

**Victorian Metropolitan
Cricket Union
(Incorporated)**



**91st
ANNUAL
REPORT**

SEASON 2003-2004

VICTORIAN METROPOLITAN CRICKET UNION INCORPORATED

(Founded 1913)

OFFICE BEARERS Season 2003-2004

Patron:

R F Merriman AM

President:

Kevin Noy

Vice President:

Geoff Gook

Administrator:

Dennis Crook

Treasurer:

Bruce Dowland

Minute Secretary/Assistant Administrator

David Beatty

Board of Directors:

Vacant	South Metro Region
David Beatty	Outer East Metro Region
Yin Toe	North Metro Region
Geoff Gook	West Metro Region (Vice President)
Keith Mackay	South East Metro Region
John Toogood	Inner East Metro Region
Allan Oakman	North West Metro Region
Paul Reid	North East Metro Region

Life Members:

H N Wright (1977), K Mitchell (1980), A K Swift (1981), L E Champion (1987), RC Allen (1988), Mrs. A Mitchell (1990), F Barling (1995), J Beitzel (1997), D Nolan (2001)

Delegates to Victorian Cricket Association: D Crook, K Noy

Delegate to Sub District Cricket Association: K Mackay

Representative Delegates:

Victorian Cricket Association: J Atkinson

Victorian Sub-District Cricket Association C Collins

Honorary Auditor:

Michael Lawson

Sub Committees:

Match:

Geoff Gook, David Beatty, Peter Howarth, Arthur Ince, Josh Browne

Finance:

Bruce Dowland, Kevin Noy, Dennis Crook

Rules:

Paul Reid, Graeme Fischer

Appeals:

John Toogood, Keith Mackay, Dennis Crook

Web Site: John Deighton

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I have much pleasure in presenting the 91st Annual President's Report to the Union.

It has been a busy and productive year for cricket at the community level. Early season concerns over ground availability due to water restrictions were managed sensibly with the co-operation of Cricket Victoria and municipal councils and few problems were encountered. Likewise the Cricket Australia insurance scheme was introduced with a substantial uptake by Victorian clubs.

Following discussions with affiliates on a range of issues Cricket Victoria initiated moves to replace the Community Cricket Advisory Group with a formal Board sub committee called the Game Development Sub Committee to be chaired by a Board member and including representatives from all affiliates, the Game Development and Community Cricket Managers from Cricket Victoria and other Board and Administration people as required. It is proposed the sub committee will meet with the full Board from time to time. With a number of issues under discussion that will impact on the Regions we welcome this change as a way of gaining more direct access to decision-making and communication in general.

At the last AGM of the Union several Regions took the opportunity to rotate roles within their Region Councils and appoint new Directors as had been discussed when the new structure was put in place. I believe this is a way for the Board to gain wider input and explore different possibilities and this has proved to be the case this year. In saying that I would like to acknowledge the great work by those Directors not continuing, in particular Peter Barnes Graham Muir and Ron Tucker who initiated many of the programs that have been carried on by others. Fortunately these people continue to work within their regions and associations and this can only benefit everyone in the longer term.

One of the programs mentioned above was our aim to provide a set of common policies, rules and guidelines to assist associations on issues such as heat policy, injury prevention and other safety issues for both junior and senior competitions. These were agreed at our May meeting and will be put forward as rule changes, where required, at the AGM. We have also revised the rules for our own VMCU Shield competitions and brought these and the general junior guidelines into line in most cases. My thanks to the members of the sub committees and the association delegates who brought these projects to fruition.

Our Shield Competition was again a great success and full details will be found elsewhere but this competition is fast becoming a significant step in the Pathway for young players. Likewise our Neil Wright competition continues to provide under 21 players the opportunity to display their talents and this year we were successful in winning back the interstate shield from NSW. Again more details can be found elsewhere in this report. My thanks to those who contributed to the success of these competitions.

It was pleasing to see fewer appeals to the VMCU. Hopefully this is a result of improved processes with the associations and we would like to think an awareness of the Spirit of Cricket initiatives introduced prior to the season. Either way it has been pleasing to spend time on more productive issues.

I would like to acknowledge the on going support of our administrator Dennis Crook, Treasurer Bruce Dowland and all Board members. It has been a pleasure to work with them and the association delegates in administering cricket in the metropolitan area. We are looking to improve aspects of our communication through better use of the website and more efficient use of email but the most important link in our organisation will always be the feedback we receive from member associations. While many have made significant

contributions through Board membership or work on sub committees some continue to accept the benefits without sharing the workload and I find this hard to understand in a sport so dependent on teamwork. Clearly we would be a stronger and better body if everyone was contributing.

In closing I would also like to congratulate the Cricket Victoria Board and staff on their leadership in an emotionally difficult year. The success of the Bushrangers in the Pura Cup was a fitting reward for their efforts and hopefully an indication that the structures in place across all levels can lead to more success in the future.

Kevin Noy
President

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

This last year has seen a number of positive changes in the administrative structure of the Union . The purpose of the changes was to provide better services and service delivery to the Board, its committees and the members.

Some of the changes included:

- * The appointment of David Beatty as Assistant Administrator
- * The purchase and installation of a new computer system with the capability of upgrading our website and email system

As a result of these acquisitions we are presently updating all relevant data and in this respect it is vital that all our information is current. Accordingly, I request that all member associations provide me with up to date detail of their office holders including full name and contact details, particularly all email addresses. Any system is only as good as its "input".

I never cease to be inspired by the amount of time and energy contributed by the members of the Board and its committees in performing the work of the Union. As this workload shows no signs of decreasing I would urge members to consider nominating for committees for which they have an interest or expertise.

Kevin has noted in his report that Cricket Victoria has established a new subcommittee called the Game Development Committee. This committee's terms of reference are:

“To act as an aid to management in the development and delivery of strategies as outlined in the Cricket Victoria Strategic Plan 2002-2007 and as developed from time to time by Cricket Australia for implementation by State Associations”

I am the Union nominee on this committee and as such look forward to input from members for ideas for the development of the game which I can convey via this committee.

As usual there will be a number of challenges facing us in the coming year, not the least of which will be the implementation of the new format for the Dowling Shield.

Cricket Victoria has decided to trial, for a period of two years, a regionalised competition. This will have an immediate impact on the Union and its Regions, as well as our own Under 16 Jim Beitzel Shield. We need to be prepared.

I thank all those who have given me generous support in the last year and look forward to another successful coming season.

Dennis Crook
Administrator

RULES SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

For the first time the V.M.C.U. has a defined policy and guidelines on playing conditions and health and safety by laws for Associations to adopt and use.

After much consultation with Associations and the Board we now have a recommended Playing Conditions Policy and Health and Safety by laws, from the time the original paper was drawn up and sent to Associations in December through to its adoption at the May Delegates meeting it has been progressively amended to conform with the wishes of our constituents and stakeholders and its current format is a reflection of their requests and input.

My thanks go to Graeme Fischer my co member and the respondents from the various Associations without their valuable contribution we would not be where we are today.

Hopefully this will be the forerunner to more rules and policy being developed and adopted by Associations as a way forward, I hope eventually everyone will be playing under the same rules and conditions in matches under the V.M.C.U. banner.

Probably the most contentious rules are those involving our duty of care under Health and Safety eg Heat, Bowling Limitations and Thunderstorms etc, problems all Associations must address in order to provide a safe environment for players and officials.

The other rule change proposal is that all Associations must have an appeals process within their Association before they can appeal to the V.M.C.U., thus ensuring a fair hearing of all relevant facts and data prior to any appeal to the V.M.C.U and this hopefully will mean less appeals

Paul Reid
Convenor
Rules Sub Committee

Appeals Sub-Committee Report

Season 2003/04 being my first as a VMCU director was also my first as a member of the appeals sub-committee, consequently I am grateful for the experience and diligence of my three “co-conspirators” who made the task a lot easier. Also to the VMCU executive, in particular the President (Kevin Noy) and Administrator (Dennis Crook) for their assistance and advice during the past year. The rules sub-committee also deserves recognition for their mammoth task of overhauling and developing the VMCU competition rules and reviewing the By-Laws in respect of appeals procedures, changes that are currently before the delegates and will ultimately be voted on by them.

Although a number of appellant inquires were lodged with the VMCU Administrator during 2003/04 only two made it through to the stage of having their appeal considered because most did not meet requirements under the VMCU rules for an appeal to be heard. Of these the panel found in favour of one (appellant Mitcham CC against the BHRDCA) while essentially finding against the other (appellant Dousta Stars CC against the VTCA). The appeals’ sub-committee consisted of myself as chairman in addition to David Beatty, Keith Mackay and Ron Tucker with three members empanelled to hear each of the two appeals. The panelists were all drawn from the appeals sub-committee with the exception of Don Casey who deliberated on both appeals at the request of the board.

The aim of the VMCU appeals process is to ensure that member associations afford clubs and players the rights they are entitled to under applicable association rules and regulations. Judging by the number of occasions on which our predecessors were required to meet (12) for the hearing of appeals, I must conclude that either season 2002/03 was an aberration or our affiliates, their member clubs and players have lifted their game significantly during 2003/04.

John Toogood
Chairman
Appeals Sub-Committee

REGION REPORTS

REGION 9 – WEST METRO

Meetings were held on a regular basis and were well attended by representatives from the four Associations; Melton J.C.A., West Metro Junior C.C., Western Suburbs Churches C.A. and the Williamstown District C.A.

Once again we held the selection Carnival for the three Mitchell Shield squads with two teams from each of the Associations playing a game in the morning followed by lunch and another game in the afternoon, This gave the respective managers/coaches an opportunity to see their players in limited match conditions.

A Coaches Association has been established with some moderate success, with a formal Dinner to be held in September.

Last year we held a wicketkeepers “school” which was well attended and this year we had a “spinners school”. These events have given some young boys the opportunity to be coached by experienced cricketers.

At the beginning of the season we held a “cricket fun day” at the Yarraville C.G which unfortunately, even with plenty of promotion, was not considered a success.

For the second consecutive year we held a Milo Carnival at Altona but this time with limited success but we will pursue this concept and maybe look at a change of date.

At present both the Williamstown District Cricket Association and the West Metro Junior C.A. are considering the possibility of a limited merger of their Junior Grades for season 2005 -2006.

Consideration is also being given to playing the respective Premiers from the grades in a one day match “Champions Final”.

Inroads have been made into our young migrant friends with clinics being held the English Second Language school in Braybrook with the purpose of linking them with the Sunshine Druids Juniors.

Ken Davis has been very active in the Region, is well liked and is to be congratulated on the work that he is doing.

Geoff Gook.
Regional Director
West Metro Region

REGION 10 – NORTH WEST METRO

This season has seen a further integration of the VMCU run Regional Structure into the governance of the major constituent associations of our Region.

Both the Moreland Moonee Valley and the North West Cricket Associations are committed to the Regional concept, something that cannot be said of the other large Association in the Region, the VTCA.

The Region this season saw a change in governance as Graham Muir from the NWCA moved to become the Chairman of the Regional Council and Allan Oakman the Administrator of the MMVCA became the Regional Director on the VMCU Board.

Undoubtedly the most proactive item on our Region’s agenda was to organize a forum in October 2003 for prospective scorers in the area. This forum was a great success due in no

small part to both Graham Muir and to Terry Scott the CEO of the NWCA. This year the Region has scheduled a much larger and more ambitious gathering which will involve discussing issues such as on line score results, public liability insurance, legal responsibilities of volunteers and a range of other topics that it is hoped will be of use to clubs within the Region.

All up, the Region concept is gaining impetus amongst constituent Associations and with the inclusion of greater responsibilities being devolved to it by Cricket Victoria it is expected that it can only grow stronger. I

In conclusion thanks is due to Terry Scott and Graham Muir of the NWCA, Chris Leopold of the MMVCA and to Gary (Col) Sander the CV Regional Manager.

Allan Oakman
Regional Director
North West Metro Region

REGION 11 – NORTH METRO

The number of players participating in junior cricket continues to grow in Jika.

Milo

There were 409 registered participants for season 2003/04. This represents a 16% growth from the previous season. Some 18 clubs in the region offered Milo. The majority of clubs are well established and enjoying consistent participant growth

Cricket Victoria Pathway Program

North Metro made alterations to the delivery of the Pathway programs. The programs were delivered in two groups in each age level. This enabled more kids to be involved in the Pathway coaching programs. In season 2003/04, over 100 kids were coached. Two years ago, the number was capped at 75.

Under 13s

The squad was provided with three days of coaching in the first week of the September school holidays.

Under 15s

The squad was provided with four days of coaching. A squad of 13 players were then selected to represent the region in the Under 15 Championship.

North Metro won one of the five games. The highlight was Brad Dean making a 100 off the last ball of the innings against North West Metro.

Under 18s

The squad won three games in the State Championship. The highlight was the naming of Grant Baldwin as equal player of the championship. During the competition, Grant made scores of 108, 72 and 58.

Girls Under 17

The combined North / North East team won the girls state championship this season.

VPSSA State Honours

Dean Whiting-Smith was selected in the boy's team and Alana Bryant the girl's team.

Level 1 Coaching

Two courses were run during the season and were well attended by local coaches.

Mitchell Shield

The Jika C. A. Under 12 side playing in the Mitchell Shield competition had its most successful campaign. It played off in the semi-finals to be beaten by the eventual winner - Moorabbin.

Jika Junior Competition

For the junior competition in Jika, season 2003/04 saw significant growth in participants in the lower age groups. The non-competitive Under 11s, in its second year attracted 12 teams (up from 6 in its 1st year)

For the other age groups (U13, U15 and U17 Colts), the number of teams were maintained at 54 with some 24 clubs involved (up one from the previous year).

The move from even age groups to odd age groups three years ago has worked very well for Jika. Now that the U11s have strong numbers, this provides the perfect bridge between Milo and the U13s. Also, the introduction of an U17 age group has given many young cricketers one more year in the junior ranks before proceeding with greater confidence, to the seniors.

Jika Senior Competition

The season of 2003/04 was a very busy and demanding year. During the pre-season, the Jika Board undertook a complete overhaul of the Constitution, Administrative Regulations and Playing By-laws, as well as creating a number of sub-committees of the Board to administer the Association affairs more efficiently.

On the field, it was a challenging year with 100 senior and 66 junior teams on the park. The ever present prospect of severe drought affecting playing conditions at all levels meant that the Board had to liaise closely with clubs, Council and its staff to ensure that the fixture would not be affected.

The senior competition included a Veterans competition in its second season. There were five teams this year and it is anticipated that the numbers will grow as more and more "older" players re-enter cricket.

The Association continues to foster its relationship with other associations and matches were played between representative sides with the Diamond Valley, Heidelberg and North West Associations.

Jika C.A. continues to have a strong working relationship with Cricket Victoria's Regional Manager - North Metro, David Hall. A number of joint initiatives during the season has enhanced cricket's development in the North.

Yin Toe

Regional Director

North Metro Region

REGION 12 – NORTH EAST METRO

The North East Region like all others started the season apprehensively in view of the ground conditions and Council warnings of ground losses due to water restrictions thankfully we escaped with little effect on either Association.

On a participation level there are now twenty four Milo Have a Go Centres throughout the region with six hundred and eighty two participants, together with eleven schools playing Kanga 8's in the Primary sector, with a further nine schools competing in Super 8's Secondary competition. These programs are being well received and increasing in participation numbers and Schools.

In the Cricket Victoria pathway programs the Under 13 Talent Squad has Thirty One Players under its banner, The Under 15 Bolters finished Fourth overall after finishing on top of their pool with Michael Hill scoring 461 runs including Three Centuries worthy of special mention. Thirty players from the region played Dowling Shield with various Premier Clubs and five of these were awarded player of the series with their respective Clubs Tim Buszard (Carlton), Ben Dunbar (Northcote), Michael Hill Melbourne), Linden Gerhard (North Melbourne) and Eben Martin (Ringwood). The Under 18's finished fourth in the Coca Cola Cup. Two Level One Coaching courses were held throughout the season and both were strongly attended by Coaches.

The Heidelberg Cricket Association had a successful season with their Clubs committing themselves to raise both the standard and strength of the Association after a presumption that the Association could fold through lack of support from its Clubs with two defecting to other Associations. There was strong support from umpires nearly covering all games. The Association fielded an Under 16 side in the Beitzel Shield for the first time following an excellent showing from its u12's in past seasons. A major restructure of Eight Team Grades next season will see all Clubs playing a two day and a one day game against each other which will be interesting to see the reaction from players and Clubs.

Diamond Valley also had a strong season with increases in junior numbers and Teams the implementation of non-competitive games for the Under 10's was particularly well received by Clubs and parents being reflected in participation numbers. The Representative Sides performed well without winning any Shield Competitions as in past years. The age groupings of Heidelberg and Jika had an impact on some Senior Clubs in close proximity as players enjoyed another year in juniors before moving to Senior Competition.

Heidelberg, Diamond Valley and Jika held a consultative meeting at the end of the season for the first time discussing programs and initiatives in place in each of their Associations which could be adopted to improve their standard and was well received by all.

Unfortunately we are losing our Regional Manager Tim McCaskill who has been appointed Coach of the Victorian under 17 Squad. I take this opportunity to thank Tim on behalf of Diamond Valley and Heidelberg Associations for his input and initiatives whilst he has been working with us over the past five years and look forward to working with David Hall in the North East Region.

Paul Reid
Regional Director
North East Metro Region

REGION 13 – INNER EAST METRO

Administration:

By the start of season 2003/04 the Inner East Region was experiencing an uneasy administrative transition. With outgoing Regional Cricket Manager Marty Gleeson not replaced by Rhys Miller until November and a newly appointed VMCU Director slowly becoming acclimatized the Executive Council was in real need of review. Nevertheless by the second half of November, with a decision looming on our nominations to the Volunteer of the Year Award, the region's administration was again providing adequate representation. By January further moves ensured representation across the range of regional stakeholders at executive level.

Representation:

The region is represented on an executive council by a VMCU Director, Regional Cricket Victorian Metropolitan Cricket Union

Manager (employed by Cricket Victoria) and delegates from both the Eastern CA and Box Hill Reporter DCA (one representative of open and one of under-age cricket from each). In addition there is one delegate representing clubs not aligned with either. Both ECA and the BHRDCA are engaged primarily within the inner east region. A general council comprises the executive plus representation from all stakeholders within the region.

Achievements:

By no means all the region's achievements these few highlights are indicative of the future direction for the Inner East Metropolitan Region and our general role within metropolitan cricket development.

- * The Inner East and Outer East regions combined in season 2003/04 to form the U17 Eastern Girls Cricket Team which took part in the U17 State Championships during early December at Royal Park, Carlton.
- * Congratulations to Colin Martin (ECA) for being awarded the Inner East Cricket Volunteer of the Year Award. This was clearly well deserved recognition for all his work and services to cricket in the Eastern Region and indeed the State.
- * January saw the Inner East Emus U13 team go down fighting in a close fought rain effected encounter with the Tasmanian U13 side.
- * Also during January, Inner East Region teams figured in the finals of all VMCU Shield age groups except U14 (Russell Allen Shield) and the Neil Right Shield (U21). Consequently, the Inner East saw ECA win the Josh Browne Plate (U12) and come runners-up for the Neil Wright Shield while the BHRDCA finished runners-up in the Jim Beizel Shield (U16). Our region was also represented well in the U21 VMCU squad that defeated the NSWDCA 3-0 for the dual-shield trophy at the Interstate Carnival in Sydney.
- * Inner East Emus U15 state carnival players Luke Davis (Vermont Sth CC) and Nick Brandon-Jones (Nth Balwyb CC) both dominated the R. M. Hatch competition for their respective teams (Box Hill and Balwyn).
- * In season 2003/04 the region produced 37 Milo 'Have-A-Go' groups, one Super 8, one Milo 'Have-A-Go', two Kanga 8s carnival days and the Canterbury CricHit Programme for girls aged 10 to 13 years.
- * One achievement to really do our region proud was the recent appointment of Nunawading CC protégé David Saker to the position of assistant coach with the Victorian Bushrangers, congratulations to David.

Recognition:

It goes without saying that the game as we know it would never be conducted but for the commitment of our unsung administrative 'team' at all levels.

- * Congratulations to Marty Gleeson, our immediate past RCM who recently landed a regional development role with the ICC.
- * Thanks to our new Regional Cricket Manager, Rhys Miller, who has ably filled the role vacated by Marty. Rhys has been a considerable asset to our region continuing in the tradition Marty had accustomed us too.
- * Thanks also to Ben Pilley for his handling of our promotional clinics during the season and to the representative team managers and coaches.

John Toogood
Regional Director
Inner East Metro Region

REGION 14 – OUTER EAST METRO

In its 5th year, the Regional Council again functioned cohesively due to the work of the 3 association representatives: Pat Meehan - Ringwood District, Neil Maxwell – Ferntree Gully, and David Webb – Yarra Valley, together with our Regional Cricket Manager, Andrew Larratt – CV. I wish to record my thanks to these gentlemen for their help and support in both broad areas of operation – Pathway and Administration.

NOTEABLE ACHIEVEMENTS:

- * 38 Milo Have-A-Go programmes involving 1400 participants
- * Cric Hit for girls commenced in the Yarra Valley with 43 participants
- * Mentor umpire programme up and running
- * Alignment with Yarra Valley Grammar School as regional facilities base
- * Brendan Walsh and Glen Maxwell selected in Vic U15 team
- * Daniel King and Tom Stray selected in Vic U17 team
- * Matt Gale selected in Vic 2nd XI
- * 5 players debut in 1st XI Premier Cricket
- * Appointment of part-time Regional Project Officer
- * Stuart Minetti (Ainslie Park / RDCA) volunteer of the year

The undoubted highlight of the year was the success of the Under 18 team, winning the state championship, the final being played on the MCG. Well done to the leadership team: Co-captains Ben Stallworthy (Johnson Park / Hawthorn-Monash) and Nathan Owen (Templeton / Fitzroy-Doncaster) and coach Bryan Reid.

David Beatty
Regional Director
Outer East Metro Region

REGION 15 - SOUTH EAST METRO

At the start of the season all Clubs throughout the Region were apprehensive that water restrictions would have detrimental effect on the playing fields and affect the playing of matches. However rain at various times provided almost normal conditions.

Team Numbers

The three major Associations in the Region had the following team numbers:

	Seniors	Juniors
Southern Districts	86	99
City of Moorabbin	115	120
Mercantile	36	-

Southern Districts Junior Competition competed for the first time using “odd” year Age Groups (Under 11, 13, 15, and 17) and a record number of teams (99) competed.

The Menzies Shield Premiership was won by Chadstone Harlequin Cricket Club who went through the season undefeated.

City of Moorabbin Cricket Association was successful winning the Mitchell Shield and East Sandringham Boys Club won the First Grade premiership for the second year running.

The Milo Have A Go program continues to thrive in the Region with 23 centres participating during the season. They are having a direct effect on the numbers of junior teams now playing in the Region.

The achievement of two players, Helen Taylor and Matthew Wilkie, in representing the State at Under 15 level is noted.

Region Manager Paul Montgomery continues to contribute to the smooth running of the Region and we look forward to another season of close co-operation with him.

Keith Mackay
Regional Director
South East Metro Region.

NEIL WRIGHT SHIELD REPORT

After some initial uncertainty surrounding team entries, 12 teams drawn from 11 affiliated associations were fixtured for the 3 pre-finals rounds. Once again the VTCA were able to enter north and south teams to ensure an even number of entries. Rounds 1 and 3 and the final were, as usual, played on Premier Club grounds, and round 2 was predominantly played on VSDCA grounds, which unfortunately were not available for the semi-finals.

The pre-finals rounds were conducted with enthusiastic, quality competition being the order of the day. The common theme running through post-match reports was the high standard of umpiring and the excellent spirit in which games were played.

After the Christmas break semi-finalists were Ringwood & District v Eastern at ECA ground Mulgrave, and Dandenong District v VTCA-Nth at VTCA ground South Caulfield. Eastern and Dandenong were successful in making their way through to the Final at Bill Lawry Oval, Northcote on January 25th.

Everything was as it should have been for this game – pitch, ground conditions, weather, hospitality of host club Northcote and an expectant crowd to enjoy watching two evenly matched teams. Dandenong, batting first reached 6/182 from their allotted 45 overs. Eastern were dismissed 3 runs short, for 179 in their penultimate over to conclude an enthralling contest, and see the 2003-04 Neil Wright Shield presented to Dandenong District C A.

Congratulations to all involved in this premier VMCU turf competition, for their collective input ensured a series of which all can be proud. We look forward to seeing players progress on to Premier Cricket after proving themselves in this stepping stone for late developers.

David Beatty.
Chairman
Match Committee

VMCU SHIELD REPORT

I am pleased to offer this report on behalf of a hard working committee.

Once again we saw a very enthusiastic group of Managers/Coaches and parents support the concept of the V.M.C.U. Inter - Association matches. We were fortunate this year to not have the problem of hot weather even though we were prepared with the rule modification with an earlier start and reduced overs.

There is no doubt that Associations are becoming even more organised and structured and are identifying their "better" players. This has been proved with the Melton Junior Cricket Association with a small number of Under 12 teams playing off in the final of the Mitchell Shield. Congratulations Melton.

The finals were played at two good venues with the Banyule C.C. assisting with the Under 14 and Under 16 matches. I think that the formula we have is pretty much right in the terms of the venues and the Rules but if we could have a few extra teams in the Under 14 and 16's we could look at the concept of divisions.

In conclusion I would like to congratulate all Premiership and trophy winners, well done. A special mention to Arthur Ince who continually presents himself for the love of cricket and Josh Browne and Pat Meehan for their hard work and contribution.

I look forward to next season's contribution and once again working with everybody for the benefit of junior cricket

Geoff Gook
Chairman
VMCU Shield Sub-Committee

2004 Finals Results

Under 12 Keith Mitchell Shield Quarter-Finals

Wed 14th January

City of Moorabbin	6/208	def	Gisborne	10/111
North West	8/206	def	Diamond Valley	9/144
Melton	3/190	def	Eastern CA	4/187
Jika CA	9/165	def	Fern Tree Gully	8/164

Semi-Finals

Fri 16th January

City of Moorabbin	3/198	def	Jika CA	10/102
Melton	7/121	def	North West	8/120

Final

Sun 18th January

City of Moorabbin	6/145	def	Melton	9/127
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Player of the Series – Lloyd Champion Trophy

Joint Winners – D Knight and N Plumridge

Best Player in Final N Plumridge

Keith Mitchell Cup

Quarter-Finals

Wed 14th January

Federal	3/180	def	West Metro	10/116
Sth. Dist. & Churches	3/178	def	Box Hill	5/176
Ringwood	4/175	def	Heidelberg	10/93
Dandenong	3/205	def	Williamstown	10/146

Semi-Finals

Fri 16th January

Federal	4/145	def	Dandenong	9/144
Sth. Dist. & Churches	7/185	def	Ringwood	5/180

Final

Sun 18th January

Federal	6/146	def	Sth. Dist. & Churches	10/137
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Player of the Series – Arthur Ince Trophy

Best Player in Final

J Williamson

L Manders

Josh Browne Plate

Semi-Finals

Fri 16th January

Ringwood 2 XI	3/112	def	Diamond Valley 2 XI	8/106
Eastern 2XI	6/125	def	North West 2XI	10/124

Final

Sun 18th January

Eastern 2 XI	3/85	def	Ringwood 2 XI	10/84
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Player of the Series – Alan Bailey Trophy

Best Player in Final

A Fyffe

W Chan

Under 14

Russell Allen Shield

Semi-Finals

Fri 16th January

Fern Tree Gully	5/167	def	North West	10/164
Ringwood	7/203	def	Eastern	10/195

Final

Sun 18th January

Fern Tree Gully	4/78	def	Ringwood	4/71
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Best Player in the Series – Des Nolan Trophy

Best Player in Final

R Handley

S Srinivasan

**Under 16
Jim Beitzel Shield
Semi-Finals**

Fri 16th January

Box Hill	3/172	def	Ringwood	8/171
Dandenong	10/166	def	Eastern	10/163

Final

Sun 18th January

Dandenong	10/148	def	Box Hill	10/140
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Best Player in the Series – Fred Barling Trophy R Gray

In conclusion I would like to congratulate all premiership and trophy winners, well done. A special mention to Arthur Ince who continually presents himself for the love of cricket. And Josh Browne and Pat Meehan for their hard work and contribution. I look forward to next season's contribution and once again working with everybody for the benefit of junior cricket.

Geoff Gook
Chairman
VMCU Shield Sub - Committee

VMCU Shield Competition - Previous Winners

Under 12

Keith Mitchell Shield (1984-2004)

SEASON	PREMIERS	RUNNERS-UP
1984-85	Ringwood & District	Essendon, Broadmeadows & Keilor
1985-86	East Suburban Churches & District	Ringwood & District
1986-87	Essendon, B'meadows & Keilor	City of Moorabbin
1987-88	South Suburban Churches & District	Fern Tree Gully & District
1988-89	City of Moorabbin	Federal District
1989-90	Dandenong District	Essendon, Broadmeadows & Keilor
1990-91	Essendon, B'meadows & Keilor 1	Federal District
1991-92	Essendon, B'meadows & Keilor 1	South Suburban Churches & District
1992-93	Essendon, B'meadows & Keilor 1	City of Moorabbin
1993-94	City of Moorabbin	Essendon, Broadmeadows & Keilor 1
1994-95	Joint Premiers (East Suburban Churches & District & Essendon, B'meadows & Keilor)	
1995-96	North West 1	City of Moorabbin
1996-97	City of Moorabbin	North West
1997-98	Williamstown & District	Melton Junior C.A
1998-99	North West	Diamond Valley
1999-00	Dandenong District	Heidelberg & District
2000-01	North West	City of Moorabbin
2001-02	Dandenong District	Eastern C.A
2002-03	North West	Ringwood & District
2003-04	City of Moorabbin	Melton Junior C.A

Keith Mitchell Cup

2001-02 City of Moorabbin
 2002-03 Eastern C.A
 2003-04 Federal District

Heidelberg & District
 Box Hill Reporter
 Southern District & Churches C.L

Josh Browne Plate

2002-03 Diamond Valley 2 XI
 2003-04 Eastern C.A 2 XI

Ringwood & District 2 XI
 Ringwood & District 2 XI

Under 14**Russell Allen Shield**

2002-03 Ringwood & District
 2003-04 Fern Tree Gully

Diamond Valley
 Ringwood District

Under 16**Jim Beitzel Shield**

2002-03 Southern District & Churches C.L
 2003-04 Dandenong District

Box Hill Reporter
 Box Hill Reporter

VMCU Shield Competition Previous Personal Trophy Winners**Under 12****Keith Mitchell Shield****Lloyd Champion Trophy**

2000-01 D. Daly (CMCA)
 2001-02 D. Torme (DDCA)
 2002-03 N. Walsh (FTGDCA)
 2003-04 D. Kight (Melton JCA)

Keith Mitchell Cup**Arthur Ince Trophy**

2001-02 S. Lumsden (HDCA)
 2002-03 D. Kight (Melton JCA)
 2003-04 J. Williamson (DDCA)

Josh Browne Plate**Alan Bailey Trophy**

2002-03 D. Cowley (Eastern CA)
 2003-04 A. Fyffe (RDCA)

Under 14**Russell Allen Shield****Des Nolan Trophy**

2002-03 J. Stanton (RDCA)
 2003-04 R. Handley (RDCA)

Under 16**Jim Beitzel Shield****Fred Barling Trophy**

2002-03 D. Godbee-Lingard (FRGDCA)
 2003-04 R. Gray (BHRDCA)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

IVANHOE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

The VMCU wishes to thank the school for its continued support and assistance in granting permission to use its ovals for the Shield finals.

EAST IVANHOE SAINTS CRICKET CLUB

For the use of the S/E and M/W Chelsworth Ovals and Pavilion on the Finals Day of the VMCU Shield Shield. Thank you for your assistance since 1998 - 99

CRICKET VICTORIA

A special thank you to the Cricket Victoria for their general support through the Coaching and Development Department and the Regional Cricket Managers.

Also the support from the Community Cricket Manager with the generous and valuable supply of match balls for the VMCU Shield Carnival

UNDER 21 INTERSTATE REPRESENTATIVE GAME

This interstate carnival has now been held 72 times since 1904. Victoria has competed in every series held, and now takes its winning tally to 27, ahead of NSW on 24 (QLD and SA make up the balance), courtesy of a 3-match clean sweep in 2003/04. Thus VMCU regained the dual-shield trophy which had been “on loan” to NSW after the last series. It is believed to be the oldest, continual trophy under contest in Australian cricket today.

This year’s series was between a VMCU Under 21 squad and a New South Wales Districts Cricket Association squad (our NSW equivalent) in Sydney in their centenary year.

The VMCU was treated to outstanding venues - Bankstown Oval (the home of the Waugh twins), Penrith’s Howell Oval and Alan Davidson Oval in Sydney Park, South Sydney, and the primary aim, that of upholding the “Spirit of Cricket” was clearly achieved by both sides. Harry Solomon’s Kingsgrove Sports Centre, the major Sydney series sponsor, provided a wonderful historic award to be presented to the player-of-the-series.

The 3-nil result in favour of the VMCU does not reflect the keen and close nature of each match – each was in doubt until within the last 5 of the allocated 100 overs. The player-of-the-series, by unanimous opinion, was VMCU captain, Ben Morris from ECA club Heathmont.

VMCU Representatives

Ben Morris ©	ECA	Mark Doyle (vc)	DVCA
Brett Ernst	CMCA	Nick Curtain	DVCA
Nick Ferns	NWCA	Jayde Herrick	DDCA
Steve Lindsay	RDCA	Peter Mann	DVCA
Wes Nicholas	DDCA	Hagan Shakespeare	RDCA
Mark Teofilo	RDCA	Dale Wilkinson	ECA
Jarrold Pyne	DDCA		
Coach:	Clive Burge	DVCA	
Scorer:	Peter Howarth	VTCA	

Congratulations to all of the above gentlemen.

David Beatty
Team Manager.

VICTORIAN METROPOLITAN CRICKET UNION
STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE
FOR SEASON 2003-2004
12 MONTHS TO 30 JUNE 2004

2002-2003	INCOME	2003/2004
\$1,000.00	Affiliation Fees	\$900.00
\$33,000.00	Grants Cricket Victoria	\$46,050.00
\$ -	Appeal Fees (net)	\$500.00
\$750.00	Entrance Fees VMCU Shield	\$1,000.00
\$ -	Esanda Investment Release	\$40,000.00
\$3,407.85	Bank Interest	\$1,411.82
\$ -	Loan Repayment	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
	TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$94,861.82</u>

EXPENDITURE

H NEIL WRIGHT UNDER 21 YEARS SHIELD

\$ -	Cricket Balls	\$300.00	
\$150.00	Ground Preparation	\$121.00	
\$2,560.00	Umpire Fee Reimbursement	\$2,620.00	
\$240.00	Umpires Fees	\$240.00	
\$480.00	Catering	<u>\$445.00</u>	\$3,726.00

VMCU SHIELD

\$43.01	Catering	\$211.92	
\$99.87	Postage, Stationary, Telephone etc.	\$361.91	
\$60.00	Ground Rentals	\$220.00	
\$735.05	Printing	\$486.20	
\$2,100.00	Umpires Fees	\$2,100.00	
\$9,060.00	Umpire Fee Reimbursement	\$12,840.00	
\$1,062.00	Trophies	<u>\$353.00</u>	\$16,573.03

HONORARIA

\$5,500.00	Administrator	\$12,000.00	
\$1,500.00	Treasurer	\$1,500.00	
<u>\$ 400.00</u>	Administrative Assistant	<u>\$3,000.00</u>	\$16,500.00

INTERSTATE UNDER 21 SERIES

	Air Fares	\$6,094.24	
	Meal Allowances	\$1,500.00	
	Team Dinner	\$300.19	
	Cricket Balls	\$318.00	
	Managers Expenses	\$707.94	
	Accommodation	<u>\$4,320.00</u>	\$13,240.37

ADMINISTRATION

\$986.20	Printing	\$694.42	
\$387.14	Catering for Meetings	\$944.00	
	Website Operation	\$515.00	
\$ -	Legal Fees	\$660.00	
\$ -	Fines	\$500.00	
\$ -	International One Day Match Hospitality	\$1,440.00	
\$32.55	Postage	\$25.00	
\$33.00	Office of Fair Trading - Annual return .	\$33.00	
\$737.75	Telephone Charges	\$798.46	
\$2,258.95	Region Expenses	\$2,309.90	
\$900.00	Computer Expenses	<u>\$4,140.63</u>	\$12,060.41

GOVERNMENT CHARGES

\$86.60	Debits Tax	<u>\$97.40</u>	\$97.40
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DEPRECIATION OF FIXED ASSETS

\$7.00	Filing Cabinet	\$6.00	
\$50.00	Photocopier	\$40.00	
\$222.00	Computer & Printer	\$178.00	
\$56.00	Answering Machine	\$44.00	
\$17.00	Document Scanner	\$13.00	
\$15.00	Document Shredder	\$12.00	
\$180.00	Lap Top Computer	\$144.00	
\$ -	Internet Server	\$99.00	<u>\$536.00</u>

TOTAL EXPENDITURE **\$62,733.21**

EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE **\$32,128.61**

VICTORIAN METROPOLITAN CRICKET UNION

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2004

2003-2004 2002-2003

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

ANZ CURRENT ACCOUNT	\$63,242.88	\$30,545.27
COMPRISING		
GENERAL FUNDS	\$53,697.78	\$21,810.17
JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT FUND	\$9,545.10	\$8,735.10

NON CURRENT ASSETS

VMCU TIES (198@\$12.75)	\$2,524.50	
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FIXED ASSETS (at depreciated value)

FILING CABINET	\$57.00	\$63.00
PHOTOCOPIER	\$161.00	\$202.00
COMPUTER & PRINTER	\$712.00	\$890.00
LAP TOP COMPUTER	\$576.00	\$720.00
TELEPHONE/ANS.MACHINE/FAX	\$178.00	\$222.00
DOCUMENT SCANNER	\$54.00	\$67.00
DOCUMENT SHREDDER	\$47.00	\$59.00
INTERNET SERVER	\$1,090.00	\$99.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$68,642.38	
AFFILIATES EQUITY	\$68,642.38	

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the members and committee of the Victorian Metropolitan Cricket Union.

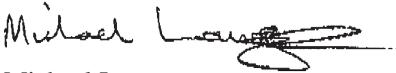
Scope

I have audited the Treasurer's report, being the Statement of Income & Expenditure, Balance Sheet and supporting notes to, and forming part of, the financial report of the Victorian Metropolitan Cricket Union for the financial year ended 30 June 2004.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the Financial Report has been presented fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards, and statutory requirements, so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Union's financial position and performance, as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion, the Financial Report of the Victorian Metropolitan Cricket Union presents fairly in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act, the Assets and Liabilities at 30 June 2004, the Receipts and Payments and the Statement of Income & Expenditure of the Union for the year then ended.



Michael Lawson

CPA

20 July 2004