



# *NEWCASTLE JUNIOR CRICKET ASSOCIATION INC.*

\*\*\*

**SEASON 2024-2025**

## **ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT**





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## Office Bearers 2024/2025

<b>President:</b>	Andrew Cornwell
<b>Vice President:</b>	(Vacant)
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Jason Ingold
<b>Secretary:</b>	Scott Marjoribanks
<b>Girls Cricket Officer:</b>	(Vacant)
<b>Child Safety Officer:</b>	Geoff Taylor
<b>Rules &amp; Competition:</b>	Julie Wharton, Martin Krause, Scott Marjoribanks
<b>Infrastructure:</b>	Chris Wharton, Ben Belfield, Andrew Cornwell
<b>Judiciary Chairperson:</b>	Ben Blyth
<b>Cricket Blast Officer:</b>	Marg Erwin
<b>Inclusion Officers:</b>	Mel Crimmins, Vanessa Bulloch (subcommittee)
<b>General Committee Member:</b>	Rod Unsted
<b>NCSUA Umpires Delegate:</b>	Neil Hayes
<b>Cricket NSW Cricket Manager:</b>	Leya Wilson
<b>Association Administrator:</b>	Sharon Dare

## President's Report

It gives me great pleasure to present the President's Report for the 2024/25 season of the Newcastle Junior Cricket Association. This season has been one of growth, development, and community spirit, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributed to making it such a success.

### **Participation and Growth**

We saw another year of strong participation across all age groups, from our Woolworths Cricket Blast program to our Under 15 – 18s competition. The NJCA welcomed 1483 registered players this season across 149 teams. This cohort was made up of 1291 boys and 192 girls. a testament to the popularity of cricket in our region and the hard work of our clubs in promoting the game.

### **Competitions and Development**

Our competitions were fiercely contested and played in great spirit. Congratulations to all premierships-winning teams, and equally to all who played with passion and sportsmanship. This season saw the introduction of the under 9s competition. This provides our youngest cricketers with an early introduction to Saturday cricket. Some 82 young players competed and the feedback from players and parents was universally positive.

### **Facilities and Infrastructure**

In April this year the \$2.56 million dollar upgrade of Smith Park was completed. These funds were provided by the NSW government because of the NJCA's successful grant application in 2022. This upgrade has resulted in three new wickets along with state-of-the-art drainage and irrigation. Smith Park is now a facility we can be proud of and will provide a home for our rep teams and carnivals along with terrific facilities for all our local competitions. I would like to thank the City of Newcastle for their hard work to ensure we had a great result and to Chris Wharton for his oversight of the project. The NJCA also was successful in winning a \$16,500 grant to commence upgrading the wickets at Federal Park. We are currently looking at some further financing options for several other local centre wickets.

### **Newcastle Cricket Board**

In April a special general meeting passed a motion to recognise the Newcastle Cricket Board in the NJCA constitution. This reform will remove century old silos that have hampered cricket in our region. For external stakeholders it will provide a central point of contact and for our associations it will create greater leverage with government and business. The NDCA and NJCA have formed a steering committee to develop the board structure and then appoint a board. Once formed, the board will then recruit a CEO to represent cricket and provide a nexus between our administrations.

**New Administrator**

Shortly we will bid farewell to our administrator, Sharon Dare. Sharon has done a magnificent job over the last three years, and her diligence, expertise, and work ethic will be sorely missed. We will now commence the process of filling Sharon's substantial shoes and hope she continues to be involved in cricket for many years to come.

**Looking Ahead**

As we look forward to the 2025/26 season, our focus will remain on strengthening grassroots cricket, supporting our volunteers, expanding our junior programs, and ensuring the ongoing sustainability of our clubs. We will also continue to work with Cricket NSW and local councils to enhance facilities and pathways for our players.

**Acknowledgements**

Special mention must go to our dedicated coaches and volunteers who supported the weekly training sessions and match days. Your commitment ensures that players continue to enjoy, learn, and thrive in our game.

I would like to thank the NJCA committee for their hard work and dedication throughout the season. Their contributions are vital to the success of junior cricket in Newcastle.

Finally, thank you to all the families, players, and supporters for your passion and commitment. Cricket is more than a game – it is a community, and we are proud to be building one that is inclusive, strong, and thriving.

Yours in cricket

***Dr Andrew Cornwell***  
***President NJCA***

## Administrator's Report

We say it every year, and it's true – what a terrific season of junior cricket in Newcastle! We are so lucky to have such a dedicated volunteer base, who work tirelessly to make the NCJA what it is. I can't thank you all enough.

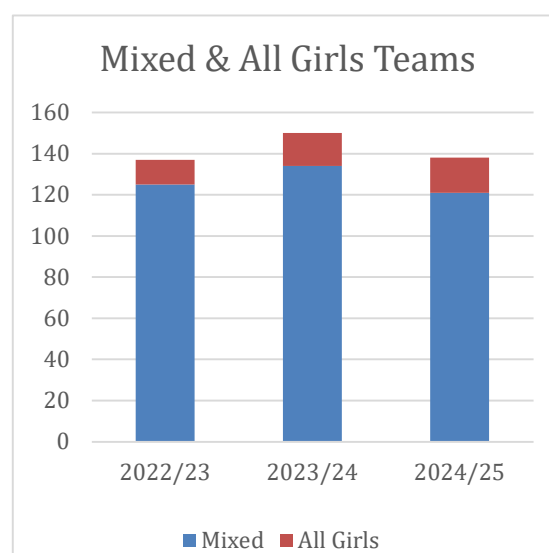
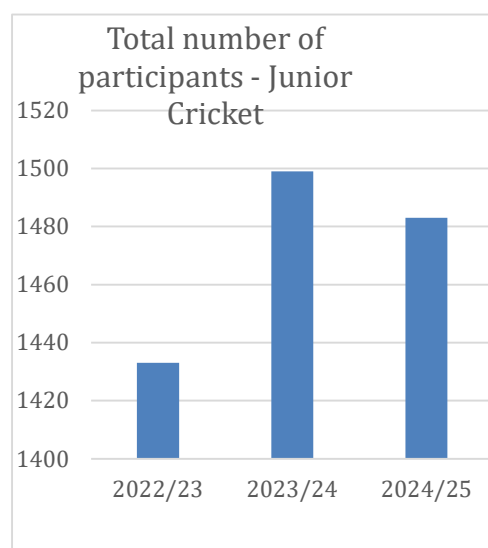
### **Registrations & Grades**

Season 24/25 saw the introduction of "Off the Mark Early Stage 1 U9", thanks to the generous financial support from the Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group (NCIG). The U9 grade was designed to support the transition of children aged 7-8 years of age from skills-based Cricket Blast Programs to a modified format Saturday junior cricket competition.

The initiative facilitated the participation of 82 children in Saturday junior cricket for the first time, spanning across 10 clubs. The feedback from families was overwhelmingly positive, with 96% of respondents saying their child is highly likely or very likely to return to junior cricket next season.

Overall in season 2024/25 there were 149 teams from 15 clubs playing junior cricket across 21 grades on a Friday, Saturday or Monday, which is very similar to last season. The number of unique participants held steady, with 1483 in 24/25 compared to 1499 in the previous season, representing a 1% change.

There were 192 girls playing junior cricket this season, 13% of the total participants – again, very similar to last season. We started the season with 17 teams in All Girls grades across all 3 stages, for the first time in NJCA history! However, despite the best efforts of many, the Stage 3 Girls was not quite sustainable this season, and after 4 rounds this number dropped back to 14 teams in All Girls grades across Stage 1 and 2, plus 3 all-girls teams in the mixed comp.





## Summer Smash

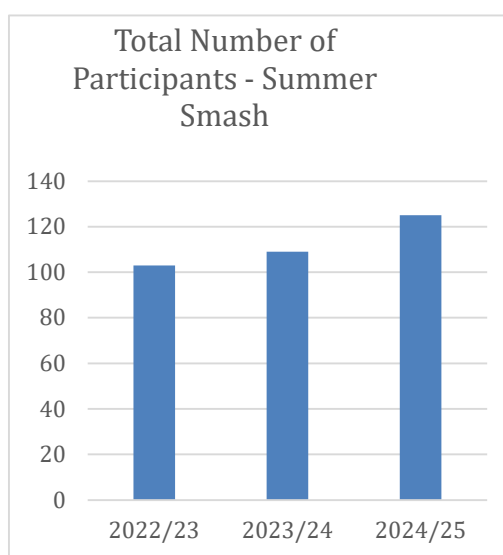
Summer Smash participation had an amazing increase of 15%, with 125 participants (15 girls) across a whopping 18 teams!

Summer Smash is the well-established mid-week bridge to Junior cricket from Cricket Blast, or for those who are completely new to cricket. It's going from strength to strength each season and is now complemented with the Early Stage 1 U9 Saturday grade, to bridge the gap even more from Cricket Blast to Saturday cricket.

Summer Smash is run in Term 1 for around 7 or 8 weeks. Participants wear all the gear – pads, helmet, gloves – and play modified Stage 1 rules. Summer Smash is run in two hubs, in Lake Macquarie and Newcastle. The Lake Macquarie hub grew again this season from 6 to 8 teams

and was played across 4 grounds at Cardiff South and Warners Bay. The Newcastle hub remained strong and consistent with 10 teams. We had to get creative this season with the Smith Park precinct upgrade ruling out 3 of the usual Newcastle hub grounds. Waratah Ovals and Pickering Oval were perfect substitutes.

Much gratitude goes to the club representatives and parents who assisted with things such as ground inspections and opening toilets, your assistance is greatly appreciated. And to the superstar game mangers as well, who support the players and coaches at the games, thank you!



Summer Smash underway at Adamstown Oval...



..and John street Oval, Warners Bay.

## Season awards and medals

The awards and medals presented to players and teams who excel in the season were modified slightly this time round. A survey of all clubs revealed that the majority (all bar 2) would prefer to have grand final winner medals presented on the day of the grand final, without the team name engraved. In the past they have been engraved with the winning team's name and presented after the fact. This change seemed to be well received, with teams enjoying receiving medals on the day and having them in the celebratory photo.





Major premiers with their medals: Friday Premier League – Merewether Gold (above) and U10 Holland – VECC Valiant (right)



The other modification this season was to abolish the Champion Player award for each grade (age & division), in order to save hours and hours of manual data manipulation.

### **Community Officiating Course (junior umpire course)**

It was very exciting this season to be able to build on the great success of last season's Community Officiating Course, with another large group through the course. The NJCA were again pleased to be partnering with Claire Polosak and Cricket NSW to offer this all-important entry level junior umpiring course. All successful graduates are then able to officiate junior fixtures for the NJCA on a Monday, Friday or Saturday.

A total of 32 individuals participated in the Course, representing a range of ages and motivations for taking part. Of these participants, approximately 20 went on to regularly officiate junior cricket games, and others on occasions as able.

The NJCA greatly appreciates the ongoing support from Dave Stanbridge and Alf Ellevsen, who are NJCA life members and umpire legends. They facilitate the second part of the course each year, which covers locally specific rules. Alf then diligently assigns the new and returning umpires to junior fixtures (and senior) on a weekly basis across the season, managing hundreds of appointments and multiple adjustments each week. Thank you, Alf & Dave.

### **U11 Pre-carnival Cup**

Each year the association selects two teams of talented U11 boys as a development stage in the representative pathway. In years gone by these teams have played in the Sydney based IDCA competition, as well as the U11 Ron Arendts Memorial Shield carnival in January. In recent years though it's just been the Ron Arendts carnival, which means less match practice before these kids go up against some fierce competition from across NSW at the carnival. This year NJCA teamed up with Coalfields and Maitland associations and created a short, friendly competition which looks to create connections and strengthen cricket in the regions. The 4 teams (Newcastle, Lake Mac, Coalfields, Maitland) played 3 rounds on Sundays across November and December, at various locations. It was a great opportunity

Newcastle U11s



for the players and coaches alike to get to know each other and get some invaluable match practice in a competitive environment. In its inaugural year, Lake Mac came out on top, winning all 3 matches. The three associations will look to build on the success of this season and continue to grow the comp into next season and beyond.



Lake Macquarie U11s and Coalfields U11s

Lastly, this will be my final NJCA administrator report! After three seasons of fun, challenges, learning, wet weather and connections, I am making way for the next enthusiastic and driven administrator. It has been a truly rewarding journey and I am so grateful for the experiences I've had and the people I've met, locally as well as across the state through the January carnivals. The club committee volunteers in junior cricket are truly remarkable and the local cricket community is very lucky to have you all on board. Thank you for your dedication to getting our kids on the park every season. Additionally, I extend my gratitude to everyone outside of club committees who contribute to junior cricket in some way; your efforts are invaluable in making junior cricket in Greater Newcastle what it is. And finally, to the NJCA committee - my heartfelt gratitude for your support, guidance and laughs over the three seasons. It's been a wonderful journey. All the best for the seasons to come.

***Sharon Dare***  
***NJCA Administrator***

## January Carnivals

The NJCA was again privileged to host the U11 Ron Arendts Memorial Shield and the U14 Graeme Malcolm Shield in January this year. As has been the case for multiple years now these carnivals were well supported by the City of Newcastle, via their sponsorship of the 2024/25 Celebration of Cricket, a joint venture with the Newcastle District Cricket Association, as well as via the use of the City of Newcastle fields and facilities for the carnivals. The NJCA sincerely thanks the City of Newcastle for their ongoing support.

### **Under 11 Ron Arendts Memorial Shield**

This ever-popular carnival was shaping up to be a huge success, yet again, with over 200 participants across 16 teams travelling from the Illawarra, Far North Coast and everywhere in between, ready for some competitive and fun cricket in the first week of January. Unfortunately, the 18<sup>th</sup> U11 Ron Arendts Memorial Shield carnival was marred by persistent rain, which allowed only one-and-a-bit days of play out of the scheduled 4 days.

Being the only carnival of its kind, offering hard ball cricket to 9, 10 & 11-year-olds, to say everyone involved was disappointed would be an understatement. Every effort was made to get kids on the park though, between umpires braving the elements for far longer than expected, adapting play to allow for wet and slippery conditions or teams and umpires crafting synthetic pitch covers, it was definitely A+ for effort!



Due to the lack of play, there were unfortunately no awards given this year.

We did get team photos completed on the first day – thanks to Emily from EMG Photography again for her professional and efficient work on the ever-hectic first morning.

Alf Ellevsen was invaluable yet again, organising and allocating umpires to all 40 matches – some very resilient umpires who braved the weather and did all they could to get kids playing cricket. A heartfelt thanks is extended to Alf and all the umpires who were involved.

And finally, I was very lucky to have Alyssa Wharton as the local ‘on the ground’ coordinator for the U11 carnival, in my absence. She was amazing and I’m grateful for all her efforts in the elements – thank you Alyssa!



## **U14 Graeme Malcolm Shield**

After a deluge the week before, the 44th U14 Graeme Malcolm Shield got off to a very welcome gloriously sunny start. The 200+ participants across the 16 teams came from the usual far reaches of the NSW coast and inland. Teams played the first day of 2 x T20s and the following 2 days of 40 over matches in some very hot and humid weather, in stark contrast to the week before. However, when Sharon is involved, it's not cricket if it doesn't rain at some point. And that it did on the last day. A lot! Every match on the final day commenced but none were completed. Unfortunately, even Dave Edwards, curator extraordinaire, could not get the final back on at Townson Oval, so Blacktown and Manly were declared joint winners – a final day washout at the Graeme Malcolm carnival for the second time in 3 years.



Joint winners of U14 Graeme Malcolm Shield – Blacktown & Manly Warringah

The award winners for the U14 Graeme Malcolm carnival were:

AWARD	RECIPIENT	TEAM
Player of the Carnival	Ethan Schreuder	Hornsby Ku-Ring-Gai
Batter of the Carnival	Chris Wojewodka	Cricket Illawarra
Bowler of the Carnival	Yuin Hill	Cricket Illawarra
Fielder of the Carnival	Jack Cameron	Lake Macquarie

Sincere gratitude is extended to the curators and club contacts for their hard work over the 4 days to get our juniors on turf. There were 14 turf grounds used over the 4 days, most of them at least twice, some up to 4 times. Playing on turf is an invaluable experience for participants, many of whom seldom get this opportunity. And while use of turf wickets add significantly to the positive experience for the players, it comes with a whole new level of complexity and commitment behind the scenes for club volunteers and curators – huge thanks to all involved in the various clubs.

Once again I had had the assistance & expertise from Alex Gallagher, who ensured everything ran smoothly for the first 3 days – many thanks, Alex! And as always, massive gratitude to Alf Ellefsen for his tireless efforts in getting umpire allocations successfully filled for all 40 matches across the 4 days. THANK YOU, Alf.

There's a lot that goes into putting these carnivals on, and, like all community sports, it takes a village. I'm immensely grateful to so many for their assistance in getting these carnivals up and running, not only this season but over the course of the last three as well.

***Sharon Dare***  
***Carnival Coordinator***

## Girls Cricket Report

Building on the success of last season and continually adapting to the changing and growing female landscape, the NJCA offered Stage 3 All Girls cricket in season 24/25, in addition to the well-established Stage 1 and 2 All Girls grades. We got agonisingly close to establishing a Stage 3 All Girls grade – 4 teams started the season in Stage 3 Girls. One of these teams needed a few more regular players, which we hoped would come to the fore in the first few weeks, once friends started talking. In the meantime, local girls who no longer play juniors were super-subs for the Wests Stage 3 team, bolstering them to crucial minimum team numbers for the first 4 weeks. Unfortunately, despite best efforts to the contrary, extra permanent players did not materialise and we had to rethink the Stage 3 Girls grade.

As was the approach last season, there were “no decisions about them, without them”, and all decisions about the Stage 3 Girls grade were made in close consultation with those involved, including the decision to allow the ‘super-subs’ initially to try and get the grade up and running. Several options for the girls post round 4 were brainstormed and discussed at a meeting of stakeholders. Not surprisingly, the bottom line for all of the girls was that they didn’t mind who they played or where they played, as long as they stuck together. So, the Stage 3 Girls grade was absorbed into other grades; 2 teams joined the U13 Division 2 mixed grade (Charlestown and Merewether), Toronto girls joined the Stage 2 U13 Girls grade, eliminating the preexisting bye, and the Wests girls were absorbed into existing Wests all girls teams. Whilst not the optimal outcome, a positive outcome in the circumstances, with all the participants having input and no one missing out.

Across the other Stages, Stage 1 U11 All Girls had 8 teams in 24/25, in one division, and Stage 2 U13 had 6 teams, once the Stage 3 Toronto team were regraded. There were also 3 all girls teams in the mixed grades, including Charlestown and Merewether who were regraded from Stage 3 Girls. 17 all-girls in total.

Overall, there were 192 girls registered to the NJCA Saturday morning competitions in season 2024-2025 (including 3 in Early Stage 1 U9), representing 10 of our Junior affiliated clubs.

NJCA also had 2 all girls teams participating in January carnivals this season. The U13 Mollie Dive team participate each year in the Newcastle U11 Ron Arendts carnival, a predominantly male carnival which is always a challenging but rewarding experience for the girls. Sadly this year, the U11 carnival was almost a complete washout. Much drier conditions were experienced in the same week in Orange, where an U15 team competed in the Western NSW Junior cricket carnival. This U15 team was a combination of the Lake Macquarie and Newcastle U15 Country Youth Champs teams, who were both very successful at the Country Youth Championships in Singleton in October. This success continued with the girls emerging winners of the U15 girls competition, in a nail biting final against Western.

The NJCA expresses sincere gratitude for the contributions of numerous volunteers dedicated to female cricket throughout the Newcastle region. Their commitment ensures that the Newcastle region remains at the forefront of female development. The Association is committed to supporting clubs in strengthening and enhancing these efforts in the upcoming seasons.

***Sharon Dare***

***NJCA Administrator (in absence of an NJCA Girls Cricket Officer)***

## Cricket NSW Community Cricket Experience, Season Review

Once again, I must extend a huge thank you to the Newcastle Junior Cricket Association Committee, particularly President, Andrew Cornwell, and Administrator, Sharon Dare, for their unwavering support throughout the season. Endless thanks must go to every volunteer administrator, committee member, coach, manager, umpire, scorer and parent, whose commitment to our sport is what provides our young players with the opportunity to learn, love, and play Cricket.

Reflecting on all that the NJCA, the 16 Clubs affiliated to the NJCA, and our Cricket NSW team have delivered over Season 2024-2025 is impressive, and testament to the dedication of our volunteers, our clubs, and the wider cricket community across Newcastle.

### **Country Blitz**

Over two action-packed days, our region proudly hosted the Cricket NSW Country Blitz 2024, showcasing the power of cricket to inspire, connect, and celebrate community.

Day 1 - The day began with a vibrant player engagement event at Bargoed House, Swansea, where six contracted Cricket NSW players — Sarah Coyte, Joel Davies, Hannah Darlington, Chris Tremain, Ryan Hadley, and local rising star Sienna Eve — delivered a memorable cricket experience to over 60 students from Pelican Flat Public School and Marks Point Public School.

The event was made even more special with the official announcement of Sienna Eve's Sydney Thunder WBBL contract, celebrated in the presence of local media, Cricket NSW representatives, and Sienna's family.



Swansea Country Blitz, with Pelican Flat Public School & Marks Point Public School

In the afternoon, the team headed to Nobbys Beach for a fun-filled Beach Blast session, engaging with local youth in a relaxed coastal setting. The day concluded with a volunteer engagement event and continued celebrations at Rippit Golf, where players, volunteers, and Sienna's family came together to reflect on the day's success.

Day 2 – The second day kicked off at Hunter Sports High School, where players led a coaching clinic and Q&A session to launch the Waiyarang School Cricket Team — a new initiative aimed at fostering cricket participation among Indigenous students.

The Country Blitz wrapped up with a visit to Jesmond Public School, where players participated in a school assembly Q&A and supported an after-school Cricket Blast program, leaving a lasting impression on students and staff alike.





Jesmond Public School (above)



## Cricket Blast

Season 2024–2025 continued to build on the momentum of the previous year, with Cricket Australia maintaining its simplified Woolworths Cricket Blast program for 5–10-year-olds. This streamlined approach made it easier for parents and carers to register, while also equipping coordinators and coaches with the tools and training to deliver fun, inclusive, and engaging sessions.

### National Campaigns & Promotions

Cricket Australia sustained its national marketing efforts, including television, digital, and social media campaigns. Targeted girls-specific marketing was again implemented in regions offering Stage 1 Girls Cricket, with local efforts focused on postcodes across Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, and Port Stephens.

### Club-Delivered Programs

- Term 4 2024: 16 club-run Cricket Blast programs were delivered by NJCA-affiliated clubs.
- Term 1 2025: 3 club-run programs were delivered along with 2 Cricket NSW Blast programs
- Total Club Registrations: 413 Cricket Blast players registered directly through clubs — a continued increase from the previous season (389 in 2023–2024 and 265 in 2022–2023).

### Cricket NSW Delivered Programs

- Cricket NSW delivered 5 direct Cricket Blast programs across the region.
- These programs engaged 477 registered participants, further expanding the reach of the program beyond club environments.

## Season 2024–2025: Inspiring the Next Generation of Cricketers

This season, Cricket NSW continued to deliver unforgettable on-ground experiences that connected young players to the heart of the game. On 17 November 2024, participants from the All-Girls Blast – Warners Bay Winter Program, designed to support girls transitioning into junior cricket, took part in an exciting on-ground experience at the WBBL clash between the Melbourne Stars and Brisbane Heat. The girls proudly represented their program, soaking in the atmosphere and engaging with their cricket heroes in a moment they'll never forget.

The excitement continued into January 2025 during the Australia vs India Test at the SCG, part of the iconic Border-Gavaskar Trophy. Across the first three days, Cricket Blast participants from Wallsend District Cricket Club, Newcastle Hunters NPL, and Port Stephens Cricket Club took to the field during the lunch break for the Cricket Blast On-Ground Experience. Performing in front of record-breaking crowds at the SCG, these young cricketers showcased their skills and passion, creating memories that will last a lifetime.



Day 1 Sydney Test – Wallsend DCC Blast (left) and Womens Ashes ODI – Port Stephens Blast (above)

Adding to the season's highlights, the Women's Ashes One Day International launched to a capacity crowd at North Sydney Oval on Sunday 12 January 2025. Port Stephens Cricket Blasters had the honour of participating as Anthem Kids, standing proudly with both teams during the national anthems—an inspiring moment that celebrated the spirit of cricket and the growing strength of the women's game. These experiences are more than just fun—they're deeply rewarding, helping to build confidence, foster community, and ignite a lifelong love for cricket in every child who steps onto the field.

### **Sydney Sixers Programs Return to Newcastle – Season 2024–2025**

Season 2024–2025 marked the exciting return of Sydney Sixers-supported events and programs to the Newcastle region, delivering high-quality cricket experiences for young players of all skill levels.

The Sydney Sixers Holiday Bash proved a hit with new and inexperienced cricketers aged 5–10, offering a fun, fast-paced introduction to the game. With no equipment or prior knowledge required, participants enjoyed skills-based activities and modified games in a relaxed and inclusive environment. For more experienced players, the Sydney Sixers Junior Coaching Clinics catered to boys and girls aged 7–14, providing a structured and engaging program led by accredited Level 2 Representative Coaches and supported by Level 1 Community Coaches. These clinics focused on skill development through tailored drills, activities, and game-based learning.

Across the summer school holidays, over 120 young cricketers took part in these programs, highlighting the strong local appetite for cricket development opportunities. While the April clinics were unfortunately postponed due to wet weather, the enthusiasm and participation throughout the season reaffirm our commitment to growing the game in the region.

We look forward to expanding these programs and continuing to inspire the next generation of cricketers in the year ahead.



## Sydney Sixers Tape Ball League launched in Newcastle

On Sunday, 13 April 2025, Community Cricket Newcastle proudly hosted the inaugural Sydney Sixers Tape Ball League (TBL01) at Ernie Calland and Allen Davis Fields in Gateshead. This exciting new event marked a vibrant celebration of cricket, bringing together local communities to experience the fast-paced and inclusive format of Tape Ball. The atmosphere was electric, with players and spectators alike embracing the spirit of the game in a fun and welcoming environment.

Four dynamic teams—Tape Ball Trailblazers, Sky Hawks, Kabul Knight Riders, and Afghan Blue Tigers—competed in a series of thrilling matches throughout the day. The grand final saw a fierce contest between Kabul Knight Riders and Afghan Blue Tigers, with the latter emerging victorious to become the first-ever champions of the Sydney Sixers Tape Ball League. The success of TBL01 highlights the growing enthusiasm for alternative cricket formats and the power of sport to unite communities across Newcastle.



Inaugural Tape Ball League champions, Afghan Blue Tigers (left), and Afghan Blue Tiger's captain with Caoimhe Bray.

## Sporting Schools – School cricket experiences

Sporting Schools is an Australian Government initiative aimed at increasing children's participation in sport and fostering lifelong engagement in physical activity. Delivered in partnership with over 40 national sporting organisations, including those supporting people with disabilities, the program provides free, high-quality sport experiences to primary and secondary school students. Through grant funding, schools can access structured programs that build students' confidence, skills, and enjoyment of sport, with a particular focus on engaging inactive students, girls, and those in disadvantaged communities. The initiative also strengthens connections between schools and local sporting clubs, helping students transition into community sport.

Aligned with the Play Well Sport Participation Strategy, Sporting Schools supports the development of capable teachers, coaches, and sport providers to ensure positive and inclusive experiences. In the 2024–2025 season, Cricket NSW partnered with six local schools to deliver cricket programs through Sporting Schools, reaching 566 primary-aged students across 100 sessions. This included 261 female students, 94 students identifying as Indigenous, and 63 from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds—demonstrating the program’s impact in promoting equity and access to sport across the Newcastle region.

### **Cricket NSW Community Cricket Awards & Volunteer Recognition**

The Cricket NSW Community Cricket Awards continue to shine a spotlight on the incredible individuals and organisations whose dedication and passion keep our sport thriving at the grassroots level. From tireless volunteers and innovative thinkers to those driving facility development and inclusive participation, these awards celebrate the heart and soul of cricket in New South Wales. With 15 categories recognising excellence across all facets of community cricket, the awards highlight the vital role that club administrators, advocates, and volunteers play in ensuring the game remains accessible, enjoyable, and sustainable for all.

This year, the Newcastle region proudly celebrated two outstanding winners. Waratah-Mayfield District Cricket Club was honoured with the Technology & Media Initiative Award for their forward-thinking approach to engaging the community and enhancing the cricket experience through digital innovation. Meanwhile, Alyssa Wharton of Newcastle City Cricket Club was named Young Leader of the Year, a testament to her inspiring leadership and commitment to the sport. Additionally, the Newcastle District Cricket Association was recognised as a finalist in both the Community Cricket Association and Community Partnership categories. Their efforts in building sustainable competitions and fostering meaningful partnerships with organisations like Beyond Bank and Talk to Me Bro exemplify the power of cricket to unite and uplift communities. These achievements underscore the vibrant and impactful cricket culture flourishing in Newcastle and beyond.

**Waratah-Mayfield District Cricket Club – Technology & Media Initiative of the Year**

Recognised for its use of technology to create a connection to its members, by reducing volunteer time, connecting members through social media or enhancing participant experience.

#### ***Waratah-Mayfield District Cricket Club – Cricket NSW Technology & Media Initiative Award***

Waratah-Mayfield District Cricket Club was proudly recognised with the Technology & Media Initiative Award, celebrating the innovative and engaging work of volunteers Michael and Cam. Taking charge of the club’s social media presence, they have transformed it into a vibrant and inclusive platform that not only showcases the club’s spirit but also connects with a broader cricketing audience. Their creative content—ranging from the popular “Tahs Illustrated” series to dynamic FrogBox highlights and a dedicated media day—has set a new benchmark for community engagement in local cricket. Through consistent, relevant, and entertaining posts, Michael and Cam have significantly grown the club’s online following, drawing attention from both local supporters and the wider cricket community. Their approach ensures that all players are recognised and celebrated, highlighting individual achievements and fostering a strong sense of belonging. By elevating the club’s profile with a professional and positive image, their efforts have not only strengthened internal morale but also

attracted external interest and support—demonstrating the powerful role of media in building community cricket.

### ***Alyssa Wharton – Cricket NSW, Sport NSW and Cricket Australia recognition***

#### ***Cricket NSW - Young Leader of the Year***

Recognised for the positive impact she has through her off-field leadership in volunteering, Alyssa Wharton has been named Young Leader of the Year for her exceptional dedication and multifaceted contributions to community cricket. Sharing her experience across playing, coaching, officiating, mentoring, and administration, Alyssa exemplifies what it means to be a well-rounded cricket leader. Her passion for the game is evident in every role she takes on, and her ability to seamlessly transition between them highlights her versatility and commitment. Whether she's on the field or behind the scenes, Alyssa brings energy, insight, and a strong sense of purpose to everything she does.

Alyssa's impact is particularly profound in the development of women's cricket. As Cricket Blast Coordinator, she has grown participation from just 8 to over 50 young players, demonstrating her ability to inspire and engage the next generation. In her roles as the Club's Women's Coordinator and a member of the NDCA Women's Advisory Group, she continues to advocate for inclusive opportunities and meaningful change. Known for her friendly and approachable nature, Alyssa builds strong connections with everyone she meets, making her a respected and influential figure both on and off the field. Her leadership is helping shape a more vibrant and inclusive future for cricket in Newcastle and beyond.

#### ***Cricket Australia – Highly Commended Young Leader of the Year***

Alyssa Wharton was nominated by Cricket NSW for the Cricket Australia 2024-2025 Community Cricket Awards' Young Leader of the Year. As a dedicated volunteer and a valued Casual Program Coordinator for Cricket NSW, Alyssa embodies the Cricket NSW values of Relationships, Excellence, Humility, and Imagination in EVERY aspect of her work.

Alyssa has played an instrumental role in growing grassroots cricket across our region. Her leadership as a Blasters Coordinator, Women's Coordinator, and Division 2 Women's Captain at Newcastle City Cricket Club has helped create fun, engaging experiences for young cricketers, providing a safe and supportive environment for junior male and female players. She has led by example, recruiting, and mentoring young players, guiding junior umpires, and sharing her expertise with other clubs to expand Cricket Blast programs.

Her commitment to Excellence is evident in her ability to navigate challenges, from managing player selections to coordinating junior competitions. Alyssa's Humility shines through in her willingness to step back and prioritize the growth and enjoyment of those she mentors. She approaches every opportunity with Imagination, finding creative ways to engage players, enhance training, and support the development of women's and junior cricket.

Alyssa is a true role model, inspiring young people to stay involved in cricket beyond playing. Her dedication, leadership, and impact on the cricket community make her a deserving recipient of this award.

#### ***Sport NSW – Community Sports Awards***

These awards recognise outstanding achievements and contributions to community sport in NSW – largely carried out by a volunteer workforce. More than 500,000 people across NSW voluntarily dedicate their time every year through their involvement in sporting clubs and organisations.

Cricket NSW are proud to announce that Alyssa has also been named as a finalist in the Sport NSW Community Sports Awards for the 2024-2025 ACPE Young Coach of the Year. Alyssa will be attending the Awards dinner at CommBank Stadium in Parramatta on 30 June 2025; we are proud to have Alyssa representing our sport and wish her all the best for the awards.

### **Cricket NSW Community Distinguished Service Awards**

In 2024-2025 Cricket NSW launched the Community Distinguished Service Award, to recognise those who have given so much to cricket in their local community, over an extended period of time. As a sport, cricket is blessed to have quality people who give so much time and expertise to provide opportunities for people to play and love cricket. For many, the sport becomes ingrained as part of their lifestyle, a commitment spanning many years and across many aspects of the game, on field and off field. Two Newcastle based volunteers were successful recipients of Distinguished Service Awards this season.

#### ***Adrian Mannel – Newcastle City Cricket Club***

Adrian began his cricket journey with Newcastle City & Eastern Districts Cricket Club at the age of 7 in 1995. Since then, he has played every season without a break, progressing from junior ranks to grade cricket. Last season, Adrian embraced the opportunity to play Masters cricket, balancing mid-week games with his duties as a grade captain on weekends.

Adrian has served as Club Treasurer since 2010, becoming the longest-serving Treasurer in the club's over 100-year history. His financial management skills have been crucial in securing grants for infrastructure and resources, benefiting both the club and the wider community. Adrian's dedication earned him Life Membership in 2018-19, a rare honour for someone under 30.

In addition to his role as Treasurer, Adrian has coached junior teams, captained grade teams, and contributed to fundraising, working bees, social cohesion, junior skill camps, and training coordination. His commitment extends beyond the club, as he has played a pivotal role in liaising with other sporting bodies, government entities, and community organisations.

As a club delegate to the Newcastle District Cricket Association, Adrian has advocated for players' and the club's interests. He supported the creation of a Women's T20 competition in Newcastle, which has grown from three teams in 2019 to two divisions with 14 teams. Adrian's efforts have also led to the maintenance and upgrade of No 1 Sportsground.

Adrian's dedication to cricket is far-reaching, from helping youngsters to nurturing juniors transitioning to seniors. His contributions at both the organisational and grassroots levels make him a fabulous ambassador for the club and cricket in general.

#### ***Michael Redpath – Waratah-Mayfield District Cricket Club***

Michael Redpath has been recognised for his unwavering commitment, leadership, and passion for the game. Over an extraordinary 38-year playing career with Waratah-Mayfield District Cricket Club—including time in first grade and three years as captain—Michael has exemplified what it means to be a true club stalwart. His dedication extends far beyond the pitch, having served on the club's committee for three decades and supported its growth through 15 years of sponsorship via his businesses. In 2023/24, his immense contributions were further acknowledged with a Life Membership and the Clubman of the Year Award.

Michael, or “Mick” as he’s affectionately known, has been instrumental in shaping a culture of support, development, and unity at WMDCC. His influence spans generations, positively impacting players from junior levels through to senior ranks, both on and off the field. His professionalism and loyalty have left a lasting legacy not only within the club but across the wider Newcastle cricketing community. Mick’s enduring service and leadership continue to inspire, ensuring that the values he upholds remain at the heart of the club for years to come.

## **Volunteer Support and Education – Coaching, Scoring, Umpiring**

### **Community Coach Course (Level 1)**

In junior sport, the coach is often the most influential figure in a young athlete’s development. As leaders, role models, and educators, coaches have the unique ability to shape not only a player’s skills but also their character and love for the game. Great coaches foster self-confidence, resilience, and a sense of belonging, creating an environment where young cricketers can thrive both on and off the field. Their impact is long-lasting, often inspiring a lifelong connection to cricket and instilling values that extend well beyond the boundary.

Recognising the importance of this role, Cricket NSW has continued to invest in the development of community coaches. Across the 2024–2025 season, seven Community Coach Workshops were delivered in the Newcastle region as part of the Community Coach (Level 1) Accreditation, with over 60 local coaches participating. These workshops were facilitated by Steve Taylor, Cricket Australia and Cricket New Zealand Level 3 High Performance Coach. As a professional educator, with extensive experience coaching, teaching and providing pastoral care, Steve is a valuable asset to the Newcastle cricket landscape, particularly for his understanding of the role of the coach, the player and other stakeholders in the junior cricket ecosystem.

These workshops, aligned with the Cricket Australia Community Coach Course, are designed to empower coaches to create positive and engaging learning environments for players of all ages. The course emphasizes practical coaching skills, including session planning, the use of the Cricket Australia Skill Development Framework, and embracing the Australian Way philosophy. By equipping coaches with the tools and knowledge to succeed, Cricket NSW is ensuring that junior players receive the guidance and support they need to grow, enjoy, and stay in the game.

### **Coach Development Workshops**

As part of Cricket NSW’s commitment to ongoing coach development, a series of specialised Coach Development Workshops were delivered in Newcastle throughout the 2024–2025 season. These workshops were designed to build on the foundational knowledge of existing junior and senior coaches, offering deeper insights into both the technical and teaching aspects of the game. Developed by a team of Cricket NSW coach education specialists, the sessions focused on helping coaches better understand the fundamentals of cricket and, crucially, how to effectively communicate and teach these fundamentals to players of all ages and abilities.

Newcastle was selected as a pilot region for this initiative, with an initial four workshops delivered at the start of the season by Tommy Anderson, a Cricket Australia-accredited Level 3 High Performance Coach and the NJCA Junior Director of Coaching. These were followed by another four sessions held during the January Cricket Carnivals, led by Brett Rankin, Cricket NSW Coach Education Specialist (Cricket Performance). A third series is currently underway, facilitated by experienced coach educator



Steve Taylor. Collectively, these workshops have supported the continued development of over 50 local coaches, enhancing the quality of coaching across the region and reinforcing the importance of lifelong learning and growth within the coaching community.

### Scoring Workshops



As part of Cricket NSW's broader commitment to upskilling volunteers and improving match-day experiences, two Manual and E-Scoring Education Workshops were delivered in the 2024–2025 pre-season in Newcastle. These workshops were designed to support scorers at all levels—whether new to the role or looking to transition from traditional paper-based scoring to digital platforms. With scoring being a vital part of the game's integrity and flow, these sessions aimed to build confidence and competence in both manual and electronic scoring methods.

Led by Clubs & Competition Manager for Newcastle Hunter Coast, David Winiata, the

workshops provided hands-on training in using the PlayHQ e-scoring platform, as well as best practices for manual scorebook entry. Participants were guided through real-game scenarios, troubleshooting tips, and how to ensure accurate and consistent record-keeping. These sessions not only improved the technical skills of over 40 local scorers but also helped foster a stronger understanding of the scorer's role in supporting umpires, coaches, and players. By empowering volunteers with the tools and knowledge to score effectively, Cricket NSW continues to enhance the quality and professionalism of community cricket across the region.

### Cricket Australia – CommBank Leading Clubs for Girls

Cricket Australia, in partnership with CommBank, supports leading clubs across the country through the Growing Cricket for Girls Fund. This funding aims to increase girls' participation, particularly in junior cricket, and promote inclusivity and accessibility of the game. The Leading Clubs initiative provides financial assistance to clubs to support these goals.

In the Newcastle region, Lake Macquarie Junior Cricket, Newcastle City Cricket Club, and Newcastle Western Suburbs Junior Cricket Club were each awarded \$2000 to support their efforts to increase junior cricket opportunities for female players. To encourage greater junior female participation in cricket, clubs have implemented a variety of inclusive and supportive strategies. These include appointing dedicated female-focused leadership roles, establishing clear development pathways from junior to senior levels, and leveraging female role models to inspire younger players. Programs such as "come and try" days, school partnerships, and targeted outreach to winter sports teams have been used to attract new participants. Social media campaigns, including sponsored posts, have helped amplify success stories and promote events, while clubs have also worked to ensure access to appropriate equipment and safe playing environments.

Key barriers to participation for young female players include discomfort with traditional uniforms—particularly white pants during puberty—limited visibility of female role models, and a lack of tailored equipment. Financial constraints and the perception of cricket as a male-dominated sport can also deter girls and their families. To address these challenges, clubs have introduced dark-coloured uniforms, subsidised equipment, and created welcoming environments that prioritise comfort, confidence, and community. These efforts aim to remove practical and psychological barriers, making cricket a more accessible and appealing option for girls.



Newcastle City (left) and Western Suburbs (right) all girls teams

### **Cricket NSW Community Cricket Local Team Updates**

This season, our local Cricket NSW team has experienced just one significant change, with Tighan Tosen transitioning from her role as Blast Specialist to become the new Cricket Manager – Hunter. Tighan’s leadership and experience will continue to benefit the region in her expanded role. Stepping into the Blast space is Emma McFayden, who brings a strong background in grassroots sports and club administration, along with a deep commitment to creating positive sporting experiences for young people.

Emma now oversees the delivery of school and Cricket NSW Blast programs across Newcastle, Port Stephens, and Lake Macquarie. Her work includes partnering with schools to implement cricket programs through the Australian Sports Commission’s Sporting Schools funding, coordinating before and after school cricket sessions, and managing popular school holiday initiatives such as the Sydney Sixers Holiday Bash. Her appointment strengthens the team’s capacity to grow junior cricket and foster a love for the game among the next generation.

As we look ahead, we remain firmly committed to increasing our strategic support for the volunteers, players, administrators, and supporters who are the backbone of cricket across the Newcastle region. Their dedication and passion continue to drive the growth and success of our game at every level. By enhancing resources, strengthening communication, and fostering inclusive, well-supported environments, we aim to ensure that every individual involved in our cricket community feels valued, empowered, and equipped to thrive. Together, we will continue building a vibrant and sustainable future for cricket in our region.

***Leya Wilson***

***Cricket Manager, Newcastle***

## Season 2024/2025 Awards

### **NJCA Competition Awards 2024/2025**

#### **Major and Minor Premiers**

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Minor Premiers</b>	<b>Major Premiers</b>
U10 Clarke	LMJCC 6ers	City Sabres
U10 Holland	VECC Valiant	VECC Valiant
U10 Poulton	MDJCC White	MDJCC White
U11 Division 1	CJCC Magpies	CJCC Magpies
U11 Division 2	Stockton U11	Stockton U11
U11 Division 3	Tahs Red	Tahs Red
Stage 1 Girls, U11	City Sabres	City Sabres
Stage 2 Girls, U13	Toronto	Toronto
U12 Division 1	West's Red	West's Red
U12 Division 2	LMJCC 6ers	LMJCC 6ers
U12 Division 3	Tahs U12	Swansea Caves U12
U13 Division 1	CJCC Sixers	CJCC Sixers
U13 Division 2	CJCC Thunder	CJCC Thunder
U13 Division 3	Toronto Kookaburras	Swansea Caves U13
U14 Division 1	West's U14 Red	MDJCC Gold
U14 Division 2	Stockton U14	Stockton U14
U15-U18 Friday Premier League - Division 1	MDJCC Gold	MDJCC Gold
U15-U18 Division 3	West's Green	CJCC Scorchers
U15-U18 Division 4	LMJCC 6ers	LMJCC 6ers
U14 Monday Social T20 Bash	VECC Monday T20	Sabres T20

## Major Award Recipients

AWARD	NAME	CLUB
Female Player of the Year	Sophie Clune	Lake Macquarie JCC
Male Player of the Year	Rory Najor	Merewether JCC
Fielder of the Year	Vincent Cashman	Western Suburbs JCC

## Individual Award Recipients – Batting

Grade	Name	Stats (runs @ average)	Club
U10 Clarke	Ezra Kelly	262	Lake Macquarie JCC
U10 Holland	Clyde Robertson	220	Valentine Eleebana CC
U10 Poulton	Jack Berry	256	Merewether DJCC
U11 Division 1	Harry Streeter	240	Waratah Mayfield JCC
U11 Division 2	Bon Hammerton	249	Stockton NDCC
U11 Division 3	Beren Baker	209	Cricket Southern Lakes
Stage 1 Girls U11	Paige Cutro	173	Charlestown JCC
Stage 2 Girls U13	Chloe Criss	258 @ 51.6	Merewether DJCC
U12 Division 1	Hamish Mitchell	319 @ 79.8	Newcastle City
U12 Division 2	Samuel Carter	259 @ 259	Lake Macquarie JCC
U12 Division 3	Max Seymour	204 @ 25.5	Swansea-Caves CC
U13 Division 1	Rory Najor	372 @ 41.3	Merewether DJCC
U13 Division 2	Sachin Tellakula Shankar	261 @ 65.3	Lake Macquarie JCC
U13 Division 3	James Smith	231 @ 46.2	Cricket Southern Lakes
U14 Division 1	Sulaiman Moin Muhammad	490 @ 163.3	Newcastle City
U14 Division 2	Braith Sinclair	229 @ 38.2	Waratah Mayfield JCC
U15-U18 Div 1 Premier League	Sam Gallagher	223 @ 55.8	Western Suburbs JCC
U15-U18 Div 3	Zameer Masoom khil	413 @ 51.6	Western Suburbs JCC
U15-U18 Div 4	Hunter Chappell	406 @ 81.2	Nelson Bay CC
Monday T20 Bash	Sulaiman Moin Muhammad	323 @ 64.6	Newcastle City

## Individual Award Recipients – Bowling

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Stats (wickets @ average)</b>	<b>Club</b>
<b>U10 Clarke</b>	Ezra Kelly	22 @ 3.8	Lake Macquarie JCC
<b>U10 Holland</b>	Clyde Robertson	28 @ 4.8	Valentine Eleebana CC
<b>U10 Poulton</b>	Jack Berry	22 @ 5.2	Merewether DJCC
<b>U11 Division 1</b>	Owen Keegan	29 @ 3.2	Charlestown JCC
<b>U11 Division 2</b>	Jack Carter	27 @ 5.5	Lake Macquarie JCC
<b>U11 Division 3</b>	Nicholas Healey	22 @ 3.5	Waratah Mayfield JCC
<b>Stage 1 Girls U11</b>	Harriet Morton	28 @ 3.4	Newcastle City CC
<b>Stage 2 Girls U13</b>	Matilda Moore	11 @ 15.3	Merewether DJCC
<b>U12 Division 1</b>	Jonah Courtney	15 @ 7.9	Merewether DJCC
<b>U12 Division 2</b>	Samuel Carter	14 @ 4.1	Lake Macquarie JCC
<b>U12 Division 3</b>	Charlie Johns	14 @ 5.5	Swansea-Caves CC
<b>U13 Division 1</b>	Rory Najor	23 @ 5.6	Merewether DJCC
<b>U13 Division 2</b>	Cohen Hay	12 @ 5.1	Charlestown JCC
<b>U13 Division 3</b>	Callan Blake	16 @ 4.3	Cricket Southern Lakes
<b>U14 Division 1</b>	Nebin Liby	18 @ 9.9	Western Suburbs JCC
<b>U14 Division 2</b>	Oscar McNamara	19 @ 5.6	Waratah Mayfield JCC
<b>U15-U18 Div 1 Premier League</b>	Jack Welsh	16 @ 7.6	Newcastle City CC
<b>U15-U18 Div 3</b>	Ethan Potoczny	23 @ 8.6	Western Suburbs JCC
<b>U15-U18 Div 4</b>	Oliver Croft	16 @ 6.9	Warners Bay CC
<b>Monday T20 Bash</b>	Axl Williams	16 @ 4.94	Lake Macquarie JCC

## **Newcastle Cricket Zone Junior Representative Player Award Recipients 2024/25**

### **Team Awards**

	<b>Batting Award</b>	<b>Bowling Award</b>	<b>Coaches Award</b>	<b>Champion Player</b>
<b>U12 Male Foster Shield - Newcastle</b>	Christopher Gardiner 144 runs @ 36	Conor Hazel 7 wickets @ 11.3	Quinn Freeman	<b>Christopher Gardiner</b> 144 runs @ 36 6 wickets @ 12 2 catches
<b>U12 Male Foster Shield - Lake Macquarie</b>	Elijah Hudson 136 runs @ 22.7	Blake Wildermuth 9 wickets @ 9.1	Edison Spencer	
<b>U13 Female Youth Champs – Mollie Dive Shield</b>	Jane Cruckshank 169 runs @ 33.8	Annabelle Grange 10 wickets @ 12.2	Lucinda McNicol	<b>Annabelle Grange</b> 144 runs @ 21 10 wickets @ 12 5 catches, 1 run out
<b>U13 Male Country Youth Champs – Newcastle</b>	Nideesh Phad 173 runs @ 25	Lucas Hood 8 wickets @ 18	Nate Dixon	<b>Jasper Grainger</b> 367 runs @ 52 7 wickets @ 15 1 catch, 2 run outs
<b>U13 Male Country Youth Champs – Lake Macquarie</b>	Jasper Grainger 367 runs @ 52	Ollie Watson 9 wickets @ 11	Thomas Crane	
<b>U14 Male Country Youth Champs – Newcastle</b>	Sulaiman Moin Muhammad 229 runs @ 76	Sulaiman Moin Muhammad 9 wickets @ 10	Henry Beasley	<b>Sulaiman Moin Muhammad</b> 229 runs @ 76 9 wickets @ 10 4 catches
<b>U14 Male Country Youth Champs – Lake Macquarie</b>	Liam Belfield 96 runs @ 16	Matt Priestly 9 wickets @ 13	Max Gallagher	
<b>U15 Female Country Youth Champs – Newcastle</b>	Lily Railz 137 runs @ 69	Evie Gaggin & Bronte Morgan 11 wickets @ 4	Evie O'Brien	<b>Evie O'Brien</b> 131 runs @ 43 7 wickets @ 9 4 catches 1 run out
<b>U15 Female Country Youth Champs – Lake Macquarie</b>	Tayah Mcvittie 111 runs @ 37	Cosette Thomas 10 wickets @ 8	Evie West	
<b>U15 Male Country Youth Champs – Newcastle</b>	Izaan Mohammed 122 runs @ 24	Isaac Catterson 7 wickets @ 4	Mason van Huisstede	<b>Sam Gallagher</b> 115 runs @ 23 7 wickets 5 catches 1 run out
<b>U15 Male Country Youth Champs – Lake Macquarie</b>	Drew Saxby 165 runs @ 41.25	Jack Gaggin 9 wickets @ 13	Liam Lundy	

	<b>Batting Award</b>	<b>Bowling Award</b>	<b>Coaches Award</b>	<b>Champion Player</b>
<b>U16 Female Country Championships</b>	Cosette Thomas 104 runs @ 35	Evie Gaggin 4 wickets @ 8	Jasmine Old	<b>Cosette Thomas</b> 104 runs @ 35 3 wickets @ 15 2 catches, 1 run out
<b>U16 Bradman Cup</b>	Hayden Checker 181 runs @ 30	Koby Blight 8 wickets @ 20	Hunter Croft	<b>Hayden Checker</b> 181 runs @ 30 6 catches 4 run outs

### Major Awards

<b>Female Player of the Year</b>	Jane Cruckshank
<b>Male Player of the Year</b>	Jasper Grainger
<b>Fielder of the Year</b>	Jane Cruckshank
<b>Best in Ron Arendts (Patrick Sharpe memorial medal)</b>	Jesse Green

### Other Awards

U13 CYC	5 wickets	Jasper Grainger	5/19 (6.1) v North Coast
U13 CYC	100 runs	Jasper Grainger	102 (73) v Mid North Coast
U14 CYC	Hat trick	Callum van Huisstede	4/7 (2) v North Coast
U15 CYC	5 wickets	Cosette Thomas	5/14 (3.2) v Riverina
U13 Mollie Dive Shield	5 wickets	Annabelle Grange	5/18 (6) v Manly Warringah

CYC = Country Youth Champs



## NJCA Inc. Financial Report

### **Profit and Loss, year ended 31 May 2025**

<b>Carnival</b>		
Income	44,355	
Expenses	(22,612)	21,743
<b>Competition</b>		
Rego income	58,121	
Training levy	10,480	
Fundraising and Grants	7,850	
Competition expenses	(51,832)	
Marketing	(3,430)	
Ground Repairs	(1,057)	
Summer Smash	(2,939)	
Coach development	(7,481)	9,711
<b>Association Management</b>		
Levy	61,923	
Expenses	(62,744)	(820)
<b>Other</b>		
Interest Income	9,607	
Other	600	
Jim Brennan nets	2,418	
Storage costs	(2,973)	
Other overheads	(6,130)	3,522
		<b>34,156</b>

### **Financial Position at 31 May 2025**

<b>Assets</b>		
Cash		250,610
Trade Debtors		7,037
Jim Brennan nets infrastructure		52,588
Other Equipment		1,626
GST Receivable		2,906
		314,767
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Wages tax payable		1,208
Superannuation payable		1,022
<u>Infrastructure Contributions not spent</u>		
- Contributions received	41,956	
- Less payments to projects	(23,195)	18,761
<u>Grants received not spent</u>		
- Adamstown Nets	17,909	
- Heaton Park	3,636	21,545
		42,537
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>272,230</b>

## Thank you

Thank you to all our supporters and sponsors including City of Newcastle, Kingsgrove Sport, Kookaburra, Lings Trophies and EMG Photography. We appreciate your ongoing support and assistance and look forward to working with you next season.

