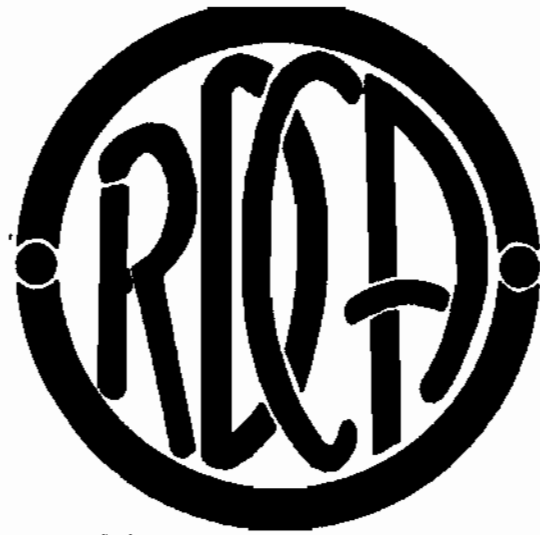


**Ringwood
&
District Cricket
Association Inc.**



1995/96

Annual Report

Barry Street

*Presented to Club Delegates at the Annual General Meeting
held at Ainslie Park on Wednesday 26 April, 1996.*



RINGWOOD & DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION Inc.

OFFICE BEARERS - SEASON 1995 - 96

Patron:	Mr. W. D. Dean OAM	
President:	Mr. W. Wilkins	
Vice President:	Mr. S. Pascoe	
Treasurer:	Mrs. J. Newey	
Registration Secretaries:	Mr. S.N. Newey (Snr.) Mr. D. Simkin (Jnr.)	
Executive Officers:	Messrs: R. Ellis, D. Beatty N. Tull, J. Tynan D. Cant, Mrs A. Pascoe	
Delegate to the C.U.O.V. Inc.	Mr. L. Trollope	
Junior Secretary:	Mr. J. Luscombe	
Umpire Association Secretary:	Mr. P. Meehan	
Match Committee Chairman:	Mr. N. Tull	
Tribunal Chairman:	Mr. J. Mc Millan	
Tribunal Members:	Messrs: P. Ricci, N. Tucker	
Life Members:	J. Austin (dec.) W. Baldwin (dec.) F. V. Bibby A. G. Bonnet G. L. Chandler (dec.) F. Clota (dec.) W. D. Dean R. Ellis J. Goodall (dec.) P. James (dec.) R. C. Johnston (dec.) H. F. Matthews P. J. Mc Callum S. N. Newey S. J. Pascoe C. Puddyphatt (dec.) L. C. Salvana (dec.) D. Smith N. J. Taylor A. Wescott (dec.) M. E. Williams (dec.)	R. W. Baldwin W. J. Barkway (dec.) A. R. Bisset I. W. Callen G. Chapman (dec.) M. Cooper (dec.) K. J. Dunham (dec.) P. Eadie (dec.) J. F. Hodgkins K. Johnston S. Lennard (dec.) L. H. Mc Leod (dec.) A. J. Neil (dec.) A. Pascoe E. Pegler (dec.) A. L. Reidy C. E. Sleeman (dec.) R. Stoney (dec.) L. Trollope W. R. Wilkins

General Secretary: **Mr. L. Trollope** **Ph: 9727 2337/ 9727 1229**
68 Woodville Road **Fax: 9727 1206**
Mooroolbark 3138

President's Report

The 1995/96 season was one of generally good cricketing weather excepting, of course, the mandatory rain during the opening round. The finals were delayed to a minor degree by the inclement weather, however all but three of the matches were completed in the scheduled 2 days, the exception being CH 1 and 2 and C2. The season was a resounding success for the Association, with close contests in the senior grades right up to the final round.

Congratulations to the Ferntree Gully club who earned the Chandler 1 premiership with a clear win over a persistent Norwood. Congratulations also to North Ringwood and Knox City who captured the A and B grades flags to earn promotion in 1996/97 to Chandler Shield and A Grade respectively. The Northerners won a desperately close contact with old rivals, East Ringwood while Knox City took the points against a gallant Wantirna eleven.

The victory of Ferntree Gully was most significant as the club has only been with the RDCA for three years and in that time has secured 4 premierships including this seasons Chandler 1 and the A grade (west) title in 1993/94.

Changes were required to be made to the A and B grade fixtures when Wantirna advised they would not be able to field the minimum number of teams needed to play in A Grade. South Warrandyte returned to A Grade while Wantirna took over that club's fixture in B Grade. Further changes were made to B Grade resulting in the abandonment of B3, where the teams from that grade were moved into the C division.

The Executive agreed to experiment with a one-day grade and, despite some early difficulties, the trial was considered a success. The rules were varied to some extent and more changes will occur in 1996/97 when it is anticipated the grade will expand. Some concern was expressed that the grade may have a detrimental effect on the Veterans and the Executive will maintain close liaison with the vets executive to ensure this will not happen.

We were happy to welcome Kookaburra and Callen Cricket as sponsors for the season. In anticipation of the return from the sponsorship, the Executive, acting on advice from the Treasurer, agreed to maintain charges at the same level as in 1994/95. Fortunately the return matched our expectations and we were most appreciative of the support from the sponsors.

Two functions were conducted with the Presidents of the clubs and these were very productive, serving as a sounding board to improve the effectiveness of the Association.

One of our concerns was that our computer system was not keeping pace with our needs. The Executive agreed that an upgrade of the facilities should be undertaken by the payment, by clubs, of a special levy. It is anticipated that the new system will be in place by the commencement of the 1996/97 season.

With the retirement and/or movement of several top umpires there was some concern expressed at the standard of umpiring in the season, but with the experience gained and good training by David Rashleigh the standard was restored to its previous high level by the latter part of the season.

President's Report cont.

The junior competition continued to provide a good environment for our young cricketers to learn and enjoy the game, and the creation of an under 10 competition last season was a fine example of meeting the needs of our young cricketers.

Over the past years we have been proud of the quality and dedication of our Junior Administrators and this year's committee under the leadership of Ian Spencer is no exception.

The Association had great success in the Inter-Association games at both senior and junior level and to all who assisted in this area my special thanks. David Beatty (under 18 and 21) and Neil Tull (open) worked tirelessly to ensure that the senior area of the Association was represented by the best talent available.

My thanks to members of the Association for their support and encouragement in RDCA matters and special thanks to our Secretary. Lindsay, despite some serious family illness problems during the season, has always performed the minor miracles we have come to expect.

We have some difficulties ahead in dealing with the best approach for the future of B Grade. The Executive will need to work closely with the clubs involved to ensure that the decision is one which truly reflects the wishes of its members and sets a firm foundation for the Association to progress into the future.

Bill Wilkins

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

The opening round of the season was again curtailed by rain with some games being restricted to only a few overs while others were able to reach a decision. The real drama of the early part of the season was the decision of the Wantirna to forfeit their A Grade place due to the inability to guarantee enough players to field three teams each match, a compulsory requirement to compete in A Grade. To the great credit of Wantirna, they moved to B Grade and regrouped to the stage that they participated in the Grand Final.

Yours truly added to the drama of the early season by wondering why I was getting queries with the Chandler fixture. A check indicated that I had put the original draft of the fixture in the computer rather than the final product. Fortunately the first four rounds were the same and some new pages were printed for the fixture to replace the rogue ones and the season continued with relatively few hiccups.

The weather was again on its best behaviour for the majority of the season, and although three of the finals were forced into a second weekend because of rain on the first day, I was of the view that when the last ball of the finals was bowled and the final run made we had completed another highly satisfying cricket season in the RDCA.

The 1995/96 season officially commenced on 16 August, 1995 when the 76th Annual Meeting was conducted in the Ainslie Park clubrooms. Bill Wilkins was re-elected as President for his 8th term which is a true indication of the regard that the clubs have in Bill's leadership. One of the principal reasons for the reputation that the RDCA has in cricket circles is that it has had stable leadership over a long period. Only two Presidents have served since 1968, the secretarial position has been occupied by only two people over the past 24 years (one of whom is, of course, the present Vice President), the Registration Secretary has been in that position since the mid-seventies while we all know of the longevity of the previous Treasurer. Some could say that familiarity breeds contempt, but I believe it has caused a most happy working environment and provides for, in the main, trouble free cricket seasons at the Administration level. However nothing I have written precludes other people from seeking to be appointed to the Executive.

As Bill mentioned in his report we introduced a one-day grade and this proved to be relatively successful. The grade will continue in 1996/97 with some revised rules, with particular reference to bonus points and single innings.

B Grade did cause some concern in that Ringwood, due to no fault of the club, was unable to play and/or continue in some of the rounds. The Executive discussed the matter at several of its meetings and the following motion was passed unanimously:-

"The Executive is committed to making B Grade a more viable competition and that consideration will be given to a regrade of the existing A and B grades to ensure this can be attained in season 1996/97"

This was advised to the clubs in Circular No. 8 with a request from input from clubs. At the President's Function held in February, it was accepted that every effort should be made to ensure the success of the above motion.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT cont.

An agreement was reached with Kookaburra for the exclusive use of the company's balls for seasons 1995/96 to 1997/98 (inclusive) subject to satisfactory performance of the balls. Several requests were made during the season asking if there were any problems with the balls. Only two complaints were received with one of these being limited to criticism of the lasting quality of the balls for practice. The Executive have advised Kookaburra that the original agreement is now binding on both organisations.

The members of the Executive were again to the forefront in playing their part in the administration of the Association. Joan Newey continued her role as Treasurer with valuable assistance, as always, from Stuart who also remained in the position of Registration Secretary. Stuart, in his report, made some comments about the amount of fines imposed on clubs. There is no doubt that the fines would be even higher if Stuart implemented the rules to the letter of the law, but Stuart applies a most common sense attitude to these matters.

Pat Meehan must be complimented on the work he has undertaken in the position of Secretary of the Umpires Association and its representative on the Executive over the past year. Unfortunately his wife, Lex, has not been in very good health for the better part of the past twelve months and this has added to the stresses of the job. I am sure Pat must have thought about retiring from the position, but with the loss of so many experienced umpires from the panel, he continued throughout the full season and a fitting reward was his appointment to stand in the Chandler 1 final.

Ann Pascoe continued in her role as Social Convener and is always looking at ways to improve both the Vote Count and the Presentation Functions and the successes of both of these events was proof of Ann's input. Ann was again assisted at the functions by Steve and daughter Rachelle who completes the "Trifecta" of the Pascoe Family in its assistance to the RDCA. Rachelle also continued as our "telephone scores collector".

David Beatty, Neil Tull and Duncan Cant again formed the Match Committee, with David concentrating on the Under 18 and Under 21 teams while Neil and Duncan concerned themselves with the senior team. Further details of these games are located elsewhere in the report.

The man with the "Mobile" was again Ron Ellis who was able to move from Wonga Park to Ferntree Gully to Lilydale and to Scoresby with the speed of "Superman". I am sure the reason for the lower number of complaints from clubs over the past couple of seasons has been the ability of Ron to get to the trouble spot and quell the flames before they get out of control.

John Tynan who was the Junior Representative on the Executive last season relinquished that position when he retired as Junior President. He was quickly invited to stand for the Senior Committee and at the AGM he was elected by the delegates. John has contributed in many areas and gave great assistance to David Beatty in the management of the Under 18 team.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT cont.

Ian Spencer joined the Committee as the Junior Administration Representative and kept us abreast of the activities of this important area of the RDCA. Ian has continued the strong leadership that has been evident with the Junior Section since its administration was made a separate part of the Association more than 20 years ago. Jeff Luscombe also attended a number of meetings in his capacity of Junior Secretary.

It was a Tribunal free season, while there were sixteen namings under the Code of Conduct rules. One player was named for the third time which meant an automatic two match penalty.

As reported in a number of other places in this document, Ferntree Gully, in its third season in the Association, were clear winners in the Chandler competition while North Ringwood and Knox City will be moving up after winning the A and B Grades Pennants. All the details of the finals are in the Finals round-up section of this book.

The RDCA retained the senior Maddocks Shield in its game against the Box Hill Association in its retention of the trophy.

Ken Johnston and Brian Gobbi continued to provide leadership to the Veteran's competition and it goes without saying that the season was an outstanding success. The Dinner held at the Bird and Bottle was a great night and we look forward to the growth of the veterans Division in future seasons.

Bill Dean's keen interest in the Association continued and we were delighted that he expressed his willingness to accept the position of Patron for the 8th successive season. Bill is seen around the various grounds on Saturdays and he has been a strong worker for the Veterans. Bill is very keen on the concept of the Veterans as he tells us that it will not be many years before he will consider himself one of them.

A new innovation this year was the decision to invite clubs to tender for the finals. All clubs who responded were awarded with a senior final.

I express my sincere gratitude to the secretaries and other officials of the clubs for their excellent assistance during 1995/96.

I thank Beverley every year for her help to me and this year has been no different.

Season 1996/97 is quickly approaching and we look forward to another season of great cricket played under the objectives of the RDCA as outlined in paragraph 2 of the Constitution.

Lindsay Trollope

JUNIOR PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Having assumed the role of President, after only one year on the committee, I have been on a continual learning curve. The following comments reflect my observations of the season, but in general I was happy with the way things went.

Whilst the season progressed relatively smoothly, it was not without incident. All associated at junior level must work together to ensure that matches are played in the right spirit and within the code of conduct laws.

Season 1995/96 saw two significant changes :-

- [1] An Under 10 non-competitive grade was created and*
- [2] The introduction of "Proof of Age" for new registrations.*

Over recent years the number of junior teams fielded by some clubs has fallen alarmingly. In certain instances that continued in 95/96 and if the clubs concerned do not work extremely hard to reverse the decline it could have serious repercussions in the not too distant future.

The primary source of players for senior teams must be the flow-on from the junior ranks and failure to address this area will make life difficult. It has been stated before, but clubs who do not maximise the use of grounds, by fielding junior teams, run the risk of having councils review their access to the relative facility(ies).

To counter balance the previous comment, it was most pleasing to see quite a number of clubs address the issue at the base level through an Under 10 team or by involvement in the Vic-Hit program. The latter is a Victorian Cricket Association concept designed to expose the very young children to the game and teach them the basic fundamentals and rules before they progress to Under 10's or 12's.

Another pleasing aspect was a new team in Aquinas joining the Association. We hope this team is the forerunner to more in the future.

It is excellent to report sixty people have obtained the Level Coaching Accreditation qualification. This is an area that we see as of the utmost importance to the development of young cricketers and we plan to place more and more emphasis on this aspect in years to come.

The junior competition is funded through the senior committee but we are also fortunate to have sponsorship from the Veterans Association which this season provided caps (100) for boys in representative teams. Our thanks also to Paul Attfield from Topline Sports who arranged the caps, donated encouragement awards and organised the guest speaker (Ray Bright) for Presentation Night.

The Presentation Night was held at Yarra Valley Grammar School, an excellent venue which easily accommodated the large crowd. We thank the special guests who assisted with presentation of trophies.

JUNIOR PRESIDENT'S REPORT cont.

The finals provided competitive games with narrow margins in a number of contests. Congratulations to the clubs who won premierships and the individuals who excelled throughout the season.

The RDCA prides itself on being a strong junior competition and our representative teams, particularly the Under 16's who were undefeated, again did us proud. Congratulations to the players, team managers and all others who assisted in some capacity.

My final vote of thanks goes to fellow committeemen who have provided me with terrific support throughout the season. I fully appreciate the amount of work these people do and we are most fortunate to have capable people willing to take on the work.

We all have a common goal in providing junior cricketers with the best environment, conditions and facilities in which to develop their prowess and I hope that we can continue to work together to foster the game in our association.

Ian Spencer

JUNIOR SECRETARY'S REPORT

Once again we have come to the conclusion of another season. I am most thankful for the support given to me by the junior committee and the junior administrators in my first year as secretary.

The junior association comprised 34 clubs which fielded 142 teams and 1442 players. Of these over 600 were new registrations, with the introduction of the new grade of under 10's we would like to encourage clubs to participate in the continuation of this grade.

The association would like to congratulate all those players who participated in Dowling Shield (Under 16's), Hatch Shield (Under 14's) Keith Mitchell Shield (Under 12's) and the players who represented the RDCA in the IAAC Carnival.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Team Managers and club personnel who made the off-field team. My thanks also to Susan Davidson who did a great job collating the scores and ensuring that they got to the local newspapers. My thanks must also go to my wife Sue for all her help during the Season and my son for typing most of the minutes.

I felt honoured to be asked by both Croydon North and Parkwood to umpire the Under 16-1 last game of the home and away season which enabled me to see first hand the sportsmanship and the abilities of both sides at the highest level.

In conclusion I would like to thank all my junior Committee members who helped me so much throughout the season and to congratulate all premiership and individual RDCA awards winners.

Jeff Luscombe

REGISTRATION SECRETARY'S REPORT

From my position, the Association had a very successful season, especially when we look at the following statistics:-

<i>No. of clubs</i>	<i>35</i>
<i>No. of senior teams</i>	<i>154</i>
<i>No. of under-age teams</i>	<i>156</i>
<i>No. of registered players</i>	<i>6704</i>

104 clearances were processed and it was only necessary to convene a meeting of the Permit Committee on one occasion, at which it met to review the decision on 2 clearance applications, one of which was withdrawn on the night, while the other appeal was upheld.

We were able to provide a better service to clubs during the year despite the problems associated with a redraw of the lower grades after 2 rounds had been complete.

It is the Executive's aim to have our computer program rewritten in a more friendly manner for the start of the next season. This should enable us to supply additional information to clubs during the season.

Again let me, on behalf of the Association, thank my family for their support and assistance given to me in the performance of the functions of this position. Special thanks are extended to Betty Dunham for continuing to make available Ken's "computer room" to the RDCA for the processing of the results.

Stuart Newey

CRICKET UNION OF VICTORIA-DELEGATE'S REPORT

Eight meetings of the Union were held in the 1996/97 season. The Union, which is the parent body for all junior associations, has as one of its main charter, the need to make cricket's higher authorities aware of the valuable role played by its members in the advancement of the game in Victoria. In addition it plays a most important role in the development of under-age cricket with its promotion and sponsorship of the carnivals played over the holiday period in January.

The Union again provided scorebooks at a most competitive price and, as all clubs are aware, the book is the compulsory scorebook for all our under-age teams and is also used by a large majority of senior teams.

The VCA Facilities Fund (previously the Development Grant Scheme) is administered by the CUOV and I strongly recommend the scheme. The Scoresby club was beneficiary of the fund last season.

The RDCA extends its appreciation to Graham Roper, who will stand down as Secretary of the Union at the AGM in September, after many years of valued service. His contribution will be greatly missed.

The RDCA looks forward to a continuing close relationship with the Cricket Union of Victoria.

Lindsay Trollope

UMPIRES ASSOCIATION - SECRETARY'S REPORT

The season began with the election of a new President in Martin Pryusers, while the RDCA Executive appointed David Rashleigh as its Umpire Adviser. David was unable, due to his employment, to umpire on a regular basis, but he was able to visit games most Saturdays and offer on the spot assistance to both umpires and captains. Feedback from the clubs indicated that this initiative was very well received.

Our numbers were down at the start of the season due to employment changes, personal reasons and retirements. Umpires and players alike were saddened by the serious illness suffered by Michael Blogg. Michael had umpired the 94/95 Chandler 1 grand Final and we trust that he will be back with us in the next season. Frank Butler retired after decades of service to the Association. On the credit side we were fortunate to welcome the following to our ranks:-

*Ex players in: John Goss (Croydon North), Don Smith (St Andrews),
Mike Pendry (Croydon) and David Trueman (Kilsyth)*

*Umpires from other Associations: Mark Mulcahy(Williamstown), Darren Mc Corey (VTCA)
and Graham Dancey (Oakleigh)*

In addition we welcomed back: Ron Keyhoe, Tony Mc Adam-Roberts and Andy O'Sullivan while Gavin Lawlor decided it was time to give umpiring a go. A total of 46 umpires were officiating by the final round and we were able for most of the season to provide 2 umpires in the first elevens of the two top grades and, on occasions, in B1.

The Umpires again officiated at senior and junior representative game, IACC and Mitchell Shield carnivals and also at some under-age matches against New South Wales secondary college. In a step which the RDCA umpires and Executive believe is a retrograde step, the VCA declined to include CUOV umpires on the Dowling Shield umpires panel. In previous years the RDCA had been well represented at these matches.

I thank those clubs who provided umpires, but overall the response to this was appalling. I hope for a better response next season. I particularly express my gratitude to several teenagers who offered their services for the Junior finals.

Player behaviour was again quite good with the Tribunal not being required, while the number of Codes of Conduct breaches was at a similar level to the previous seasons. All umpires hope that this trend continues in the seasons ahead.

On behalf of the umpires, may I congratulate all medal winners, trophy winners and premiers on their success this season.

I extend our members thanks to the captains, ladies and club members for their efforts and hospitality, before, during and after the game. A special thanks to all scorers for their dedication and assistance to umpires.

My personal thanks is extended to Martin, Vice-Presidents Paul Denton and Tom Smith, Assistant Secretary Mark Kesters, Social Secretary John Goss and Colin Hill who assisted in the training of new umpires and of course to David for his work as the Umpires Adviser.

UMPIRES ASSOCIATION - SECRETARY'S REPORT Cont.

My gratitude is also expressed to the RDCA Executive for their continuing support. To all the above I extend my appreciation for the assistance and support given to me in what has been personally a difficult year due to my wife's illness.

Lastly, let me thank my fellow umpires for their dedication, enthusiasm, assistance and support during the season and for attending the monthly meetings in such large numbers.

In closing I urge all retiring players to seriously consider taking up umpiring to put something back into the game you have enjoyed over many years by joining our ranks in 1996/97

Hopefully I will see you next season.

Pat Meehan

In Pat's report above and in my report reference was made to the serious illness suffered by Lex Meehan. The report was in the process of being printed when I learned that Lex had died peacefully after a long battle with cancer. The Association expressed its deepest sympathy to Pat, Sean and Sonya on the loss of a wife and mother.

Lindsay

VETERANS REPORT

The eighth season has now been completed and we managed to consolidate our position.

The executive can now confidently say that veterans is here to stay.

This is because all our teams and players have accepted and adhered to the principle that we are out there to enjoy ourselves and play and enjoy each others company. The executive thank all the co-ordinators and the captains for making it happen.

The 24 sides enjoyed wonderful weather all year, only our association game against Ferntree Gully Association was needed to be postponed.

The Inter-Association game is the highlight of the year and many new faces played this year. The results in both the over 40's and over 50's went against us. Played at The Basin reserve, John Salvado's over 50's had a high scoring game but we fell short by approximately 20 runs. Ian Spencer's 40's lost in the last over which ensured a good game. The results are 5/6 against Ferntree Gully therefore next year we will be out to get in front. Thanks to Bill Stafford, Jeff Luscombe and Alan Duffus for their efforts as managers.

We again had great sponsorship support from Daryl Stevens from Max Brown Real Estate and Bowens Timber in Croydon. We encourage all people to use their services.

Another highlight of the year was our Veterans Dinner at the Bird and Bottle. We had 260 people to enjoy Pat Arbuckles repertoire and a comedy act that everyone enjoyed. Bill Dean and Alan Duffus worked very hard to make it an excellent night. Thanks for their efforts is a must. It is comforting that this night continues to get our players and their wives support.

It is this night and a bat raffle, again kindly donated by Callen Sports that has allowed us to make a profit. We have then been able to assist junior competition with caps for all players in their Inter-Association games. We will continue to financially support the core of cricket (our junior cricketers) at every opportunity.

The competition was again good and strong with no ill will between teams.

In Division 3 we saw Eastfield go through the year undefeated and deservedly win a tight Grand Final against neighbours, South Croydon.

In Division 2, Parkwood won the Ken Johnston trophy from South Warrandyte. They finished on top and deserved to win their first Veterans flag.

Our patrons trophy in Division 1 was again won by the top team, North Ringwood. They defeated perennial grand finalists, Croydon Hockeyers who were competing in their sixth straight final. Congratulations go out to the North Ringwood club who set themselves a goal and achieved their aim to win the Bill Dean Trophy.

VETERANS REPORT cont.

The most enjoyable feature of the year was the increased numbers of clubs that have realised that the provision of food and drink for all players and their families after the game is helping to build up friendships and increase the enjoyment. This ensures that in the coming years we can look forward to playing again with those sides. Keep up the good work and hopefully all clubs will take notice.

Whilst the year went very well, there are some signs that we will need to look at our structure to ensure that we provide a facility that continues to be attractive to mature age cricketers. We also need to find "new blood" and "new ideas" for the committee.

In summary, all the committee have been mentioned above, but further thanks are passed on, as their efforts allow us the enjoyment of this competition. We look forward to next year with hope of a further improved competition played in great spirit.

Brian Gobbi
Secretary

MATCH COMMITTEE REPORT

Under the chairmanship of Neil Tull, the committee comprised David Beatty and Duncan Cant while John Tynan provided valuable assistance at the Under 18 games. David continued his concentration with the Under 18 and Under 21 squads and was also on the selection committee of the Eastern Cricket Academy, while Neil and Duncan dealt principally with the senior squad. Neil retained his position on the Academy's Board, although due to some unforeseen circumstances its work was curtailed in the past year. Ringwood hopes it will be in full operation next season.

The results of the games played by each of the teams is shown elsewhere in this document. In the games against the Box Hill Association, the RDCA retained the shields with comfortable victories in both divisions.

The Under 21 team played a game against Croydon as a lead up to the CUOV Carnival. In the carnival the team played very well, but just missed out on a place in the finals. It may be better if the competition was played in 4 sections of 4 teams each with the winners of each section meeting in semi-finals and finals.

The Under 18 team also played other representative games against Ringwood and Yarra Valley. These games are providing an excellent recruiting area for the CUOV teams.

The Match Committee, together with some input for other Executive members were again responsible for the selection of the All-stars team.

The Executive expresses its gratitude to Neil and his Committee with special mention to the tremendous work that David Beatty does with the two Under-age squads. David and John were also most appreciative of the assistance given by parents and other helpers in the organisation of these games.

Lindsay Trollope

TREASURER'S REPORT

I am pleased to report that we made a profit of \$1200.00 for the 1995/96 year. Why? Due in the main to the clubs contributing some \$3430 by way of fines.

I repeat what I wrote in last year's report that these fines impose needless financial hardship on the clubs involved and ultimately on each player of the club. Why clubs do not address this matter and save themselves money never ceases to amaze me.

This report indicated that a number of clubs will commence the next season with an outstanding debt to the Association which also is an unfair imposition on players.

I thank the large majority of clubs for their co-operation in meeting financial commitments as and when they fall due. The few clubs that must be continually contacted to settle their accounts makes the task of the Treasurer more difficult than it should be and I would ask that next season each club make a conscious effort to meet their accounts by the due date.

On behalf of the Executive, I remind those clubs with outstanding accounts that they must be settled prior to the commencement of the first round of the 1996/97 season.

Joan Newey

RINGWOOD & DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION Inc.
BALANCE SHEET as at 31 MAY, 1996

ASSETS

Current Assets:

ANZ Trading Account	4,127
ANZ Investment Account	14,168
ANZ Term Deposit G/tee	3,500

APK	Ainslie Park	149
AQU	Aquinas	100
BOR	Boronia	15
ESF	Eastfield	31
FTG	Ferntree Gully	5
GLP	Glen Park	155
KNC	Knox City	71
KGN	Knox Gardens	333
LYD	Lilydale	111
NRI	North Ringwood	19
NOW	Nerwood	1
RIN	Ringwood	60
STA	St Andrews	750
SBY	Scoresby	241
SRW	South Ringwood	106
WAN	Wantirna	42
WOP	Wonga Park	35

B & F Medallions	576
Cricket Balls	22
RDCA Caps	45
RDCA Rule Book covers	834
RDCA ties	567
Umpires counters	12
Umpires Manuals	20
Umpires Badges	78

\$25,969

Fixed Assets	0
Other Assets	0

TOTAL ASSETS \$25,969

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Current Liabilities

Accruals	1,700
Hardware Software Levy	5,680
	7,380

Long Term Liabilities

Bond Moneys	400	
Guarantee Moneys	3,500	3,900
		11,280

TOTAL LIABILITIES

Equity

Retained Earnings	13,464	
Year to date profit	1,225	14,689

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY \$25,969

RINGWOOD & DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION Inc.
STATEMENT OF INCOME
Twelve Months Ended 31 May, 1996

INCOME:

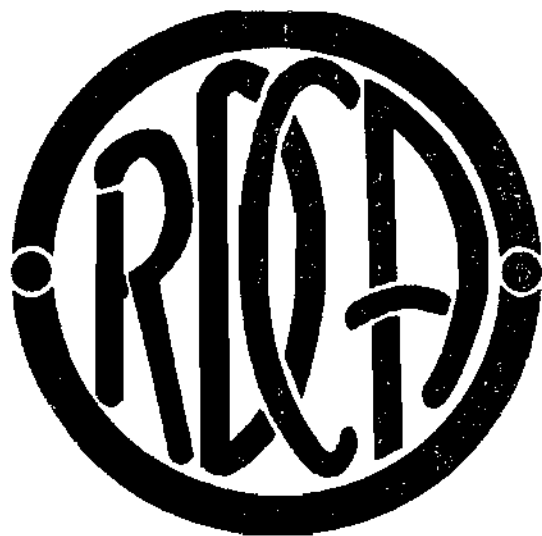
Affiliation Fees	31,890	64.1
Computer Fees	4,824	9.6
Fines - Senior Grades	324	0.7
Fines - Junior Grades	1,624	3.3
Fines- Umpires Reports etc.	1,482	3.0
Presentation Night	3,582	7.2
Sundry Entries	1,843	3.7
Interest	506	1.0
Donations	3,232	6.5
Umpires Subscriptions	440	0.9
Total Income	\$49,747	100.0

EXPENSE:

Honoraria	11,500	23.7
General Secretary	1,500	3.0
Junior Secretary	221	0.4
Senior Registration Secretary	1,050	2.1
Junior Registration Secretary	443	0.9
Umpires Secretary	362	0.7
Match Result Secretary	1,175	2.4
Treasurer	710	1.4
Publicity Officer	130	0.3
Junior Executive Expenses	1,424	2.9
Printing, Typing etc.	5,499	11.3
Computing Processing	6,290	12.8
Photocopying	1,084	2.2
Junior Carnival	556	1.1
Ground & Hall Rental	298	0.6
Umpire's Fees	1,225	2.5
Telephone/Paging	564	1.1
Affiliation/Registration Fees	15	0.0
CUOV/Legal	32	0.1
Trophies/Shields	4,590	9.2
Insurance	850	1.7
Bank Charges	246	0.5
Sundry Expenses	260	0.5
Presentation Night - Senior	4,413	8.9
Vote Count Night	388	0.8
Catering	521	1.0
Misc. Equipment	1,819	3.7
Cricket Balls Purchased	22	0.0
Prem. Medals Purchased	25	0.1
RDCA caps Purchased	67	0.1
Rule Book Covers Purchased	234	0.5
RDCA Ties Purchased	25	0.1
Scorebooks Purchased	512	1.0
Umpire's Manuals Purchased	10	0.0
Depreciation of Equipment	1,550	3.1
Total Expenditure	\$48,522	97.5
Net Income	\$1,225	2.5

1995 - 1996

*That was the
Season
that was*



REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES

UNDER 21

RDCA 4/161 (D.Carratelli 100no, S. Johnston 29)
Croydon 6/156cc (S.Nichol 2/18)

CUOV CARNIVAL MATCHES

RDCA 4/122 (D.Carratelli 48, S. Johnston 36)
ESCCA 9/118 (L.O'Connor 2/11, S.Nichol 2/15, C.Rogers 2/23)

RDCA 158 (T.Zanoni 51, C. Rogers 51)
Nth West 8/186 (S. Nicholl 3/13)

RDCA 6/316 (L.O'Connor 84, D. Carratelli 78, S. Moran 53, S. Johnston 45)
Mercantile 3/168

UNDER 18

RDCA 8/176cc (P. Raeck 52, S. Moore 44)
BHRDCA 132 (H. Nichol 2/23, R. Eagles 2/24, D. Mc Kay 2/27)

RDCA 121 (S. Berger 32, D. Rochford 25)
YVCA 5/207 (H. Nichol 3/41)

SENIOR

RDCA 6/111 (S. Rodie 41, A. Spittle 28no)
BHRDCA 108 (N.Bole-Brown 3/17, R. Jenzen 2/14)

PARTICIPATING PLAYERS

Under 21

J. Wilson
D. Carratelli
S. Johnston
J. Blanck
M. Buzalgo
S. Moran
S. Murley
S. Rackham
S. Nichol
G. Gardam
S. Hansen
T. Wilson
L. O'Connor
T. Zanoni
D. Hoven

Under 18

H. Nichol
R. Eagles
S. Berger
N. Court
J. Cordwell
T. Hale
C. Hitchen
B. Klopper
D. McKay
J. Moore
S. Park
D. Rochford
P. Raeck
S. Simpson
C. Tynan
G. Wright
A. Waters
B. Zerafo

Senior

N. Bole-Brown
R. Jenzen
M. Unternahrer
S. Rodie
L. Wulf
J. Walsh
K. Trollope
A. Spittle
P. Barnett
D. Milo
A. Downs

INDIVIDUAL TROPHIES

BOWLING

CHANDLER	1	Andy Crompton	FTG	80.0
	2	Kevin Howell	FTG	50.0
	3	Craig Ballingall	WOP	61.8
	4	Dale John	PWD	61.8
"A"	1	Andrew Pennington	SRW	85.6
	2	Rod Stewart	EAR	63.8
	3	Danny Griffin	EAR	62.2
	4	Wayne Halbert	TMP	48.3
"B"	1	Michael Scott	OLN	48.5
	2	Bill Stafford	CHQ	47.1
"C"	1	Andrew Barton	CHQ	80.0
	2	Michael Dekretser	KGN	67.6
	3	Paul Barnes	WSO	125.6
	4	Damon Peatling	KNC	47.5

BATTING

CHANDLER	1	Nick Bole-Brown	WSO	10.2
	2	Daryl Emery	MOO	9.3
	3	Norm Butters	FTG	7.4
	4	Mark Kelly	STA	8.7
"A"	1	Don Harris	SCR	9.0
	2	Graham Kelly	NRT	10.1
	3	Keith Smith	TMP	5.8
	4	Steve Taveski	TMP	10.5
"B"	1	Darren Brown	GLP	11.1
	2	Eamon Costello	CHQ	10.5
"C"	1	Michael Glen	KNC	9.4
	2	Brian Power	WSO	11.1
	3	Neville Synott	WOP	8.4
	4	Jason Magary	KNC	8.2

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

CHANDLER 1 ALL ROUNDER	Tony Sturesteps (Warrandyte)
BEST UNDER 21 PLAYER	Luke O'Connor (North Ringwood)
BEST UNDER 18 PLAYER	Simon Moran(St Andrews)
<u>FAIREST & BEST AWARDS</u>	
BILL DEAN MEDAL	Craig McKissack(Wonga Park)
CLIVE FAIRBAIRN MEDAL	Don Harris (South Croydon)
STEVE PASCOE MEDAL	Alan Hall (Knox City)

ALL STARS TEAM

Nick Bole-Brown	Wantirna South	Ken Trollope	Mooroolbark
Graham Salan	Ferntree Gully	Tony Smith	Ferntree Gully
Tony Sturesteps	Warrandyte	Andrew Spittle	Parkwood
Paul Payne	Wantirna South	Scott Boyce	Lilydale
Hayden Jacob	Parkwood	Mark Unterahrer	Kilsyth
Craig Mc Kissack	Wonga Park		

10 wickets or more in one match

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Performance</u>
C1	B. Maaskant	Boronia	14/55
B1	D. Cuffe	Knox City	13/61
CH2	D. Sherlock	Parkwood	12/111
C2	A. Doensen	Parkwood	11/52
CH1	N. Bole-Brown	Wantirna South	11/82
A4	S. Tasevski	Templeton	10/52
CH1	C. Snaidero	Warrandyte	10/56
C2	S. Van Poppell	Knox Gardens	10/56
A3	D. Ashton	Bayswater Park	10/65
A2	R. Fox	Chirnside Park	10/91
A1	C. Way	Montrose	10/105

Centuries scored in each grade

CH1	5	A1	14	B1	7
CH2	9	A2	21	B2	7
CH3	17	A3	17	C1	21
CH4	19	A4	18	C2	15
				C3	11
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>181</u>				

6 Wickets or more in one innings

CH1	16(7)	A1	16(6)	B1	14(4)
CH2	19(9)	A2	11(4)	B2	5(3)
CH3	12(2)	A3	12(4)	C1	10(4)
CH4	12(4)	A4	16(6)	C2	10(2)
				C3	12(2)
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>165(59)</u>				

Figures in brackets indicate number of times 7 wickets or more were achieved.

in the one-day grade (C4), where batsmen were compulsorily retired at 50 and bowlers were restricted to a maximum of 7 overs, the following were achieved:-

No. of 50's 60

3-4 wickets 50

5 wickets 7

6 wickets 1 (A. Moore - Ainslie Park 6/19)

FINAL LADDERS

CHANDLER 1

Ferntree Gully	119.9
Wantirna Sth	99.0
Norwood	95.8
Parkwood	95.7
Wonga Park	87.4
Mooroolbark	86.8
Ainslie Park	85.7
Kilsyth	83.6
Croydon Nth	78.5
Lilydale	64.5
Warrandyte	64.4
St Andrews	61.0

"A" 1

Sth Ringwood	113.0
Nth Ringwood	107.1
Chirnside Park	104.6
East Ringwood	97.9
Montrose	92.5
Templeton	88.5
Scoresby	87.7
Bayswater Park	82.4
Sth Croydon	75.7
Sth Warrandyte	71.1
Croydon United	66.5
Aquinas	64.9

"B" 1

Knox City	119.0
Knox Gardens	104.1
Wantirna	101.3
Glen Park	93.8
Croy. Hockeyers	90.5
Olinda	88.0
Eastfield	74.8
Ringwood	34.1

"C" DIVISION 1

Croy. Hockeyers	124.6
Boronia	123.8
Kilsyth	118.1
Knox City	114.1
East Ringwood	106.2
Templeton	94.1
Ferntree Gully	77.7
St Andrews	67.5
Knox Gardens	66.4
Nth Ringwood	55.5
Glen Park	27.7

CHANDLER 2

Mooroolbark	107.9
Wonga Park	99.9
Kilsyth	96.9
Croydon Nth	95.1
Ferntree Gully	92.5
Warrandyte	90.4
Wantirna Sth	89.2
Ainslie Park	87.6
St Andrews	82.6
Norwood	77.5
Parkwood	66.7
Lilydale	48.4

"A" 2

East Ringwood	124.2
Sth Ringwood	108.5
Sth Croydon	106.9
Nth Ringwood	99.3
Chirnside Park	95.3
Templeton	89.9
Montrose	87.3
Scoresby	75.9
Bayswater Park	71.3
Sth Warrandyte	65.1
Croydon United	64.8
Aquinas	43.7

"B" 2

Croy. Hockeyers	100.5
Knox Gardens	99.1
Glen Park	90.3
Knox City	88.7
Olinda	74.1
Wantirna	73.6
Eastfield	49.6

"C" DIVISION 2

Wantirna Sth	118.7
Bayswater Park	115.6
Knox Gardens	108.6
Parkwood	102.7
Croydon Nth	95.9
Croy. Hockeyers	90.1
Wonga Park	72.5
Sth Croydon	60.2
Kilsyth	41.7
Olinda	38.7

CHANDLER 3

Wonga Park	113.1
Wantirna Sth	112.0
Croydon Nth	106.8
Ainslie Park	102.7
Ferntree Gully	87.1
Kilsyth	85.3
St Andrews	77.8
Warrandyte	55.9
Parkwood	52.7
Mooroolbark	51.3
Lilydale	47.0
Norwood	41.5

"A" 3

East Ringwood	126.4
Templeton	117.0
Montrose	109.8
Sth Ringwood	99.0
Nth Ringwood	98.1
Sth Croydon	92.5
Bayswater Park	78.8
Chirnside Park	70.7
Scoresby	67.3
Croydon United	61.3
Sth Warrandyte	43.5
Aquinas	19.5

"C" DIVISION 3

Wantirna Sth	116.7
Wonga Park	114.2
Warrandyte	106.9
Boronia	93.9
Parkwood	91.5
Scoresby	66.6
Croydon Nth	61.1
St Andrews	57.6
Bayswater Park	53.7
Kilsyth	43.2

CHANDLER 4

Kilsyth	113.8
Wonga Park	106.7
Warrandyte	103.4
Ainslie Park	91.0
Croydon Nth	89.4
Parkwood	88.4
Mooroolbark	75.0
Wantirna Sth	72.5
St Andrews	67.2
Ferntree Gully	60.1
Norwood	37.3
Lilydale	29.8

"A" 4

Nth Ringwood	118.3
Templeton	116.4
East Ringwood	106.9
Sth Ringwood	106.1
Bayswater Park	102.3
Sth Croydon	83.1
Chirnside Park	76.1
Knox Gardens	73.9
Montrose	72.0
Sth Warrandyte	61.4
Croydon United	55.2
Scoresby	31.8

"C" DIVISION 4

Ainslie Park	199.2
Mooroolbark	161.6
Knox City	150.7
Ferntree Gully	141.3
Croy. Hockeyers	116.6
Knox Gardens	114.3
Templeton	89.7
Croydon United	79.1

A COMPARISON

	93/94	94/95	95/96
Centuries	247	310	181
6 Wickets +	194	166	165
200 +	4	8	4
More than 1 Century(no of players)	22	29	8
8 Wickets +	18	15	16
7 Wickets +(more than once)	5	1	4
Highest Individual Score	242	255	256
Best Bowling	10/37	8/36	10/56
Registered Players	6549*	6519	6704
Number of teams	306*	287*	310*

* Includes under-age teams and registered players.

VOTES OBTAINED BY EACH CLUB IN FAIREST & BEST AWARDS

<u>Bill Dean Medal</u>		<u>Clive Fairbairn Medal</u>		<u>Steve Pascoe Medal</u>	
Ferntree Gully	42	Templeton	43	Knox City	47
Norwood	42	Chirnside Park	42	Glen Park	43
Wantirna Sth	38	Sth Ringwood	42	Wantirna	36
Wonga Park	37	Sth Croydon	37	Eastfield	30
Croydon Nth	33	Scoresby	36	Olinda	30
Parkwood	33	Bayswater Park	34	Croydon Hockeyers	27
Kilsyth	32	East Ringwood	33	Knox Gardens	22
Warrandyte	31	Montrose	33	Ringwood	15
Lilydale	31	North Ringwood	31		
Mooroolbark	27	Sth Warrandyte	26		
Ainslie Park	27	Croydon United	21		
St Andrews	18	Aquinas	18		

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

1.	EAST RINGWOOD	9.76
2.	South Ringwood	9.04
3.	Wantirna South	9.03
4.	North Ringwood	8.96
5.	Wonga Park	8.89
6.	Knox City	8.39

GRAND FINALISTS 1995/96

		PREMIER	RUNNER-UP
CHANDLER	1	Ferntree Gully	Norwood
	2	Mooroolbark	Wonga Park
	3	Wonga Park	Croydon North
	4	Warrandyte	Kilsyth
A GRADE	1	North Ringwood	East Ringwood
	2	East Ringwood	South Croydon
	3	Templeton	South Ringwood
	4	East Ringwood	South Ringwood
B GRADE	1	Knox City	Wantirna
	2	Croydon Hockeyers	Knox City
C DIVISION	1	Boronia	Knox City
	2	Knox Gardens	Wantirna Sth
	3	Wonga Park	Wantirna South
	4	Ferntree Gully	Mooroolbark
VETERANS	1	North Ringwood	Croydon Hockeyers
	2	Parkwood	Montrose
	3	Eastfield	South Croydon

MAJOR GRADE PREMIERS 1981/82 - 1995/96

	CHANDLER 1	A 1	B 1
81/82	Warrandyte	Sth Croydon	Bayswater Park
82/83	Croydon United	Sth Ringwood	Scoresby
83/84	Warrandyte	Ainslie Park	Sth Warrandyte
84/85	East Ringwood	Mt Evelyn	Johnson Park
85/86	Mooroolbark	Scoresby	Academy
86/87	Mooroolbark	Montrose	Templeton
87/88	Croydon North	Parkwood	Eastfield
88/89	St Andrews	Sth Croydon	Knox Gardens
89/90	Croydon North	Croydon United	Westwood
90/91	Croydon North	Wonga Park	Knox City
91/92	Croydon North	Wantirna Sth	Glen Park
92/93	Mooroolbark	Montrose	Chirnside Park
93/94	Ainslie Park	Kilsyth (A East)	Ferntree Gully (A West)
94/95	Croydon North	St Andrews	Aquinas
95/96	Ferntree Gully	Nth Ringwood	Knox City

PREMIERSHIPS WON (ALL GRADES)
1966/67 - 1995/96

WANTIRNA SOUTH	18	[2]
EAST RINGWOOD	17	[4]
CROYDON NORTH	16	[7]
ST ANDREWS	16	[4]
KILSYTH	15	[1]
VERMONT	15	[0]
AINSLIE PARK	14	[2]
MOOROOLBARK	14	[6]
WONGA PARK	14	[3]
MT EVELYN	12	[2]
MONTROSE	11	[3]
WARRANTYTE	11	[3]
BAYSWATER PARK	10	[1]
NORTH RINGWOOD	10	[4]
GLEN PARK	8	[3]
NORWOOD	8	[2]
CROYDON UNITED	7	[3]
WANTIRNA	7	[2]
TEMPLETON	7	[1]
LILYDALE	6	[0]
CROYDON HOCKEYERS	6	[1]
SCORESBY	5	[1]
PARKWOOD	5	[2]
BORONIA	5	[0]
STH WARRANTYTE	4	[2]
KNOX CITY	4	[2]
FERNTREE GULLY	4	[2]
AQUINAS	3	[3]
CHIRNSIDE PARK	3	[2]
STH CROYDON	3	[1]
STH RINGWOOD	3	[1]
CROYDON	3	[0]
KNOX GARDENS	3	[1]
OXLEY	2	[2]
EASTFIELD	2	[1]

[Figures in brackets indicate 1st eleven pennants]

POSITION OF YOUR TEAM ROUND BY ROUND

CHANDLER 1 After Round >>>>>>>

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
FERNTREE GULLY	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
WANTIRNA SOUTH	9	11	12	10	9	9	9	9	6	5	2
NORWOOD	4	2	3	5	2	2	2	2	2	2	3
PARKWOOD	7	9	6	3	8	7	7	7	5	4	4
WONGA PARK	3	3	5	8	6	5	6	6	8	3	5
MOOROOLBARK	6	10	10	7	5	4	5	5	4	7	6
AINSLIE PARK	10	4	7	4	7	8	8	8	9	9	7
KILSYTH	2	6	4	6	4	6	4	4	3	6	8
CROYDON NORTH	5	8	11	12	12	12	11	12	12	11	10
LILYDALE	5	8	11	12	12	12	11	12	12	11	10
WARRANTYTE	12	7	9	9	10	11	12	11	11	12	11
ST ANDREWS	8	12	8	11	11	10	10	10	10	10	12

"A" 1 After Round >>>>>>>

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
SOUTH RINGWOOD	3	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1
NORTH RINGWOOD	10	6	5	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	2
CHIRNSIDE PARK	9	11	7	5	4	3	4	3	4	3	3
EAST RINGWOOD	1	2	4	9	10	7	5	4	3	4	4
MONTROSE	11	8	12	10	12	11	11	9	8	6	5
TEMPLETON	7	4	8	6	5	6	7	7	6	5	6
BAYSWATER PARK	5	9	1	4	3	4	6	6	9	7	8
SOUTH CROYDON	6	10	6	3	6	5	3	5	5	8	9
SCORESBY	4	7	11	12	7	10	9	8	7	9	7
SOUTH WARRANTYTE	8	3	9	7	8	9	10	11	11	12	10
CROYDON UNITED	12	12	10	11	11	12	12	12	12	10	11
AQUINAS	2	1	2	8	9	8	8	10	10	11	12

"B" 1 After Round >>>>>>>

TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
KNOX CITY	5	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
KNOX GARDENS	3	4	7	5	3	6	4	5	4	2	2
WANTIRNA	1	1	1	2	4	2	6	2	5	4	3
GLEN PARK	7	5	5	7	7	5	3	4	6	3	4
CROYDON HOCKEYERS	2	7	6	6	6	4	2	3	2	5	5
OLINDA	6	6	4	3	2	3	5	6	3	6	6
EASTFIELD	4	2	3	4	5	7	7	7	7	7	7
RINGWOOD	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8

THEY WERE GRAND FINALS

Ferntree Gully after a great season in which they were only beaten in one game went into the final against Norwood as warm favourites. However Norwood were full of confidence after a sensational win in the semi-final against Wantirna South. Norwood took early wickets to be in a good position but the great depth of the Ferntree Gully batting saw them get on top and finish with a score of 217 which was always going to be difficult for Norwood to overcome. A steady opening stand put them in with a chance but a loss of three quick wickets restored the game towards the Gully and in the end they proved too strong and were well deserved winners of the coveted Chandler Shield.

East Ringwood and North Ringwood, clubs who believe their rightful place in the RDCA is in Chandler, met to decide that distinction in 1996/97. In a game which had everything and those with "suspect" hearts were advised to go home, it fluctuated from one team to another almost from the first ball. In the end North Ringwood just triumphed and the frustration of many years had finally come to an end.

Knox City favourites to take out the B Grade premiership, and Wantirna determined to prove that they still deserved to be in A Grade, met at the "new" Hughes Park Reserve to see who would be competing in the higher grade in the following season. In a very competitive game Knox City proved a little too strong to eventually take out their first B1 pennant since the 1990/91 season.

After a poor couple of rounds prior to the Christmas break, Mooroolbark's Chandler 2 team regrouped and went from strength to strength to enter the final against Wonga Park the hottest favourites of all finalists in season 95/96, particularly in view of the big win against Wonga in the final home and home round. After dismissing Wonga for a moderate score it appeared as though Mooroolbark would coast to victory, but a great performance by the early Wonga Park bowlers had Mooroolbark reeling until a fine unbroken 6th wicket stand in excess of 100 saw the premiership flag presented to Mooroolbark.

For the second successive season Wonga Park and Croydon North faced each other in the battle for premiership honours in Chandler 3 and for the Park team it was a double celebration as they proved they were again the top team in the grade with a most convincing win. The Wonga Park bowlers were unable to restrict the free flowing batsmen from Croydon North to only 134, incredibly similar to the 130 scored by the Northerners in 1994/95.

One can recall the spine tingling finish to the 1994/95 CH4 Grand final between Warrandyte and Kilsyth when strong men were seen refusing to watch the last few balls. All spectators looked forward to another thrilling encounter between the same 2 combatants. However Warrandyte seeking to create a RDCA record with a 3rd consecutive Chandler 3 Premiership, seized control of the game from the outset and went on to score an easy victory against a somewhat disappointing Kilsyth X1.

Templeton were another team looking for back to back pennants when they faced South Ringwood in A3. In a good all-round batting performance Templeton totalled a competitive score for the Southerners to chase. For a while it looked as though it would be not enough to gain victory but mid innings collapse saw a dream of successive victories become a reality for Templeton.

In a season in which attempts to win successive premierships were seen as the norm, East Ringwood showed that there were no "hangovers" from 94/95 when their big guns all fired to overwhelm South Ringwood to win the A4 flag. The east bowlers set up the victory when they restricted the opposition batsmen to 157 off the maximum 80 overs.

In B2 Croydon Hockeyers were hoping to overcome the disappointment of the previous season when they faced Glen Park at the Chirnside Park oval. With five players scoring 25 or more, a significant total was made. The Hockey bowling reach even greater heights and the Glen Park batsmen were overwhelmed and a premiership flag will be flying at Silcock Reserve next season.

Knox City were hoping to have a double celebration when their 3rd eleven faced up to Boronia in the battle for C1 honours. However, the Boronia team, after a poor start, rallied and really did not release its control of the game and when the final City batsman was dismissed on the second day, Boronia were able to claim a brilliant victory.

Whilst not at "Phar Lap" odds, Wantirna South were all the rage to win the C2 flag in the match against Knox Gardens. In a game which was forced into a third day because of weather conditions, it always appeared as though the Southerners were going to win the match, albeit narrowly. However in a fighting performance the Knox gardens team rallied when all seemed gone to win a match which was of a standard which belied its grade. After hearing the comments of the Knox Gardens captain at the Presentation Function regarding where his players were recruited from, it may be he had a little help from "Upstairs".

Wantirna South and Wonga Park spent two days at Silcock reserve playing a wonderful game of cricket to ascertain who would walk forward at the Presentation Dinner to receive the C3 pennant from Bill Wilkins. Both teams appeared at different stages of the game to be on top and then the pendulum would turn. When the final ball was bowled Wonga Park were able to claim their second successive C3 flag.

Ainslie Park ground was the venue for the initial Grand Final in the "One- day Grade" (C4), where the opponents were Ferntree Gully and Mooroolbark. Mooroolbark lost early wickets and in spite of a late recovery they were always going to struggle to hold off the strong Ferntree Gully team who added another reason for the club to celebrate the 1995/96 cricket season.

IT HAPPENED DURING THE YEAR:

We remember them:

In the mid to late 60's the North Ringwood club was a power in the top grade of the Association. A mainstay of the club and the first eleven was Fred Rogers. Fred was one of the stars of the team which won successive premierships in 67/68 and 68/69. He was also involved in many other community activities and was a top baseballer with the Ringwood Saints. Fred was a team mate in both sports of Stuart Newey. On 16 March Fred passed away in Horsham at the age of 68.

Kilsyth Cricket Club members and supporters were saddened to learn of the death of Jock Barlow in August last year. Jock had been a member of the Kilsyth for some 35 years, was a former President and Captain and was, of course, a Life Member of the club.

The Knox Gardens Cricket Club also suffered a great loss with the death of Peter Place after a long battle with cancer. Peter had been the Junior Administrator at the club for three years and had won admiration both within the club and the Association for the work he put into with the young boys.

We were shocked to hear of the death last month (July) of Gerald Smart. Gerald was a leading member of the Heathmont Club and also served for several years on the Executive and in more recent years as an umpire with the Association.

I had just completed the report when I learned of the death, in New South Wales, of Brian Ellis, son of Ron and Connie after a long battle with cancer. Members of the Executive expressed their sympathy with Ron and Connie in their time of sadness.

Double Trouble

638 games - 13000 runs - 650 wickets from 4500 overs

7 centuries - 7 wickets in an innings on 7 occasions.

The above are the fabulous combined performances of the Sansom brothers, Jay and Bruce for their beloved Norwood Club (perhaps they should have been named Samson)

I would also suggest that their mother has seen every run made and wicket taken and has probably scored for most of them.

Neither Jay or Bruce seem to be talking about retirement so the above totals should increase substantially in the next few years.

No Sharing

As Warrantdyte journeyed to Norwood for the last game in the season, it appeared as though they would be playing their final game in Chandler for at least one season. Languishing in 12th place after a disappointing, and, sometimes frustrating season, they faced a most confident Norwood who were perched in second place on the ladder and preparing for the finals campaign. In stepped Chris Snaidero, who told his teammates to move over and proceeded to bowl one ball short of 30 overs to finish with the outstanding figures of 10/56 to dismiss Norwood for a score which the Warrantdyte batsmen were able to overcome and thus save themselves from relegation. It is understood that this is the first time all ten wickets have been taken by a bowler in the top grade of the Association and only the second time in the senior ranks of the RDCA (if this is not correct I am sure I will be informed). CONGRATULATIONS TO CHRIS.

Leaving it till the end

In the final round in Chandler 1 several teams were hoping for a last minute entry into the final four. Over at Kilsyth, Wantirna South's Captain-coach, Nick Bole-Brown, showed just how good he is by taking 9/29 to dismiss the home team for an inglorious 110. Kilsyth fought back to almost snatch first innings points, but were eventually beaten outright to allow Wantirna South to leap frog several teams to finish in second place. The amazing thing about this finishing position was that it was the only time in the whole season that Wantirna South had been in the four. They were to be party to even more drama in the semi-final.

The game is never over

After Wantirna South's sensational leap into the four in the final round they faced up to Norwood on their home track with great confidence in the effort to play in their second successive Grand Final. At the end of the first day Wantirna South looked to be in a commanding position with a score of 9/247cc, considering that on only one occasion during the season had a team passed 200 against them and Norwood had only exceeded 247 once during the year. With some 30 overs to go Norwood lost its 9th wicket with a score at 147. Supporters of both clubs were cleaning up in preparation for a race to the bar at the end of the game. Their movement to the bar was delayed for the 30 overs when in a remarkable performance Matt Hickok and Jay Sansom added 102 to earn victory and a place in the Grand Final against Ferntree Gully. I would doubt if there has been a greater recovery in a final match in RDCA history.

What a performance

In the Chandler 1 final, Ferntree Gully all-rounder, Andrew Downs provided one of the great performances of recent years. With the Gully losing early wickets Andrew stopped the rot with a brilliant innings of 78. When it was Norwood's turn to bat Andrew came to the fore after the batsmen threatened to take control and when the last wicket fell to signal a Ferntree Gully win, Andrew had bowled 33 overs for 8/53.

Its fun in the lower grades

You will recall that the Executive introduced "Captains Comments" forms to be completed by captains in grades where official umpires were not appointed. Contrary to some views the forms indicate that generally, games in the lower grades are played in good spirit. Of the several hundred forms received over the past two seasons only 6 have indicated any serious problems in the "other comments" column. Many captains took the time to express their delight with the game. Of particular interest was the very few ratings of below average in reply to the question of umpiring standard.

Partnerships, hat-tricks etc. (Information provided by clubs named).

- ~ ~ Whilst not reaching the amazing figure of 28 century partnerships last season, Kilsyth batsmen again stayed at the crease long enough to record a further twelve 100+ partnerships.*
- ~ ~ South Ringwood batsmen also got into the act with a number of century stands with the highlight being the 205 by Alan Giles and Geoff Purcell for the second wicket in A2.*
- ~ ~ At Chirnside Park, David Ardley and Shane Eldridge hit up a second wicket partnership of 192, while Kevin Newman took a hat-trick for the same club.*
- ~ ~ East Ringwood's John Mc Namara and Anton Gantner secured hat-tricks, while Lilydale reported that Andrew Mansell took a hat trick in his figures of 6/18.*
- ~ ~ Under 14 player Brian Hartrup took 6/32 and 3/32 in the same match for South Warrandyte's A4 team, while Templeton's A2 batsmen were in trouble if they "nicked" the ball against the Southerners with Chris Willman accepting 5 catches in his keeping role.*

An honour for Brian

It is always an honour to be made a life member of any organisation but it is an extra bonus to be appointed as the first such member . Brian Walker has been given that honour at Chirnside Park.

How many more for Rod

Knox Gardens' multi medal winner, Rod Marget, captured his 500th wicket during the season.

Like father like son

South Croydon A4 player, David Smith scored 145 while son David Jnr replied with 105 for the same club in A3.

It couldn't be better, could it?

As the season ended for South Croydon on 2 March, Secretary Ross Kennedy totalled up the votes for the Club Champion and coach Don Harris was a clear winner. At the RDCA Medal vote count function a few days later the umpires' votes indicated that Don was the Fairest and Best Player in A1 and he was awarded the Clive Fairbairn Medal. At the RDCA Annual Presentation Dinner, Don was announced as the winner of the A1 bowling and another trophy was able to be placed in his trophy cabinet.

Looking after the kids

Graeme Merrett is an institution at Kilsyth due to the outstanding work he does with the under-age teams. Season 1995/96 saw Graeme complete his 12th consecutive season as a Junior Manager. He is also heavily involved with the RDCA Under 12 representative teams.

One of the Best

As most clubs will be aware the VCA ran a special competition for cricket clubs call "100 Not Out - Councils and Cricket". Clubs were to be judged on their overall contribution to the local community. It is pleasing to report that, in the City of Knox, the Wantirna South Club was judged the premier club.

Press Coverage

The coverage of the Association by the local press ranged from very good to most disappointing. One of the groups decided to cease coverage during the season, but we were glad to report that by the end of the season scores and other details were again included in the papers. The other group were reasonably good but coverage in the papers circulating in the Lilydale area was poor until approaches by some Executive members saw this situation improving to some extent.

By the way

- *Of the 14 teams which headed the ladder at the completion of the home and home series, 9 played off in the Grand Final and 6 went on to win the premiership.*
- *The difference in premiership points between the top and bottom teams in Chandler 1 was 58.9 points, considerably less than the 88.1 of the previous season.*
- *St Andrews became the 9th club to return to A Grade after winning promotion from that grade since 1981/82 and the 3rd club to return in just one season.*
- *Ferntree Gully headed the Chandler 1 ladder for the complete season. In A1 5 teams led the field on different occasions with South Ringwood occupying that position for 6 rounds while in B1, Wantirna led the ladder for the first three rounds while from the 4th round until the end of the home and home rounds, eventual premiers Knox City defied the opposition to remove them. In relation to the positions in the four, 3 clubs did not reach the coveted positions at any stage in the season in Chandler 1, while only 1 club did not reach the four at any time in both A1 and B1.*
- *It was bowlers year in Chandler 1 with the total of runs being scored by all teams being 5,500 less than in 1994/95. in the previous season all 12 teams scored in excess of 2000 runs as compared with 7 in the season under review. The highest scoring team scored 2632 against 3218 in 1995/96. Ainslie Park actually scored 900 runs less in this season than in 94/95, but just to show you that how figures can lie, the club improved its position on the ladder by 4 places.*
- *In the six seasons since North Ringwood were moved to A Grade, the club finished as finalists in all but one season and were the top team on 3 occasions. Twice they went through the home and home season without defeat only to fall in the finals. This season's victory has been very sweet indeed.*

Some more of the Past History

- *Mooroolbark won its first top grade premiership in 1921/22. It took 50 years for the club to add a second.*
- *In the voting for the Bill Dean Medal in 1981/82, two Wantirna South players in Claude Reid and John Vine tied for second place with 16 votes, one behind the winner Graeme Lloyd of Warrandyte who scored 17 votes. A classic example of robbing your team mate.*
- *The late Ray Bent scored successive wins in the Clive Fairbairn A Grade in seasons 82/83 and 83/84, the first with Ringwood RSL and the latter with Kilsyth.*
- *In 1966/67, one-day games consisted of a maximum of 200 balls for each team i.e. 25 eight ball overs. There were 5 senior grades and 3 junior divisions in that season.*
- *The original 6 clubs in the RDCA were:- Croydon, Ringwood Diggers, Montrose, Mooroolbark, Ringwood and Wonga Park.*
- *The field restriction area for the junior grades were introduced in 79/80.*
- *According to RDCA records, girls first played in the junior ranks in 1982/93*

