unwin, Betr, FDC Building, Goodman, Ord Minnett, Nova Entertainment, NSW Government and SURA/Austagencies.

The presence of those sponsors, plus our wine supplier Hentley Farm, had a positive impact on the day, enabling us to raise almost \$45k for our designated charity commitments at Cerebral Palsy Alliance and the Rainbow Club. We appreciate the support from prize donors – Golf to the Max, Rugby Australia, Bonville Resort, Australian Golf Club, Rich River Golf Club, Mi Casa Patonga, Gai Waterhouse, Allen & Unwin and St Michael's Golf Club,

President Jim Maxwell and another 10 people – volunteers and partners - joined the 'Field Day Buffet' that followed. Jim greeted all the players and listened to their mournful stories about on-course performances.

Stephanie Brantz was MC on the day with help from Tim Gilbert.

North Sydney Hotel once again donated the 'Tower of Beer' on the 8th fairway.

Primarians at Play- Gold Day Winners, Greg Stark and the Borean Team

Winners on the day in the 4BBB format were as follows:

- Perpetual Team Event – Derick Borean's Team comprising Toby Roderick, Paul Tannock and Kristopher Mason (119 pts)\*
- Mixed Team Event – Stephen Whelan, Ann Bennett, Stephen & Lynne Toomey (99)
- Ladies Single – Cathie Thompson (29)
- Men's Single – Greg Stark and Yves Silveira (41)

\*It's interesting to point out that 8 teams were within 9 points of the winners; so a very competitive field.

Finally, we want to recognise and thank our volunteers on the day, in particular Trish and Vivian helped with selling raffle tickets. Well done, all of you!

***Ken Glover and Gavan Carroll***  
***Event Coordinators***







(Above) Tim Gilbert chatting with Morgan Turinui about the forthcoming International Rugby season

## SYDNEY TEST BREAKFAST

We were thrilled to host almost 390 members and guests at our annual Test Breakfast on 3rd January – a prelude to Australia hosting India in the Sydney Test, in the presence of Twelfth Man Mark Taylor AO, President Jim Maxwell AM and MC Brett Sprigg. (This was our largest number of guests since 2018 and before COVID when 448 attended the England breakfast.)

Highlights included the panel interview with Mark Taylor, Ed Cowan and ESPNcricinfo's deputy editor Andrew McGlashan, and a bit later an informative chat with NSW Wheelchair Basketballers Rhys Baxter and Koen Jansens, the latter a winner of our Sir Roden Cutler Award in 2024.

\$32,500 was raised for approved applications for special treadmill equipment at Cerebral Palsy Alliance sites in Orange and Wollongong. Special thanks to our corporate supporters – Goodman, Argenti and Breene & Breene.

We look forward to January 2026, when the SCG will be hosting England in what will be a great Test Match contest.

**Rick Glover,**  
**Deputy President**

Primarians at St Michaels Golf Day including the winning Toomey/Whelan Team, and Ladies Champion Cathie Thompson



# OPERATIONS & EVENTS



St John Medical Service provided first aid consultants on both days, sponsored by Steadfast and SURA respectively. This year there were no serious injuries amongst the players, apart from some wounded pride and muscle soreness. Thanks again to St John and those sponsors.

Each evening, we invited the Last Man Stands (“LMS”) organisation to stage some demonstration T20 games, with their players also helping to raise funds for the Club. Finally, special thanks to our 14 volunteers over the two days! They maintained their enthusiasm throughout, as did Andy, Phil, Kris and the team of LMS umpires and scorers, who kept the program on schedule and provided instant updates on the scores and rankings. Great work, guys!

Over \$38,000 was raised for our charities over the two-day festival, another great result.

## **Marathon Cricket XIII**

We were pleased to host four corporate teams on the Monday – Equinix, the Breene Machine, newcomers Goodman and a PCA Invitation XI. The format was a four-way round-robin tournament with rankings determined by net run rate (‘NRR’). The top two teams played a five-over final playoff, where the reigning champions Breene Machine defeated Goodman by a comfortable 18-run margin.

## **Insurance Ashes VII**

A big shout out to the insurance industry teams who participated – Austbrokers/SURA, CGU, Chubb and newcomer NRMA Insurance. Reigning champions, Steadfast Group, were unable to participate but still chipped in as an event sponsor.

Following a similar format to Monday’s event, we had a four-way round-robin tournament. In an amazing final, it came down to the very last ball, where Austbrokers/SURA defeated NRMA by just 3 runs. Smiles all round and lots of ‘high-fives’!

***Geoffrey Verco,***  
***Charity Development Manager***



Primarians at Play-India Test Breakfast on 4th January; (right) Wheelchair basketballers-Koen Jansens and Rhys Baxter



## **NORTH SYDNEY OVAL FESTIVAL**

Following our success in the last six summers, we were granted access to the fabulous North Sydney Oval once again to allow the Primary Club to host two charity cricket days - ‘Marathon Cricket XIII’ on Monday 3rd March and ‘Insurance Ashes VII’ on the Tuesday. By compacting the program somewhat, we also included ‘The Breakfast Plate’ early on the Monday morning, for club and social teams. Despite rain in the forecast for both days, the cricket gods looked down on us, and we did not lose one minute due to weather. Thanks again to curator Jordan Magro and the hard-working ground staff!



# OPERATIONS & EVENTS



## THE BAGGY GREEN DINNER 2024

The 'Baggy Green Dinner' incorporating the Sir Roden Cutler Awards honouring the significance of representing one's country was held at the Sydney Cricket Ground Noble Dining Room on Thursday 25th September. It was truly an inspirational experience, with 200 Members and guests in attendance. The Sir Roden Cutler Award is named in honour of the longest-serving Governor of New South Wales, Sir Roden Cutler (Governor from 1966 to 1981) and our first Patron and Twelfth Man. The Award is presented for outstanding sporting achievement and contribution by a person with a disability.

The finalists who each receive a medal and a charity grant of \$7,500 were:

- Bronte Marshall, para-athlete, who has represented Australia in international swimming and rowing events winning multiple medals.
- Rae Anderson, a dual summer and winter Paralympian and more recently a "Para Matilda".
- Koen Jansens, a former international basketballer representing Netherlands and teams in Italy and Spain. Koen is Co-Founder & Board Director of Wheelchair Basketball Australia (WBA).

As Koen was unable to attend, his medal was accepted by fellow basketballer, Rhys Baxter, who proved to be an entertaining ambassador for the sport. Our MC Stephanie Brantz conducted the award ceremony with grace, dignity and just a hint of emotion.

Other highlights included President Jim's 'interview' with former Aussie cricketer (and comedian) Wayne Phillips, plus a fireside chat between renowned journalists Peter Lalor and Mike Coward.

## **Nathan Dale** **Director of Operations**

Primarians at Play- Cricket Festival at North Sydney Oval in March;

(Facing page)- the Baggy Green Dinner in September including Ambassadors Lisa Sthalekar and Alex Blackwell with Hon Vice-President Mike Coward, plus other VIPs Daphne Benaud and Sir Roden Cutler awardee Rae Anderson; Mark Taylor, Wayne Phillips, Dr Anthony Cutler and MC Stephanie Brantz



# OPERATIONS & EVENTS



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Primary Club has reserved a block of Seats for the Sydney, Adelaide and Brisbane Test Matches. Members interested should contact the office without delay.

## SYDNEY

***Annual General Meeting,***  
Tattersalls Club, Sydney  
Thursday 23rd October

***Ashes Test Match Breakfast,***  
SFS/Allianz  
Sunday 4th January

***Marathon Cricket,***  
North Sydney Oval  
2nd & 3rd March

***Primary Club Golf Classic,***  
St Michael's Golf Club  
13th May

***Baggy Green Dinner,***  
NSW Parliament House  
Wednesday 23rd July

## MELBOURNE

***Boxing Day Ashes Test Breakfast***  
with Taverners Victoria  
Saturday 26th December





# VALE

## THE HON ROGER GYLES AO KC

1939-2025

Roger, a Foundation Member and Golden Duck Donor of the Primary Club of Australia, passed away in early March, aged 86. He held various judicial appointments in NSW in a period spanning three decades after distinguished practice as a solicitor and barrister, culminating in his time as Acting Judge of Appeal in 2008. Other judicial roles included the Supreme Court of the ACT, Australian Competition Tribunal and Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

Roger's foremost dedication was to his family and then his love of sport, particularly cricket and rugby. He was a keen cricketer in his younger days and served several years as President of the Sydney University Cricket Club and the Killara Golf Club. Roger was a regular attendee at Primary Club functions over many years.



(Above) Roger Gyles; (Left) Robert Horsell OAM;  
(Below) Shaan Verco

## SHAAN ELIZABETH VERCO

1943-2025

Shaan had been a Primary Club member for almost 30 years, and a tireless volunteer for the charity, mainly supporting her husband Geoff in his role as Development Manager. Shaan attended most Dooralong matches, charity functions and fund-raising events over those decades, often helping with 'meet and greet', selling raffle tickets, setting up rooms and clearing up afterwards. Many will recall the 10 or so cricket tours with the Primary Club, where she would organise the local town and sight-seeing activities while the 'blokes' played their matches. All the other females in the squad became her 'besties'!

Shaan passed on 13th May, the day before the Club's annual golf day. Deputy President Rick Glover led the players in a moment's tribute at the beginning of the event.



## ROBERT ERIC HORSELL OAM

1940-2025

Bob Horsell was another long-time member of the Primary Club. His obituary records that he was a 'cricket tragic through and through' and a senior administrator, a great lover of all sports but especially Easts Cricket and Rugby Clubs. Bob served as Chairman of the NSW Cricket Association and as a Director of The Australian Cricket Board. In 2012, he was awarded the OAM for services to Cricket Administration.

One of the most widely revered cricket administrators in the country, Bob dedicated over six decades of service to the sport, tirelessly serving the cricket community since 1959.



# SYDNEY CRICKET REPORT

Greg Stark took the reins as the new Club Cricket Captain, with Andy Wildblood adding his leadership and mentorship as Cricket Club President. We also welcomed a new Cricket Secretary, Ross Anderson (with Rob Stevenson providing enormous support from across the globe to transition Ross into this enormous role). Damian Frittum, Craig McIntyre and Jon Prior resumed their committee roles to help bring the season to life.

We attracted some fresh new talent over the off-season, including Lachie Border, Andrew West, Raj Kiran and Omair Khan. We also added new young talent including Finn Harricks (Pat Cummins doppelganger!), Hugo Neville and Oliver Scott, as well as seasoned cricketers such as Steven Sheakey, Matthew Needham and Susrith Vasansetti.

## Season highlights and milestones include:

- Captain Greg Stark becoming the first player to reach 100 matches for the club, while Damian Frittum and Vince Creagh both reached 50 matches for the club.
- In the Jack Pace Shield we tasted defeat vs Old Aloys in our first ever JPS Final.
- Yet another loss (that's 40+ in a row!) vs an incredibly talented Blind Cricket NSW XI at Bankstown.
- The Challenge Shield match vs Fire & Rescue NSW XI, and battling it out vs Barker College at Barker College, two new matches on the annual PCA fixture
- With the sad passing of Jim Hadley, who played a number of games for Primary Club, The Jim Hadley Memorial Trophy match was played and won by Primary Club against Cricketers Club, and will be an annual fixture, including a post-match "Shoes off for Jim" ritual.



Primarians at Play- images from various cricket matches through the season, including our blind game (above) at Bankstown, and Damian Frittum (left) after scoring 72 in the Jim Hadley Memorial against CC NSW at Camperdown

## Congratulations to our season award winners

### Batting Award

Greg Stark, 263 runs (20.23 ave.)

### Bowling Award

Damian Frittum, 17 wickets (14.76 ave.)

### Fielding Award

Finn Harricks, 5 catches and 1 run out

### Highest Score

Kris Corbett, 80 vs Sydney University at Shore

### Best Bowling

Steven Sheakey, 3 for 7 vs Knox Old Boys at St Lukes Oval

### Best Team Man

Craig McIntyre, tireless efforts for the club and the team

### Jim Maxwell Award

Matthew Needham, with 174 runs (24.86 ave.), 7 wickets (20.14 ave.)

A special thank you to the The Primary Club of Australia Charity and its committee for giving us a meaningful purpose while playing this great game.

## Greg Stark

### Cricket Club Captain







The Primary Club  
acknowledges the  
contribution of our  
corporate supporters

THE PRIMARY CLUB OF AUSTRALIA INC  
PO BOX 112  
COLLAROY BEACH NSW 2097

Contact us at:  
member@primaryclub.com  
0403 606 224

Keep up to date with events, news and the charities we support; see  
[primaryclub.com](http://primaryclub.com)

Providing sports & recreation opportunities for people with disabilities  
CFN: 10757  
ABN: 88 136 792 377

