The Ninety – Eighth

ANNUAL REPORT

and

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

of the

ROSANNA CRICKET CLUB Inc.

Season 2025/26

.....

Annual Meeting:

Montmorency RSL

Wednesday the 29th of July at 7.30 pm

ROSANNA CRICKET CLUB'S
PLATINUM SPONSORS 2025/26

PKF

Viewbank

Early Childhood Centre

03 9432 8288

"Meeting the needs of children and parents"

ROSANNA CRICKET CLUB'S
GOLD SPONSORS 2025/26

ROSANNA CRICKET CLUB'S
SILVER SPONSORS 2025/26

WARWICK

QUALITY DRUM SERVICES AUSTRALIA

DRUM RECONDITIONING

ROSANNA CRICKET CLUB'S
BRONZE SPONSORS 2025/26

Rosanna Legends
Coterie Group

Haedar Almatrah
Houssam Almatrah
Bill Anderson
Luke Anderson
Alan Bell
Eamon Bourke
Gary Bryant
Garry Carlton
David Crawford
Geoff Davis
Adrian Duncan
Dan Flynn
Matt Flynn
Denis Groom
Dennis Hartney
Leigh Henderson
Peter Hodder
Mark Horsford
Chris Jackson
David Jackson
Matthew Jackson
Tony Jackson
Greg James
Anthony Lambert
Mick Langford
Darrel Leonard
Mark Luby
John McKenzie
Gavin Pilkington
Mark Prince
John Raywood
Peter Rawley
Duncan Sanderson
Peter Waddingham
Geoff Wilson
Andrew Wolczko

ROSANNA CRICKET CLUB Inc.

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

SEASON 2025/26

The 98th Annual Report and Financial Statement for the twelve months ended 30th June 2026 is presented by the Committee of the Rosanna Cricket Club.

The General Committee members for 2025-26 were:

PRESIDENT	Luke Anderson
VICE-PRESIDENT	Nicholas Horsford
TREASURER	Thomas Bourke
SECRETARY	Oliver Toussaint
JUNIOR MANAGER	Meaghan Waddingham
CHAIRMAN OF SELECTORS	Haedar Almatrah
SPONSORSHIP & PROPERTY MANAGER	Matthew R. Jackson
SOCIAL MANAGER	Nick Rowe
BAR MANAGER	Max Balcombe
CANTEEN MANAGER	Carolyn Anderson
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Hayden Smith

……

The Executive Committee comprised the President, Vice-President, Junior Manager, Secretary and Treasurer who attended to any matters requiring immediate attention.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Thanks to the Banyule City Council, the Parks & Gardens Department and Nicole Waldron, Sport & Recreation Liaison Officer, for their attention to matters raised by our club.
- Thanks to Hon Kate Thwaites MP for her ongoing support.
- Thanks to the Macleod Football Netball Club Committee for their ongoing cooperation and assistance throughout their offseason.
- Thanks to Grant Flack, Suraj Shetty and the DVCA Executive Committee.

Rosanna Cricket Club - Premierships (Senior Grades)

1st X1

Season	Grade
1939-40	HDCA 1st Grade
1947-48	HDCA 1st Grade
1950-51	HDCA 1st Grade
1954-55	HDCA 1st Grade
1955-56	HDCA 1st Grade
1957-58	HDCA 1st Grade
1959-60	HDCA 1st Grade
1961-62	HDCA 1st Grade
1962-63	HDCA 1st Grade
1966-67	HDCA 1st Grade
1969-70	HDCA 1st Grade
1972-73	HDCA 1st Grade
1974-75	HDCA 1st Grade
1977-78	HDCA 2nd Grade
1982-83	HDCA 1st Grade
1986-87	HDCA 1st Grade
1993-94	HDCA 1st Grade
1996-97	HDCA 1st Grade
2005-06	HDCA 1st Grade
2007-08	HDCA 1st Grade
2010-11	HDCA 1st Grade
2011-12	HDCA 1st Grade
2012-13	DVCA Money Shield
2022-23	DVCA Barclay Shield
2024-25	DVCA Barclay Shield
2025-26	DVCA Barclay Shield

2nd X1

Season	Grade
1950-51	HDCA 3rd Grade
1957-58	HDCA 2nd Grade
1959-60	HDCA 2nd Grade
1961-62	HDCA 2nd Grade
1963-64	HDCA 2nd Grade
1964-65	HDCA 2nd Grade
1965-66	HDCA 2nd Grade
1969-70	HDCA 2nd Grade
1985-86	HDCA 2nd Grade
2001-02	HDCA 3rd Grade
2012-13	DVCA C Grade
2017-18	DVCA C Grade

4th X1

Season	Grade
1968-69	HDCA 4th Grade
1969-70	HDCA 4th Grade
1970-71	HDCA 4th Grade
1981-82	HDCA 5th Grade
1992-93	HDCA 5th Grade
2012-13	DVCA G Grade
2013-14	DVCA G Grade
2017-18	DVCA F3 Grade

T20

Season	Grade
2024-25	DVCA Summer Smash
2025-26	DVCA Summer Smash #

3rd X1

Season	Grade
1961-62	HDCA 3rd Grade
1963-64	HDCA 3rd Grade
1964-65	HDCA 3rd Grade
1979-80	HDCA 4th Grade
1997-98	HDCA 4th Grade
2001-02	HDCA 4th Grade
2005-06	HDCA 3rd Grade

5th X1

Season	Grade
1981-82	HDCA 6th Grade
1983-84	HDCA 5th Grade
2021-22	DVCA G5 Grade

6th X1

Season	Grade
1984-85	HDCA 7th Grade

Veterans

Season	Grade
2009-10	NMCA Cosgriff Shield
2010-11	NMCA Cosgriff Shield
2018-19	DVCA Vets B #
2022-23	DVCA Vets C
2025-26	DVCA Vets Teal #

Rosanna Cricket Club - Premierships (Junior Grades)

Under 16

Season	Grade
1966-67	HDCA 'C' Division
1967-68	HDCA 'C' Division
1970-71	HDCA 'A' Division
1971-72	HDCA 'B' Division
1972-73	HDCA 'A' Division
1973-74	HDCA 'B' Division
1977-78	HDCA 'A' Division
1978-79	HDCA 'A' Division
1984-85	HDCA 'A' Division
1987-88	HDCA 'East' Division
1988-89	HDCA 'A' Division
1999-00	HDCA 'A' Division (Gold)
2000-01	HDCA 'A' Division
2003-04	HDCA 'A' Division
2014-15	DVCA U16 'Teal'
2017-18	DVCA U16 'Teal'
2019-20	DVCA U16 'Blue'
2023-24	DVCA U16 'Red'

Under 14

Season	Grade
1981-82	HDCA U14 'A' Division
1982-83	HDCA U14 'A' Division
1983-84	HDCA U14 'A' Division
1984-85	HDCA U14 'A' Division
1986-87	HDCA U14 'A' Division
1994-95	HDCA U14 'A' Division
1995-96	HDCA U14 'A' Division
1997-98	HDCA U14 'A' Division
1998-99	HDCA U14 'A' Division
2002-03	HDCA U14 'A' Division
2015-16	DVCA U14 Teal South

Under 17

Season	Grade
2008-09	HDCA Gold Grade
2011-12	HDCA Gold Grade

Under 13

Season	Grade
2010-11	HDCA Gold Grade

Under 12

Season	Grade
1993-94	HDCA 'A' Grade
1995-96	HDCA 'A' Grade
1996-97	HDCA 'A' Grade
1997-98	HDCA 'A' Grade
1998-99	HDCA 'East' Grade
1999-00	HDCA 'A' Grade
1999-00	HDCA 'B' Grade
2000-01	HDCA 'A' Grade

Notes:

HDCA 1925-26 to 2011-12. Joined DVCA 2012-13

Hash (#). Indicates Joint Premiers

Rosanna Cricket Club - Runners-Up (Senior Grades)

1st X1

Season	Grade
1934-35	HDCA 1st Grade
1938-39	HDCA 1st Grade
1949-50	HDCA 1st Grade
1951-52	HDCA 1st Grade
1956-57	HDCA 1st Grade
1958-59	HDCA 1st Grade
1960-61	HDCA 1st Grade
1963-64	HDCA 1st Grade
1964-65	HDCA 1st Grade
1970-71	HDCA 1st Grade
1981-82	HDCA 1st Grade
1988-89	HDCA 1st Grade
1992-93	HDCA 1st Grade
1994-95	HDCA 1st Grade
1995-96	HDCA 1st Grade
2004-05	HDCA 1st Grade
2014-15	DVCA Barclay Shield

2nd X1

Season	Grade
1940-41	HDCA 2nd Grade
1960-61	HDCA 2nd Grade
1966-67	HDCA 2nd Grade
1968-69	HDCA 2nd Grade
2002-03	HDCA 'A' Reserve
2007-08	HDCA 2nd Grade
2016-17	DVCA C Grade
2019-20	DVCA B Grade
2021-22	DVCA B Grade

3rd X1

Season	Grade
1965-66	HDCA 3rd Grade
1968-69	HDCA 3rd Grade
1975-76	HDCA 3rd Grade
1981-82	HDCA 4th Grade
1984-85	HDCA 3rd Grade
1995-96	HDCA 4th Grade
1999-00	HDCA 3rd Grade
2000-01	HDCA 3rd Grade
2002-03	HDCA 3rd Grade
2017-18	DVCA F1 Grade
2022-23	DVCA F1 Grade

4th X1

Season	Grade
1974-75	HDCA 4th Grade
1978-79	HDCA 5th Grade
1988-89	HDCA 5th Grade
1993-94	HDCA 5th Grade
1998-99	HDCA 5th Grade

5th X1

Season	Grade
1969-70	HDCA 5th Grade
1974-75	HDCA 5th Grade
1982-83	HDCA 5th Grade
1984-85	HDCA 5th Grade
1985-86	HDCA 5th Grade
1986-87	HDCA 5th Grade
2003-04	HDCA ODC
2018-19	DVCA G4 Grade

Veterans

Season	Grade
2013-14	DVCA Vets B
2014-15	DVCA Vets B
2017-18	DVCA Vets Green
2023-24	DVCA Vets B

North Metro T20 Competition

Season	Grade
2020-21	NRT20
2022-23	NRT20

Rosanna Cricket Club - Runners-Up (Junior Grades)

Under 16

Season	Grade
1968-69	HDCA 'B' Division
1969-70	HDCA 'A' Division
1972-73	HDCA 'B Division
1974-75	HDCA 'A' Division
1976-77	HDCA 'A' Division
1979-80	HDCA 'B' Division
1982-83	HDCA 'A' Division
1997-98	HDCA 'A' Division
1998-99	HDCA 'A' Division
2001-02	HDCA 'A' Division
2002-03	HDCA 'A' Division'
2007-08	HDCA 'A' Division
2007-08	HDCA 'B' Division
2013-14	DVCA Blue Grade

Under 14

Season	Grade
1971-72	HDCA U14 'A' Division
1972-73	HDCA U14 'A' Division
1978-79	HDCA U14 'A' Division
1996-97	HDCA U14 'A' Division
1999-00	HDCA U14 'A' Division
2000-01	HDCA U14 'A' Division
2001-02	HDCA U14 'A' Division
2005-06	HDCA U14 'A' Division
2012-13	DVCA U14 Teal North
2013-14	DVCA U14 Teal South
2017-18	DVCA U14 Teal
2018-19	DVCA U14 Blue
2020-21	DVCA U14 White
2021-22	DVCA U14 Teal

Under 18

Season	Grade
2021-22	DVCA Teal

Under 17

Season	Grade
2010-11	HDCA 'Gold'

Under 15

Season	Grade
2011-12	HDCA 'Green'

Under 12

Season	Grade
1994-95	HDCA 'A' Division

Notes:

HDCA 1925-26 to 2011-12. Joined DVCA 2012-13

LIFE MEMBERS

Number	Year	Name	Number	Year	Name
1	1948	Jack Maxfield (dec)	38	1993	Brian Flynn (dec)
2	1952	Vern George (dec)	39	1993	Cecily Flynn
3	1952	Bill Luby (dec)	40	1995	Anthony Lambert
4	1952	Cec Myers (dec)	41	1996	Dan Flynn
5	1952	Reg Stone (dec)	42	1999	David Jackson
6	1954	Charlie Carter (dec)	43	1999	Peter Jones (dec)
7	1959	Don Pritchard (dec)	44	2000	David Jones
8	1959	Dick Russell (dec)	45	2001	Chris Leech
9	1964	Brian Carlton (dec)	46	2001	Darrel Leonard
10	1964	Steve Durant (dec)	47	2002	Grant Pyers
11	1964	Barney Luby (dec)	48	2002	Peter Waddingham
12	1968	Jack Sullivan (dec)	49	2004	Peter Hodder
13	1968	Bill Wilson (dec)	50	2005	Paul Leonard
14	1969	Bob Durrant (dec)	51	2009	John Raywood
15	1969	Ron Webster (dec)	52	2011	Steven Nikolovski
16	1971	Alan Bell	53	2011	Haedar Almatrah
17	1973	Ron Beel	54	2011	Luke Anderson
18	1974	Bob Higgs (dec)	55	2011	Paul Fahey
19	1975	Bob Jamieson (dec)	56	2014	Mark Muscat
20	1976	Kevin Fahey (dec)	57	2016	David Crawford
21	1977	Ron Jones (dec)	58	2016	Houssam Almatrah
22	1980	Des Flynn (dec)	59	2018	Andrew Wolczko
23	1980	Roy Hartney (dec)	60	2018	Chris Payne
24	1980	Bill Lambert (dec)	61	2018	Gary Bryant
25	1983	Paul Gregor (dec)	62	2019	Scott Dunbar
26	1983	John McKenzie	63	2019	Mick Langford
27	1984	Kevin Pyers	64	2021	Nick Carlton
28	1984	Rod Webster (dec)	65	2021	Neil Crosthwaite
29	1985	Mark Luby	66	2022	Scott Shelton
30	1985	Denis Groom	67	2023	Sam Sheehan
31	1986	Dennis Hartney	68	2024	Michelle Smith
32	1987	Pat English	69	2025	Matthew Macaulay
33	1989	Ivon Ditcham	70	2025	Martin Legge
34	1989	John Ditcham (dec)	71	2026	Eamon Bourke
35	1992	Andrew Heath	72	2026	Nicholas Horsford
36	1993	Garry Carlton	73	2026	Oliver Toussaint
37	1993	Geoff Wilson			

In October, the club was saddened to learn of the passing of Life Member #25, Paul Gregor, or as he was affectionally known around the club, “The Great Man”. Paul joined Rosanna in season 1969-70 and played his last game (his 250th) in season 1998-99. He was elected a Life Member in 1983 and in 1986-87 was awarded the W. P. Luby Memorial Award. He will be sorely missed!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Another season full of highlights!

At the outset, I extend my sincere gratitude to the committee for their tireless work & leadership, and to all who contributed to making the 2025/26 season so distinguished. Our strong representation in the finals, coupled with the First XI securing both the short- and long-form premierships in successive fashion—and doing so with such authority—made the year particularly gratifying to be part of.

In this context, the leadership and commitment demonstrated by Sam Sheehan, Haedar Almatrah, Swanny Jackson, and Bretty Smith merit special acknowledgment. Their consistency of purpose and example continues to set a standard for the club.

Looking ahead, we now enter a more balanced competitive structure in which each side meets twice across both two-day and one-day formats. This promises a more equitable contest and is an evolution we collectively anticipate with enthusiasm. We also acknowledge the competitions decision to promote & relegate 2 clubs from each shield grade this season. This is not something we agree on given that its 25% of the grade however respect that they have made this decision as an executive and away from club voting.

The Veterans once again delivered an outstanding campaign – Joint Premiers! Thanks to Steve Nikolovski and Duncan Sanderson for their diligence and dedication in sustaining that success. We loved the support of the vets at senior training and hope that partnership continues strongly.

Our junior program continues its impressive trajectory. I wish to again recognise the exceptional work of Meaghan and James. As noted in the junior report, participation and engagement are trending strongly upward. The opportunity to meet new coaches, players, and families throughout the season has been a particular highlight, and it is evident we have welcomed a fine cohort of young cricketers and supportive parents into the club.

I would also like to acknowledge the senior players who consistently contributed to Monday night Junior sessions. Your willingness to invest time in the development of our juniors is deeply appreciated by Meaghan, James, and the entire junior contingent.

Off the field, the season was equally vibrant. A full calendar of social events was headlined by hosting the Summer Smash at De Winton Park, where the club's support was both visible and valued by the DVCA. The Peter Alby Jones Memorial Day, 2K Reverse Draw, RCC Golf Day, Heidelberg Primary School Christmas Party, and our finals celebrations all combined to create a rich and engaging social program.

Congratulations to our newly inducted life members—Eamon Bourke, Nick Horsford, and Oliver Toussaint. Their sustained and exemplary contributions over many years have earned this recognition in full measure.

Finally, I extend my thanks to our sponsors and the Legends group. Your ongoing support is indispensable, enabling our community club not merely to function, but to flourish.

Luke Anderson
President

……

SECRETARY'S REPORT

A season as historic as last was always going to be hard to top being our 100th in existence, however it's fair to say we went very close! Both on and off the field, Rosanna kept the momentum going by winning 3 senior flags along with continuing the growth of our junior program.

This season was another in which many hands made light work. Personally I've seen a massive shift in numbers helping out over the last few seasons, and whether it's from rusted-on committee members or past players coming down to support, it's incredibly pleasing to see the amount of volunteers now at our disposal. With that said, I must single out the committee themselves, whose fantastic work continues to go under the radar. Congratulations again to Luke Anderson on another fabulous season in charge as President.

From an admin point of view I must acknowledge that the much-maligned PlayHQ program is starting to show its positives. Now 3+ years in, players and parents seem to have adopted the program which helps minimise administration time on a committee end. Externally, the DVCA continues to do DVCA things. While I greatly appreciate the prompt support both Suraj and Grant have brought in recent seasons, fresh decisions without club consultation has perplexed clubs throughout the competition, which I believe can set dangerous precedents. It'll be interesting to see how this plays out in more detail..

On field it was another amazing season with plenty of success. It's always difficult to back up Premiership wins at any level, so to do it over two competitions (Barclay & Summer Smash) is an incredible effort by the club – sensationally led by Sam Sheehan who finally got his first and much-deserved Club Champion award. Credit must also go to the Vets for another great season. They've been fantastically led for a number of seasons now and the atmosphere they bring to the club every second Sunday is as much to celebrate as their recent flags.

Recent Senior success can mostly be attributed to the growth and skill of players that came through our Junior Program, which further shows how important the great work Meaghan Waddingham is doing heading up the Junior Program. As you can see later in her report, Junior participation at the club has grown rapidly over the last 2 seasons, and that success can be credited to her hard work, along with James Bull and others. Meaghan does a world of work behind the scenes, plotting, planning and executing ideas and programs to ensure the continued growth and success of our Junior Program. We've also seen an uptake of volunteer help and we must ensure this commitment to the Junior Program is continued if we want to continue celebrating Senior premierships in years to come!

To the rest of the RCC Committee, thanks again for your support in making my job easier. It's fair to say each facet is succeeding, and that comes down to the hard work of many. Special mention must go to Thomas Bourke in his first year of Treasurer. Following someone as special as Gary Bryant was always going to be a tough task, however he knocked it out of the park – achieving another financially positive season all while combatting increased (and necessary) spending.

Finally, and on a personal note, this season was incredibly humbling for myself being awarded Life Membership. I'd like to thank those that have supported my RCC journey for the last 15+ years. Congratulations must also go out to this season's other recipients in Eamon Bourke and Nicholas Horsford. Both individuals have done a world of work for the club over many years and they make the club a better place – well done gents!

Oliver Toussaint
Secretary

…….

TREASURER'S REPORT

The 2025/26 season was a strong year financially for the club. Our net asset position increased $5,300.81, increasing from $41,268.32 to $46,569.13. Our bank balance increased by $4,803.62, increasing from $23,673.84 to $28,477.46.

As at 30 June 2026, the club has debtors of $3,888.67, consisting of $3,500 in delayed Club 35 payments due to bank difficulties and $388.67 in utilities owed by Macleod Football Club. We also have creditors of $700, consisting of delayed Club 35 winner payments.

Our major fundraisers each saw enormous financial success for the club. The $2K Draw achieved increased ticket sales thanks to the efforts of members selling tickets to family and friends, as well as the successful introduction of online ticket sales. Alby Day continues to be an extremely successful and popular day, raising funds for our growing junior program. The Summer Smash Grand Final also saw a huge turnover in the canteen thanks to the outstanding efforts of Luke & Carolyn Anderson, Michelle Smith, the RCC committee and everyone who volunteered on the day.

Whilst our total sponsorship was down from last year, our sponsorships remained strong. Many thanks to the following for their continued support: PKF Melbourne, Eamon Bourke, LA Flooring & Tiling, Whitelaw Flynn Lawyers, Quality Drum Services, Warwick Fabrics, TS Finance, Kate Thwaites, Anthony Carbines, Doey's Pizza, Montmorency Eltham RSL and the Legends Coterie Group.

This season saw an increase in total subs collected. This is a result of an increase in prices for the 2025/26 season, but more importantly a large increase in participation within our junior program. Bar and canteen revenue was also higher this year, due to increased prices in line with rising supplier costs.

The club made our final payment on our electronic scoreboard this season. We were also fortunate to receive a council grant to replace the flooring in our clubrooms and upgrade our kitchen facilities. A huge thank you to Luke Anderson and LA Flooring for their generous support & effort they invested into this project.

An area of major concern is our merchandise stock on hand, which remains far too high again. Next year, a conscious effort will be required to be made to reduce this balance.

Finally, I would also like to acknowledge all the support I have received in my first year as treasurer. Thank you to Luke, Nick, Ollie, Huss, Meaghan, Carolyn, Max, and the entire committee for all their assistance and support throughout the season. And a special thank you to Gary for his 13 years of service in the role and for ensuring a smooth handover.

Thomas Bourke
Treasurer

……

Balance Sheet

Rosanna Cricket Club
As at 30 June 2026

	30 JUNE 2026	30 JUNE 2025
Assets		
Bank		
Interest Bearing Account	26,000.00	22,798.04
Transaction Account	2,477.46	875.80
Total Bank	**28,477.46**	**23,673.84**
Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable	3,888.67	3,000.00
Balls - Stock on Hand	1,263.00	834.48
Merchandise - Stock on Hand	13,640.00	13,760.00
Total Current Assets	**18,791.67**	**17,594.48**
Total Assets	**47,269.13**	**41,268.32**
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	700.00	-
Total Current Liabilities	**700.00**	**-**
Total Liabilities	**700.00**	**-**
Net Assets	**46,569.13**	**41,268.32**
Equity		
Current Year Earnings	5,300.81	(3,979.55)
Retained Earnings	41,268.32	45,247.87
Total Equity	**46,569.13**	**41,268.32**

Profit and Loss

Rosanna Cricket Club
For the year ended 30 June 2026

	2026
Revenue	
Subs	
Blasters Subs	1,242.30
Junior Subs	4,478.36
Senior Subs	6,985.16
Student Subs	2,258.60
Veterans Subs	2,297.88
Total Subs	**17,262.30**
Sponsorship	
Revenue	
Club 35	3,500.00
Legends	9,703.11
Player Sponsor	900.00
Sponsorships	22,500.00
Total Revenue	**36,603.11**
Cost of Sales	
Club 35 Winner	1,750.00
Legends Expenses	985.38
Total Cost of Sales	**2,735.38**
Sponsorship Income	**33,867.73**
Trading	
Sales	
Bar	40,650.45
Canteen	13,349.70
Function & Fund Raising	20,270.20
Merchandise	2,360.00
Selection Night Dinner	3,770.00
Total Sales	**80,400.35**
Cost of Sales	
Bar Expenses	25,802.61
Canteen Expenses	8,832.51
Function & Fund Raising Expenses	11,584.68
Merchandise Expenses	5,270.64
Selection Night Expenses	3,439.82
Total Cost of Sales	**54,930.26**
Trading Income	**25,470.09**
Gross Profit	**76,600.12**

	2026
Other Income	
100th Celebration	45.00
Card Surcharge	172.13
Clubroom Hire	500.00
Grants	7,200.00
Interest	776.01
Match Winnings	750.00
Total Other Income	**9,443.14**
Operating Expenses	
Advertising	1,064.79
Afternoon Tea	2,675.55
Balls Expenses	4,103.48
Bank Charges	233.81
Bar Shortages	676.40
Bar Wages	1,670.00
Cleaning	4,519.74
Clubroom Expenses	349.35
Coaching	25,000.00
Council Rates	4,235.00
Damaged Vehicle Repairs	302.50
DVCA Fees	2,395.00
Fines	42.00
Gameday Expenses	1,265.40
Grant Fees	1,270.50
Ground Maintenance	320.00
Infrastructure	10,511.20
Junior Equipment	771.50
Subscriptions	4,467.86
Training Costs	1,503.00
Trophies, Honour Boards etc	1,576.22
Umpires	7,495.00
Utilities	4,294.15
Total Operating Expenses	**80,742.45**
Net Profit	**5,300.81**

JUNIOR MANAGER'S REPORT

We are extremely proud of the continued growth of the club's junior cricket program this season. The ongoing support of the broader club remains central to this success, and we are grateful to everyone who has contributed throughout the season and offered their support moving forward.

This season we ran an advertising campaign across local school newsletters, conducted a letter drop in the surrounding area, and displayed poster boards around the ground. Word of mouth remains our strongest recruitment tool, alongside the natural progression from the Blast Program into junior teams. We also had several families reach out having found the program on the RCC website.

We have continued to foster a vibrant junior atmosphere on Monday evenings, with the Blast Program maintaining strong numbers and junior training running concurrently. These evenings are recognised by families as a valued part of local community.

At the beginning of the season, the league adjusted junior age groups for mixed junior cricket teams to the following structure: U9, U11, U13, U15, and U17. This change has supported smoother transitions for players progressing out of Blast into junior teams.

The league also introduced Sunday morning matches for U9 and U11, alongside the existing Wednesday evening option. The rationale was to increase ground availability and provide a weekend morning option to families. The flexibility has worked well for us this season.

Dennis Hartney thoughtfully initiated investigating capturing statistics for junior teams. We resolved not to record performance statistics (beyond matches played) for Level 1 and 2 formats (Under 9s and 11s). This approach supports a focus on development and participation and acknowledges that modified rules and inconsistent scoring in PlayHQ do not reliably reflect performance. All players at these levels receive participation recognition at season's end.

Social Engagement:

Two junior-specific events were successfully run this year: the Christmas break-up, held during the final Cricket Blast session of the season, and a junior presentation night at the club. Additionally, Cricket Victoria sent down the Renegades van with Classic Catches inflatable for the final blast session of the season which Blasters and junior players were all able to enjoy.

As a club, we also made several small adjustments to the $2K draw to make it a more family-friendly event, with a focus on promoting it through our junior families. It was wonderful to see so many kids at the ground playing together, while parents had the opportunity to connect and engage with the broader RCC community.

Season Outcomes:

- Retained 60% of players from the 2024/25 season
- Doubled the number of junior teams (2024/25 season 2x U9 teams (17 players) → 2025/26 season 3x U9 teams (23 players) and 1x U11 team (12 players))
- Commenced U11 team
- Recruited 23 junior cricket players (11 from Cricket Blast, 7 via word of mouth, 5 promotion)
- Maintained a strong focus on junior development and participation, with 70% of our players experiencing their first season of junior cricket

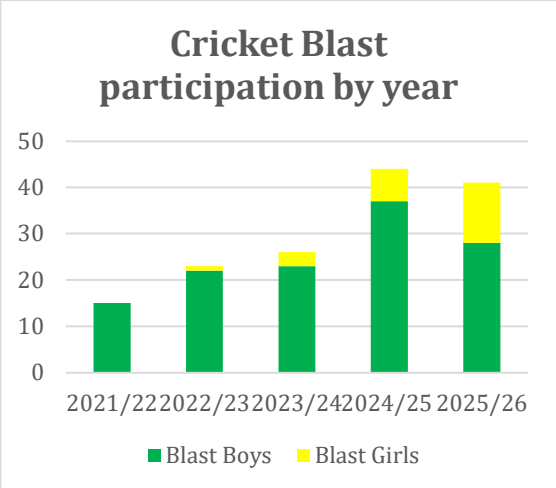
- Observed increased junior engagement across the broader club with a junior family presence at social events, practising in the nets on weekends and as spectators at senior matches (Seniors, Summer Smash and Vets)

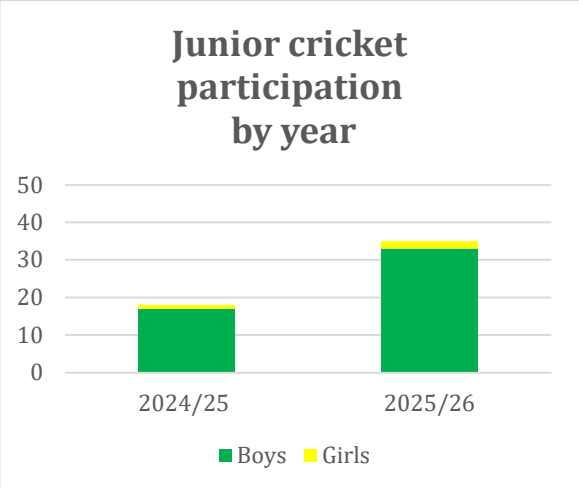
Acknowledgements
A huge thank you to everyone who supported the junior program this season! Of note:

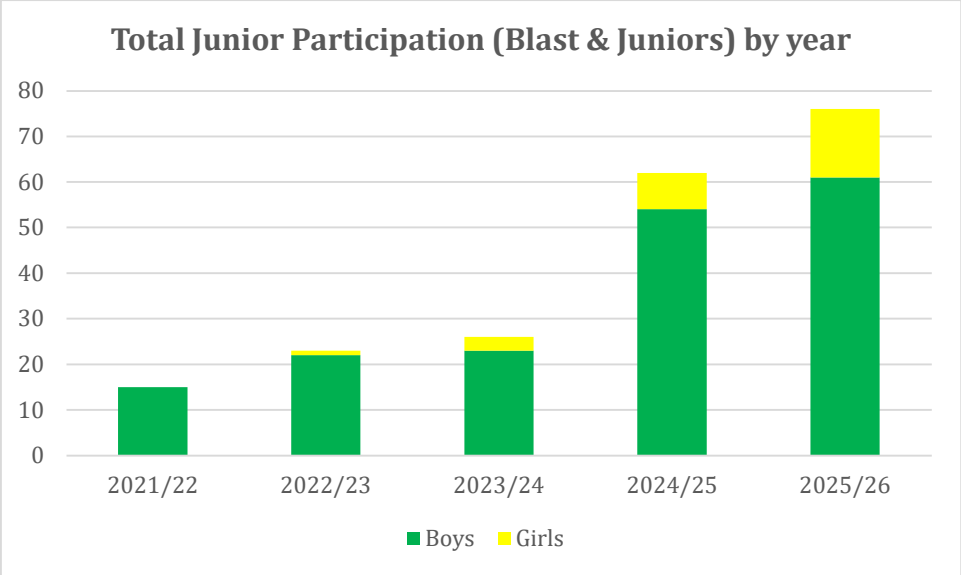
- Ben Wolzko for running the Blast Program again! He does an outstanding job, and the Blasters absolutely love working with him
- Our junior coaches: James Bull, Adam Keys, Matt Macauley, Brett Millsom, Gautam Bhardwaj
- Elisha and Kale Hazelman for leading the BBQs
- Louisa Tobin for picking up team management, extra admin and coordinating the Christmas raffle
- Eamon Burke & Peter Waddingham for supporting junior training and sharing their wisdom
- Senior players, coordinated by Haydon Smith, for attendance on Monday evenings
- The Executive Committee, for being at the end of a phone call!
- Pete Hodder for maintaining the website
- Gary Carlton for leading the letter box drop and all those that supported this initiative

Looking Ahead
Next season, we aim to:

- Introduce a U13 team
- Establish a girls' level 1 cricket team
- Explore a separate training night for U11 and U13 players
- Strengthen engagement with Cricket Victoria
- Grow volunteer engagement within the junior parents
- Plan for succession and growth within the junior committee and programs
- Increase promotion of senior games within the junior / blasters community
- Explore further connection of junior community into RCC events
- Have more matches streamed on Frogbox
- Update the website with club photos
- Explore partnerships with other local DVCA teams to maximise participation opportunities







Meaghan Waddingham
Junior Manager

……

CAPTAINS

Team	Captain
1st X1 (Barclay Shield)	Sam Sheehan
2nd X1 (B Grade)	Matthew R Jackson
3rd X1 (G1 East Grade)	Brett Smith
Veterans X1 (Vets 'Teal' Grade)	Steve Nikolovski
T20 Summer Smash (Barclay Shield)	Riley O'Sullivan

AWARD WINNERS, MILESTONES & NOTABLE PERFORMANCES

Award Winners

Geoff Wilson Medallist	Sam Sheehan, Cameron Douglas & Brett Smith 3-Way Tie. Each Player polled 16 Votes
Barney Luby Club Champion	Sam Sheehan 223.25 Points
Senior Grade Runs Aggregate	Sam Sheehan 742 Runs @ 43.65
Senior Grade Wickets Aggregate	Nick Carlton 40 Wickets @ 12.28
Senior Grade Coaches Award	Dalton Marsh
T20 Player of the Season	Josh Henkel
Vets Player of the Season	Steve Nikolovski
W. P. Luby Memorial Award	Dennis Hartney

Barney Luby Club Champion

Player	Points
1. Sam Sheehan	223.25
2. Nick Carlton	217.00
3. Josh Henkel	201.50
4. Cameron Douglas	174.50
5. Tom Bourke	152.00

Senior Grade Awards

X1	Batting	Bowling	Fielding	All Rounder
1st X1	**Dick Russell Trophy** Sam Sheehan 641 Runs @ 49.31	**Steve Durant Trophy** Nick Carlton 37 Wickets @ 10.32	**Brian Carlton Trophy** Riley O'Sullivan 11 Votes	**Ron Webster Trophy** Sam Sheehan 223.25 Points
2nd X1	Matthew Macaulay 280 Runs @ 40.00	Cameron Douglas 33 Wickets @ 9.06	Hayden Smith 6.5 Votes	Cameron Douglas 168.50 Points
3rd X1	Brett Smith 415 Runs @ 51.88	No Qualifier	Riley Thompson 7 Votes	Brett Smith 154.75 points

Hall of Fame Milestones

The following players were elevated to the Clubs Hall of Fame:

- 200 games. Nick Horsford, Oliver Toussaint, Jacob Bloom and Dalton Marsh. We now have 43 players who have played 200 or more Senior games with the Club
- Haedar Almatrah joined the 300 Games 'Club'. We now have 13 players who have achieved this milestone
- Cameron Douglas passed the 300 career wickets mark. This Season he took 33 Wickets @ 9.06 taking his career tally to 309 @ 13.87. His best figures were 5/28 in the 2nd X1 Semi Final against Diamond Creek. Cameron also won the DVCA 'B' Grade Bowling Award

Other Milestones

Bowling (Wickets)		Batting (Runs)	
Mark Rigg	200	Nick Carlton	5,500
Brett Smith	100	Dalton Marsh	3,500
		Nick Horsford	3,500
Fielding (Dismissals)		Matthew Macaulay	3,000
Nick Carlton	150	Haedar Almatrah	3,000
Tom Bourke	150	Tom Bourke	2,000
Dalton Marsh	100	Brett Smith	1,500
Sam Sheehan	100	Duncan Sanderson	1,500
		Games	
		Scott Shelton	250
		Pat Bourke	150
		Jordan McCaig	100
		Duncan Sanderson	100

Notable Performances & Achievements

Sam Sheehan:

- Across all formats, Sam made 742 runs @ 43.65 (1st X1. 641 @ 49.31; T20. 101 @ 25.25). In doing so, he became the 5th player in the Clubs history to score over 700 runs in a Season on multiple occasions. He has now made over 500 runs in a Season on 4 occasions
- Sam's career runs tally, across all formats, is now 6,558 @ 33.46 with 50 scores over 50 (6 x 100s & 44 x 50s). He now sits 12th on the list of the most runs made in the Clubs history
- In the 1st X1, Sam made 6 scores over 50 with a highest score of 102 in the 1st X1 Grand Final. He is now the 6th person to make a 100 in a 1st X1 Grand Final
- His tally of 1st X1 scores over 50 now sits on 41. This places him 2nd on the Clubs all-time list with Dick Russell holding the record with 60. Geoff Wilson is 3rd on 39
- Became the 3rd highest 1st X1 run scorer in the Clubs history. His tally is now 5,531 runs @ 33.72
- Became the 10th player in the Clubs history to play 200, 1st X1 games. His 1st X1 tally is now 203 with his overall career tally sitting on 246
- Was awarded the Mark Minney Medal as the Best Player in the Barclay Shield Grand Final (as voted upon by the Officiating Umpires)
- Became our 4th, 1st X1 Captain to win Back-to-Back premierships (See below)

Nick Carlton:

- Passed 350 career wickets. This Season Nick took 40 Wickets @ 12.28 (1st X1. 37 @ 10.32; T20. 3 @ 36.33) taking his career tally to 358 @ 17.33
- In the 1st X1 Round 13 match against Rosebank, he took career best figures of 7/42. Nick was also selected in the Barclay Shield 'Team of the Season'

Premierships

- With the 1st X1 win and joint premierships being awarded to the Vets & T20 sides, the Club has now won 3 premierships in the same season 4 times. The other occasions when this feat was achieved were in 1961-62 (1st X1; 2nd X1 & 3rd X1); 1969-70 (1st X1; 2nd X1 & 4th X1) & 2012-13 (1st X1; 2nd X1 & 4th X1)
- Our tally of Club Premierships now sits at 104 (64 x Seniors & 40 x Juniors)

Premiership Caps

With the 1st X1 & T20 victories:

- Nick Carlton
    - Has now won 14 x Premiership caps (10 x Seniors & 4 x Juniors). He is the most capped Premiership player in the Clubs history!
    - His 10 x Senior Grade caps places him 2nd on the list as the most capped Senior Grade player in the Clubs history. (The Club record is held by Club legend, Steve Durant, on 11)
    - With 7 x 1st X1 caps he now sits equal second alongside Steve Durant, another Club legend in Dick Russell and modern day great John Raywood. (The Club record holder is Ron Webster with 8)
- Sam Sheehan (6 x 1st X1 & 2 x T20) and Scott Shelton (5 x 1st X1; 1 x 2nd X1 & 2 x T20) have now won 8 Senior Grade Premiership caps. (This places them equal 3rd on the list of the most capped senior players in the Clubs history)

1st X1 Grand Final win against Epping

- Score 5/315 .... this was the first time since Season 1986-87 that the 1st X1 had scored over 300 in a Grand Final
- The 159-run, 1st Wicket Partnership between Sam Sheehan and Nick Horsford set a new Club record as the highest opening partnership in a Grand Final. It is also only the 3rd time that a 150-run partnership has been made in a Grand Final in the Clubs history!
- As the Premiership Captain, Sam Sheehan joins:
    - Huss Almatrah as the Clubs 2nd most successful 1st X1 Captain with 3 x Premiership flags (Ron Webster holds the Club record with 5)
    - Brian Carlton, Ron Webster and Huss Almatrah as a Back-to Back 1st X1 Premiership Captain. Brian achieved the feat in Seasons 1954-55 & 1955-56; Ron in Seasons 1961-62 & 1962-63 whilst Huss has a 3-peat achievement to his name – Seasons 2010-11, 2011-12 & 2012-13

Senior Grade Batting. Season 2025-26
Scores Over 50 - Sorted by X1 by Round

Player Name	Season	X1	Grade	Score *	Round	Opposition
Josh Henkel	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	73	1	Bundoora United
Patrick Bourke	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	58	2	Epping
Riley O'Sullivan	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	88	2	Epping
Sam Sheehan	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	60	3	Diamond Creek
Tom Bourke	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	70	4	Heidelberg
Josh Henkel	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	66	4	Heidelberg
Josh Henkel	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	72	6	North Eltham Wanderers
Sam Sheehan	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	64	7	Bundoora
Nick Horsford	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	57	9	Epping
Sam Sheehan	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	60	13	Rosebank
Sam Sheehan	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	62*	14	North Eltham Wanderers
Dalton Marsh	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	53*	14	North Eltham Wanderers
Sam Sheehan	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	84*	Semi Final	Macleod (2nd Innings)
Sam Sheehan	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	102	Grand Final	Epping
Nick Horsford	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	76	Grand Final	Epping
Idhant Yarlagadda	2025-26	2nd X1	B	65	1	Plenty
Shyam Madan	2025-26	2nd X1	B	57	2	Diamond Creek
Ben Wolczko	2025-26	2nd X1	B	69	3	Research Eltham Collegians
Idhant Yarlagadda	2025-26	2nd X1	B	57	6	Banyule
Ethan Maddox	2025-26	2nd X1	B	57	7	North Eltham Wanderers
Idhant Yarlagadda	2025-26	2nd X1	B	57	9	Diamond Creek
Matthew Macaulay	2025-26	2nd X1	B	102*	10	Riverside
Matthew R Jackson	2025-26	2nd X1	B	50	12	Heidelberg
Ethan Maddox	2025-26	2nd X1	B	54*	Semi Final	North Eltham Wanderers (2nd Innings)
Ryan Bourke	2025-26	3rd X1	G1 East	53*	3	Diamond Creek
Hayden Smith	2025-26	3rd X1	G1 East	56*	9	Riverside
Brett Smith	2025-26	3rd X1	G1 East	53*	10	Plenty
Haedar Almatrah	2025-26	3rd X1	G1 East	53*	10	Plenty
Brett Smith	2025-26	3rd X1	G1 East	73*	12	Lower Eltham
Ekansh Rao	2025-26	3rd X1	G1 East	71*	12	Lower Eltham
Brett Smith	2025-26	3rd X1	G1 East	63*	15	Keon Park
Josh Henkel	2025-26	T20	Barclay Shield	73	4	Macleod
Dalton Marsh	2025-26	T20	Barclay Shield	84	4	Macleod

Notes:

Asterisk denotes Not Out

There were 33 "Scores over 50" made in the Season. 18 Players made at least one score over 50

Centuries were made by Sam Sheehan (102) & Matthew Macaulay (102 Not Out)

Players who made multiple scores over 50 were:
Sam Sheehan (6); Josh Henkel (4); Brett Smith (3); Idhant Yarlagadda (3); Dalton Marsh (2); Nick Horsford (2) & Ethan Maddox (2)

Senior Grade Bowling. Season 2025-26
5 or more Wickets in an Innings - Sorted by X1 by Round

Player Name	Season	X1	Grade	Figures	Round	Opposition
Patrick Bourke	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	5/27	1	Epping (2nd Innings)
Josh Henkel	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	6/81	8	Bundoora United
Nick Carlton	2025-26	1st X1	Barclay Shield	7/42	13	Rosebank
Alexander Dickson	2025-26	2nd X1	B	6/29	2	Diamond Creek
Oliver Toussaint	2025-26	2nd X1	B	6/15	8	Plenty
Cameron Douglas	2025-26	2nd X1	B	5/28	Semi Final	Diamond Creek

Senior Grade Batting. Season 2025-26
300+ Runs in Season - Sorted High to Low

Player Name	Matches Played	Innings	Not Outs	Runs Aggregate	Average	100s	50s	Highest Score 50+
Sam Sheehan	20	21	4	742	43.65	1	5	102
Josh Henkel	19	18	2	484	30.25	0	4	73
Dalton Marsh	22	22	4	453	25.17	0	2	84
Brett Smith	15	12	3	415	46.11	0	3	73*
Idhant Yarlagadda	16	14	0	386	27.57	0	3	65
Nick Horsford	19	18	1	345	20.29	0	2	76
Matthew Macaulay	14	11	2	325	36.11	1	0	102*
Tom Bourke	22	21	3	317	17.61	0	1	70

Senior Grade Bowling. Season 2025-26
20+ Wickets in Season - Sorted High to Low

Player Name	Matches Played	Overs	Runs Conceded	Wickets	Average	5+ Wickets Innings	Best Figures
Nick Carlton	22	195	491	40	12.28	1	7/42
Cameron Douglas	15	182	299	33	9.06	1	5/28
Oliver Toussaint	21	172	570	32	17.81	1	6/15
Josh Henkel	19	143	454	26	17.46	1	6/81

CHAIRMAN OF SELECTOR'S REPORT

Picking teams this year was made easier by all involved, communication got better re availability as the year went on. We managed to field three sides with minimal effort up until the Christmas period with training numbers very strong. Numbers dropped off after the Xmas break but we were able to take the field with strong teams across the board.

Would like to thank Luke Anderson and the committee on another fantastic year on and off the field. Congrats to Sam and the 1st X1 on going back-to-back.

Haedar Almatrah
Chairman of Selectors

……

CLUB COACH'S REPORT

The 2025/2026 presented a new challenge for the club after the successes of the previous year, with the 1st XI winning the Barclay Shield Premiership and the 2nd and 3rd XI sides playing finals. We needed all XI to remain hungry to continue our ongoing pursuit for success.

We entered the season again with three (3) teams as per the previous season, but as the year progressed there were increased challenges in fielding a 3rd XI side. A big shout out to Haedar Almatrah who managed selection of the 3rd XI, regularly making calls late in the week to ensure we could field a side. Thanks to all players throughout the season who stepped into the 3rd XI to help out!

Overall it was another terrific season for the club, illustrated by results across the board:

1. 1st XI – Barclay Premiership (Back to Back after finishing top at the end of the H&A season)
2. 2nd XI – Semi Final (after finishing 2nd at the end of the H&A season)
3. 3rd XI – Finished 5th – just missed finals on percentage but clearly player availability impacted results
4. VETS – Premiers – was fantastic to see an increased presence of vets players at senior training and social functions
5. SUMMER SMASH – Premiers – back to back short form premiers (albeit via a wash out!)

Sustained success is something all great clubs have and it's clear that we've been able to deliver results for the club over a considerable period of time, thanks to all the hard work of our players, coaches, the committee and members/supporters of the club.

I'd like to thank all the key leaders of the club who've helped me across the season. Many hands make light work and all have contributed strongly. To the committee, led by President Luke Anderson, thanks again for continuing to back me to lead the club. It's an opportunity I value enormously. Thank you to Assistant Coach Haedar Almatrah for your leadership, hard work and reliability across the entire season. You never miss a session, work hard to get the best out of our on-field talent and are just a joy to be around. To our Cricket Operations Manager, Huss Almatrah, thank you for your support and guidance. And finally, to our other on-field leaders, Matt Jackson (Swanny) and Brett Smith, thanks for all your hard work and leadership throughout the season.

This year the Coaches Award went to Dalton Marsh. Watching Dalts develop over the last 3-4 years has been fantastic and it's due to all the hard work he's put in. In cricket, you don't always get the results after putting in the work, but it was great to see Dalts get some great individual results, highlighted by his 53* in a chase against North Eltham, as well as his 42 off 36 balls in the Grand Final, hitting the ball with ease to multiple areas. Well done Dalts and look forward to seeing you elevate your game further in the years to come.

I'd finally like to again thank the committee, led by President Luke Anderson for trusting me to Coach the Club for a second year. Clubs don't get results without strong governance, and I think the renewed leadership structure assisted greatly with club culture and performance.

History suggests that it's difficult to back up after back to back Premierships, however Haedar and I as coaches will ensure our players across all grades are best prepared to deliver results again in 2026/2027.

Sam Sheehan
Club Coach

……

1st XI CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Clearly, the main question going into the 2025/2026 season was whether the group remained hungry enough to back up the efforts of last season, winning both the Barclay and SUMMER SMASH premierships.

As we know, cricket very much can be an above the shoulders game, so we had to ensure an environment was set to maximise our ability to perform and perform consistently, noting we had very little change to our on field personnel.

And perform we did!

To finish the season 7-2 (and one tie) and to be top of the ladder at the end of the H&A season was a tremendous achievement, especially with the pressures of the season, with three (3) teams getting relegated and how tight the season turned out to be.

Evenness of contribution continued to be a strong theme throughout the season, with both batters and bowlers regularly taking their opportunity when it was their turn.

Highlights of the season included:

1. Set the tone in Round 1 with a great chase against Bundoora United. Chased 172 in a one dayer, with Josh Henkel making an outstanding 73 off as many balls
2. Round 4 – a 108 run partnership for the third wicket between Josh Henkel (66) and Tom Bourke (70) was great to watch, to then go on and win the game after being well behind in Heidelberg's chase was a great effort.
3. Round 10 against Riverside, defending 193. This was a big game and one in which shaped the ladder at the end of the year. Riverside were 3/110 and doing it easy before Doc took over the game, with final figures of 25 overs, 4/29. He was supported by a handful of handy catches (wink).
4. Round 14 – having North Eltham 6/43 at home in the last round was a highlight, with Shelts winding back the clock and taking 3/23 off his 8 overs. We ended up winning the game comfortable after a shaky start, with Dalts stepping up and being the star of the chase, making an unbeated 53*

Then, there came the finals.

The Macleod semi final was one of the more bizarre games I've been involved in due to how significant the momentum changes were. These included:

1. Rosanna batting first in favourable batting conditions being 7/65 at one point and obviously well behind in the game.
2. In classic Rosanna style, we grinded our way to a total of 114 but still well behind in the game.
3. We had 24 overs to bowl at Macleod at the end of the day, finishing the day with Macleod being 9/31. Crazy!
4. On day 2, ended their innings on 38, to then be put back in for way too long and finish at 3/137.

Then the Grand Final against Epping, another memorable match but for all the right reasons.

1. Batted first and posted a score of 5/315, the most dominant first innings performance in a DVCA Grand Final in a very long time. To only lose 5 wickets in our 80 overs was something I'm most proud of, putting a high price on our wicket from start to finish, whilst seeing some of the best stroke play that our comp has seen.

2. There was some level of stress when Epping started well and were 2/100 inside 30 overs, but again, when the game got tight, we were able to respond strongly, dismissing their key players, holding our catches and ultimately holding our nerve to deliver back to back premierships, rolling them for 168 and winning by a whopping 147 runs.

Before I wrap up, I want to thank all the players who represented the 1st XI this season. Yes, 11 players are awarded a premiership cap, but there were 14-15 players who contributed throughout the season to deliver the Premiership.

I'd also like to thank all those volunteers who gave up their time this season to support the team. Whether that be scoring on match day, helping with arvo tea and functions, setting up the ground and everything in between, thank you for your help!

Finally, to the committee, led by President Luke Anderson, I thank you for the opportunity to lead the 1st XI again. Your continued support and trust in me is highly valued.

I look forward to the challenges next year presents.

Sam Sheehan
First XI Captain

……

2nd XI CAPTAIN'S REPORT

I had the privilege of captaining the 2nd XI for a second year in 25/26.

This year shaped up in a very similar way to the previous season, in which, while we always have the talent within the club, the availability and depth of this talent would be stretched. This began immediately in Round 1, with a host of ring-ins and selection of players who had not completed many training sessions (if any) before the regular season. Subsequently, we were dispatched by a poor team who we would later easily beat mid-season.

As the season progressed, so too did the engagement, which, in turn brought a high level of skill in the field, dismissals, batting performances and many dominant periods in games. The next step for this squad is to harness their ability for longer periods of games and ensure that the gap between the worst performance and best performance is far smaller.

Personnel wise, the contributions and importance of bringing Ethan back and playing cannot be understated from my perspective. The leadership and standards that he drives for the younger players on the team are vital, and the ability to filter teammates plans in the field and provide concise thoughts and tactical changes to me were fantastic. I thoroughly appreciated his inputs and no-nonsense approach throughout the games we played.

Shyam, Iddsy, Ben E and Ben W are again another focus for me looking towards next season. The focus being around ensuring they continue to play and secondly opening further paths of communication, so that they can understand that the end result is them being part of the group that will transition to First XI cricket as the Senior core inevitably moves on in the coming years, but more importantly, what steps and focus areas we can provide to them so they can see a clear path of progression.

The rest of the team, being Cam, Jacko, Webb, Haydos, Matty and Al are a far easier part of the job, as the ability to "plug and play" them, however or wherever required allows me to continue to build ways in which I can allow the younger players to find their role and to excel. For this, I appreciate their understanding and candour with me throughout the season.

While this season may not be a progression on paper as we fell at the same hurdle as last year, I believe that with any increase in buy-in, we will see this group achieve he goal that we all desire.

Lastly, in terms of players younger than this core, Cells will continue to be a focus for people like myself and Webb to bring him along for the ride and show him his path to being a consistent higher grade player but I feel that we must look to players who have connection to the club and have recently left, such as Noah Jackson and Archie Mansfield. If we can bring back some of these younger players, this will go a long way to buying time for the sustained success of the club while we continue to rejuvenate the juniors.

I would like to thank Luke, Sam, Haedar and the Exec for their guidance throughout the year on and off the field, without their support I would be a deer in headlights and completely overwhelmed with the captaincy and the other roles that I help with.

Finally, I am looking forward to putting my hand up again to lead the group and hopefully achieve the ultimate success.

Matthew R. Jackson
Second XI Captain

……

3rd XI CAPTAIN'S REPORT

The 25/26 Cricket season was another up and down season for the team, there was some really good team performances throughout the year as well as some really good individual performances. As we fall short of finals in the second last ball of the year but once again we bet every side below and unfortunately had 3 wash outs throughout the year that cost us some points. A massive thanks to H Bomb for making sure we had 11 players every week and thank you to all those that filled in for either 1 or multiple games.

One of the real positives this year was Riley Thompson the youngest team member this year improved his cricket throughout the year and was capped off with the fielding award at the presentation. Another highlight was James Black being rewarded with more opportunity in the 2nd eleven and being around the senior group. Once again there was a core that showed up every week to compete which could show in their cricket season.

Enjoy the off season and make sure everyone comes back to the new season to commit to improving themselves and taking the next step to winning final games next season.

Brett Smith
Third XI Captain

……

VETERAN'S REPORT

Following a difficult 2024–25 season where we were elevated to A Grade and struggled for continuity, the Rosanna Vets entered the 2025–26 campaign looking to reset, enjoy our cricket and remain competitive. In a quirky draw with 11 teams, only 2 home games, and not physically playing any of the top 3 teams, the season culminated in an undefeated season on the field and winning the Grand Final - unfortunately shared when rain stopped play when we were is a good position to win.

Round 1 – Lalor Warriors
The season started in perfect fashion against Laurimar. Batting first, Rosanna posted a competitive 7/163, built around excellent retired innings from Niko (43) and H (40), while Vivek Kumar contributed 37. Matt Thackway led the bowling with 3 wickets as Rosanna secured a 7-wicket victory. It was a terrific all-round team performance and set the tone for the season ahead.

Round 2 – North Eltham Wanderers
Unfortunately, Round 2 was abandoned due to rain without a result.

Round 3 – Northern Socials
Rosanna hosted Northern Socials and produced another impressive batting display. Niko and Dirk both retired on 43, while Dunks contributed 25 as Rosanna finished on 5/138. The match came down to the final over before Rosanna held their nerve to win by seven wickets, maintaining their unbeaten start. Shanks and Abi were brilliant with the ball, with both taking 5/21 off 5 overs.

Round 4 – Panton Hill
In one of the season's most complete performances, Rosanna restricted Panton Hills to 9/139 off their 35 overs with wickets spread across six bowlers. Springer and his snails took 2/8 and Bully bowled superbly for 2/16 off 5 overs. Dunks opened up with 42 retired and partnered well with Dirk who also retired on 40, before Gautam and Bloomy got us home at 1/142 in the 23rd over.

Round 5 – South Morang
Rosanna received the points after South Morang forfeited, keeping the team's unbeaten record intact.

Round 6 – Thornbury United
Round 6 saw a runs feast with Thornbury united putting on a massive score of 8 /222 with H the best performed taking 3/11 in a dominant spell, while Vas on debut took 1/25 and Buster 1/16. In our biggest run chase in over 10 years, Niko (44 retired) and H (31) blasted the team off to a great start, with Dunks (42 retired), Vas (30), Sandy (17) and Bloomy getting us home on 17 to finish with a magnificent win at 4/224 in the 31st over. What a game it was!

Round 7 – Thomastown
Needing a win to cement a strong finals position, Rosanna chased down Templestowe's total with ease. Steven Nikolovski again led the way with an unbeaten 41, Dirk contributed 33 not out and H finished unbeaten on 12. The bowlers were outstanding, with Vivek Kumar claiming 2 wickets while Shankar Rao and Steven Nikolovski bowled particularly economical spells. Rosanna finished the home-and-away season undefeated.

Semi Final
Rosanna faced North Eltham Wanderers in the Semi Final and produced arguably our best performance of the season when it counted. Batting first, the side amassed 8/170. Niko (another 43 retired), Dirk (40 retired), H (20), and Bully (31 not out) all made valuable contributions. The bowlers then backed it up superbly, with Viv taking 2/24, Springer 2/22 and Niko 2/24. North Eltham looked

home at 4/160 when the boy's went nuts taking 4/1 to restrict them to 8/162. Rosanna through to the Grand Final with an incredible come from behind win.

Grand Final
The Grand Final against Ivanhoe Saints was a fitting conclusion to a fantastic season. Rosanna batted first and posted 9/149, highlighted by another retired innings from Dirk (43), along with valuable contributions from Dunks (25) and H (23). Light rain started falling soon after we went out to bowl. Given the conditions the bowlers were amazing as they fought hard in defence of our total. Shanks exceptional with 1/13 from six overs and Bully 1/13 in 3 overs and Viv 0/13 in 3 overs. Despite a strong effort in the field, the match finished as a draw, with Ivanhoe Saints finishing on 2/67 in the 20th over when rain stopped play. Another vet's premiership in an unbeaten season is something the entire group can be immensely proud of. Well done lads!!

Season Highlights
A total of 18 players represented the Rosanna Vets throughout the season, with several new faces making valuable contributions. It was particularly pleasing to welcome debutants Graeme, Gautam (Aka Batman), Vas and Sandy to the team. The season was characterised by strong team spirit, regular contributions throughout the batting order and a bowling attack where wickets were shared by many players.

Top Performers
Batting
- Niko – 221 runs at 221.0
- Dirk – 156 runs
- Dunks – 139 runs at 46.33

Bowling
- Springer – 7 wickets at 16.71
- Vivek – 6 wickets at 15.7
- Shanks – 6 wickets at 21.33

Fielding
- Duncan Sanderson – 6 catches and 1 stumping
- Jacob Bloom – 2 catches
- Matt Thackway – 2 catches

Champion Player
A huge congratulations to Niko, who capped off a remarkable season by winning the Rosanna Vets Champion Player Award with 311 points. Niko's consistency with both bat and ball was a major factor in the team's success, finishing as the leading run scorer while also contributing five wickets throughout the season. Dunks came second with 214 points closely followed by H on 211.

A sincere thank you to all players, scorers, supporters and families who contributed throughout the season. To go through the home-and-away season undefeated and win a Grand Final was an outstanding achievement and a reflection of the camaraderie, commitment and enjoyment that make Vets cricket such an important part of the Rosanna Cricket Club. Congratulations to everyone involved, and we look forward to doing it all again next season.

Finally, a big congrats to Sam and all the boys for going back-to back winning the Barclay Shield.

Duncan Sanderson
Vets Captain

……

UNDER 11 COACH'S REPORT

The Under 11s mixed teams follow Level 2 cricket rules including; a nine-player format, eight-ball overs, compulsory retirement after facing 18 balls, and recorded dismissals. They use the 142g pink cricket ball.

We had a team of 12 players that were great to work with, engaged, motivated and supportive of each other!

It was the first season of cricket for half the team and the first experience of Level 2 cricket for all players. Learning to protect their wicket, particularly against strong opposition bowling during grading matches, was a challenge in the opening weeks. Our players consistently showed grit and persistence by stepping into the middle each week for another go.

As the season progressed, confidence grew—particularly in running between wickets—which led to increased scoring opportunities. Players also began to settle into batting order roles that suited their strengths. With the ball, our line and length became more reliable and the fielding standard lifted across the group. A regular wicketkeeper emerged in Alex which significantly reduced the number of byes and increased pressure on the batters running between wickets.

By the latter part of the season, these developments combined, resulting in wins to celebrate and a narrow loss to the team that went on the win the final.

We're super proud of the development of all the players and the team as a whole.

Looking ahead, roughly half the squad will progress to Under 13s next season. The remaining players will be able to support those transitioning up from Under 9s.

Meaghan Waddingham and James Bull
Junior Manager & Junior Coach

……

UNDER 9 COACH'S REPORT

Under 9 mixed cricket follows Level 1 cricket rules including; 7 players format, 20-over matches, equal participation, rotating bowlers, no dismissals, no formal scoring, all deliveries count, pink kookaburra softa ball is used. The format strongly supports skill development, participation, and enjoyment.

Most of our players experienced their first season of cricket. Watching them play and particularly celebrate a wicket was joyful! They had fun, worked hard on their game and were excited to get out in the middle each week.

We started the season with just enough players for 2 teams (one Wednesday PM and one Sunday AM) and within a few weeks we welcomed enough new players to add a second Sunday side into our program. The players from all 3 teams train together on a Monday night, for Matt Macaulay who was coordinating the training the first few weeks did feel like new players kept coming out of the wood work.

There was huge improvement in batting, bowling, wicket keeping, running between the wickets and fielding as the season progressed.

We have some super keen and budding crickets in the mix. You can see emerging wrist spinners, fast bowlers, leaders running between wickets, batters finding the boundary and sharp fielders surprising the opposition with direct hits from all parts of the ground.

Most importantly, the group displayed excellent camaraderie and enthusiasm, with all players having a great time and thoroughly enjoying their cricket.

More than half of our players will be eligible for another season for Under 9s cricket next season. Around 10 players will progress to an older age group.

Meaghan Waddingham and James Bull
Junior Manager & Junior Coach

……

JUNIOR BLASTERS REPORT

This year I had the pleasure of helping run the Blasters. We have been able capitalise on the hard work of James and Meghan over the past few years and grow our program to 41 kids registered. That included 28 Boys and 13 Girls! Super positive to have so many girls involved and enjoy it and also to see that number growing. We had healthy numbers across all ages from 5 to 9 year olds with a mix of kids that were new to the game and others that were returning from previous years who are on their journey to playing junior cricket in our under 9's and under 11's.

Our Monday night sessions began at 5:15, with kids beginning to roll in from 5:00. The sessions were composed of a warm up game, batting, bowling, throwing and catching skills. As the season progressed, so did the kids' skills, so for the last couple of weeks we were able to run small matches of 'paired cricket' in groups of 8-10 which was a nice reward for them as they are always keen on playing 'real matches'.

The help we got from the club on a Monday night was immense, we had more than 20 senior players come down and help run sessions. This was thanks to Hayden Smith who put a lot of work into organising everyone to come and help. Considering we are fielding 33 players on a Saturday and having more than 20 at blasters over the season, it is a true show of the community spirit we hold and the care there is for the club. The kids really enjoy and get a lot out of having the players coming down as it gives them something to aspire to.

Again, the parents played a massive role in making Monday nights what they were. We had plenty of help, whether that was behind the barbeque, canteen or on the field. It was great to see them getting involved too and hopefully that continues.

All in all a very positive year with plenty of good feedback.

Ben Wolczko
Junior Blasters Coordinator

……