12A TEAM REPORT AWARD WINNERS- ALL ROUNDER: STUART BRANDMAN
RYAN SHEPHERD

BATSMAN:
BOWLER:

MITCHELL DURIE

BOWLER:
COACH'S:
TIM RUSSELL
TIM MALL

RYAN SHEPHERD: Ryan was the captain throughout the year and really led by example. Ryan scored 313 runs in the season with a highest score of 76 and an average of 31.3. He was brilliant in the field taking 8 catches and several good stops.

<u>NATHAN HUGHES:</u> Nathan was the vice captain giving Ryan plenty of support. Nathan opened the bowling and delivered it pretty quickly taking 12 wickets in the season. Nathan fielded well and took some bowling and delivered it pretty quickly taking 12 wickets in the season. Some pool catches when it counted. Nathan batted well in the lower order knocking up 63 runs in the season.

STUART BRANDMAN: Stuart was a good all-round player this year scoring 162 runs with the bat including a 53, took 17 wickets with his off-spinners and 4 catches in the field, plus good ground fielding as well. Stuart should be happy with his efforts and looking forward to next year.

TIM MALL: Tim played good cricket throughout the season especially in the field. Tim took 5 stunning catches plus some good run-outs. Tim bowled well without luck and hit his straps with the bat late in the season, getting some good scores. See what you can do when you move your feet?

<u>BRETT BULLOCK:</u> Brett was in the side because of his aggressive batting and able to wicket keep as well. Brett scored 100 runs for the year with a good score of 29 in his first match. He kept well in the matches he was wicket-keeper taking 4 catches behind the stumps.

MITCHELL DURIE: Mitchell proved to be our best bowler taking 21 wickets at an average of 5.8 and only 122 runs coming off his 86 overs. Mitch has had 2 great years now with the ball, and many more to come. Mitchell got a highest score of 6 with the bat which he is happy with.

EAMON HILLEN: Eamon was 1 of 5 players playing their first year in the 12's. Easmon proved to be a good asset to the team, especially with the ball. The young left armer took 15 wickets at 11.9. Eamon has a good technique with the bat, but height let him down on occasions. He was electric in the field jumping on anything that came to him.

CHRIS MORELAND: Chris is another player up from the 10's. Chris had a good year, batted well on occasions and fielded well also. Chris really put the effort in at training and others followed the example, which was great to see.

MICHAEL LAVALLEE: Michaels first year in the 12's was a good one. Michael scored 208 runs in the season with a score of 60 not out and averaged 20.8. He gutsed it out when the team was in trouble and had good partnerships along the way. Michael bowled and fielded well throughout the season.

STUART DIBB: Stuart, another up from the 10's and was planted with the responsibility of opening the batting. He did a good job scoring 66 runs in the season, giving good support to other batsmen. Stu fielded well and encouraged the others.

TIM RUSSELL: Tim was the final player up to the 12's. Tim opened the bowling for most of the year, taking 11 wickets at an average of 17.3. He bowled a good line and length, restricting the batsmen's scoring. Tim was a pleasure to have in the side, as were all the players. GREAT YEAR BOYS STUART SLACK COACH

RON SHEPHERD - MANAGER
BRAD MORELAND - ASST. COACH

12B TEAM REPORT

AWARD WINNERS-

ALL ROUNDER: CHRISTOPHER MAHONEY

BATSMAN: JOEL MANNS
BOWLER: JOSHUA TAYLOR
COACH'S: SAM DIXON

FIELDER: JONATHON WARD

It gives me great pleasure to write this report as it is one which can describe an excellent season of cricket played by a tremendous group of boys that have been a pleasure to coach. It was a season characterised by improvement, dedication, excitement and success (despite a disappointing result in the final). These were the result of a consistent team effort throughout the season which saw every player contributing to the team's success in every aspect of the game, both on game day and at training. At no stage did I have any cause for concern with any boy. Indeed, their behaviour and attitude was exemplary. It gave me particular pleasure to hear the boys encouraging each other consistently and I'm sure this enthusiasm and team spirit was responsible for the team's improvement throughout the season. This improvement can be illustrated by the fact that we suffered 2 very sound defeats in the first half of the competition (which threatened outrights) only to come back in the second half and go through undefeated, avenging those defeats with significant victories.

The season began with an exciting, narrow win in the first round and this seemed to set the scenario for many of our games to follow. Regularly we would bowl first and perform extremely well in the field with tight bowling and fielding to dismiss the opposition for a "getable" total. Indeed, I believe we proved ourselves to be the best fielding and, overall, bowling team in the competition, as every boy regularly bowled at least 4 overs per innings. The following week would then see a strong opening followed by some "excitement" in the middle order which opened the game up. However, it is a strong indication of the team's spirit and character that they would regularly recover and post a winning total. It is significant to note that <u>all</u> players contributed to these wins as there was regular movement on the batting order which enabled everyone to contribute to these batting performances.

The final game of the competition saw us needing a win against the minor premiers in order to secure a place in the final. Typically, the team showed its usual spirit and strength of character to win this game. We were all very excited and honoured to be the only junior team representing The Dragons in a final. Unfortunately, things did not go our way the following week and despite a tremendous effort by the boys, we were defeated by a better team on the day.

I would like to sincerely thank all the parents for their enthusiasm and support. In particular, and on behalf of the boys and parents, an enormous thank you to Ian Davis, our manager, who did all those less pleasurable jobs such as ground preparation and report writing so well, and to Ken Newman, our scorer, whose enthusiasm for the game and the team is infectious. Thanks for your support fellas, I really do appreciate it.

Finally, thanks to the boys. I hope you enjoyed your year half as much as I did and trust you will all return next year with The Dragons. You have brought great credit upon yourselves and your families and you should be proud.

GRANT DAVIS: Grant's bowling developed very well during the year, with great line and length. He was also responsible for some big hitting innings late in the season which were sorely needed by the team and contributed to exciting wins.

<u>SAM DIXON</u>: Sam joined us in Round 4 from the 12D's and their loss was our gain. Sam developed into one of our leading bowlers and was a regular 'partnership breaker' due to his consistent, accurate deliveries. He always batted with determination and was an enthusiastic, secure fieldsman.

ASHLEY LOGAN: Ashley was our quiet achiever whose batting developed remarkably. By the end of the season Ashley had the straightest bat in the team, but was able to combine his defence with impressive shots off, particularly off the front foot. His bowling similarly improved and he did a fine job fielding at fine leg.

CHRISTOPHER MAHONEY: Chris is a very talented cricketer who had a marvellous season with the bat and the ball. He opened the batting for most of the year and always showed tremendous courage and concentration, as evidenced by scores such as 80 n.o., 78 n.o., and 48 n.o. for a season total of 302 at an average of 37.75. Chris also opened the bowling with speed, accuracy and movement for an average of 17.8 at a rate of only 2.2 runs per over. This was all supplemented by top fielding and powerful, flat returns. Well done Chris.

<u>JOEL MANNS</u>: Joel is an incredibly enthusiastic cricketer who loves the game and always provided inspiration and support for his team mates. He is a powerful batsman with the ability to smash the ball to the boundary and back up his shots with excellent running between the wickets. Joel's bowling improved remarkably during the year and he took some great catches in slips.

<u>CHRIS NELSON</u>: Chris was an opening batsman who always got the innings off to a great start. He always played with great maturity and matched tight defence with powerful shots, particularly on the leg side. Chris also contributed with excellent spin bowling and was a real handful for opposing batsmen with his bounce and turn. Chris has very safe hands and took many fine catches.

MATTHEW NEWMAN: Matt was our captain and he did a fine job in the role, always encouraging his team in the field and ensuring the team pulled together as a unit. He did a great job as keeper and gave his all when batting, including a memorable innings of courage and concentration which saved a possible outright defeat.

SUNIL PATEL: Sunil is an impressive batsman, with the ability to play great strokes, who had a match winning 20 n.o., early in the year and set the standard for his team mates to follow,. Sunil's bowling developed pace and accuracy throughout the year and his fielding followed suite.

<u>DARREN PRATT:</u> Darren started the year in great style but was hampered by injury in the middle of the season. However, he showed his character by coming back after some disappointing innings to play two particularly important innings at the end of the year, including a not out stand in the last game which put the team into the final. Darren also contributed with his bowling and was excellent in the field.

<u>JOSHUA TAYLOR:</u> Joshua was a regular opening bowler and proved a real handful for opening batsmen, tying them down with his speed and accuracy and taking plenty of wickets (13) at an average of 13.6. Joshua played some fine innings with the bat and was never afraid to take the bowlers on. Joshua always fielded well.

SIMON TEDDER: Simon was our unluckiest player as he broke his arm early in the season and did not play after Round 2. However, he remained as enthusiastic as ever and regularly attended training and matches and was given the all clear by doctors the week before the final and was able to field as 12th man. Better luck next season Simon.

<u>JONATHON WARD:</u> Jonathon was the youngest team member, being the only one in his first year of U/12's. He acquitted himself in fine style and due to genuine dedication developed into one of our leading bowlers, opening the bowling by the end of the season and displaying an excellent line and length, matched with genuine speed, that opposing batsmen had difficulty handling. Jonathon tried hard with his batting and played an innings of great character in the final. Jonathon's fielding was excellent, taking 9 catches, saving many runs and contributing to a number of run outs.

PETER WARD - COACH.

IAN DAVIS - MANAGER

12D TEAM REPORT

AWARD WINNERS-

ALL ROUNDER: NICHOLAS COWAN

BATSMAN: CHRIS WARD
BOWLER: CHRIS JACKSON
COACH'S: MARK WEIR
FIELDER: JARED GOODE

The team had a successful year with six wins and four losses to finish equal second, only missing out on the final on percentages. Reviewing the season, it is obvious great credit must be given to the coach and the players for the improvement shown throughout the season. Ending up with twelve players in the squad, most being young and inexperienced, they developed into a team that feared no opponents. With six boys having their first season cricket and with nine being eligible for the U/12 next year the boys achieved great heights and it augurs well for the next season.

Coach, Rob Mowlam, decided on a policy of giving every boy equal opportunity and adhered to that throughout the season, even when the race for the second final's spot became so close. Both parents and boys were very appreciative of this approach,. In all games, if possible, eleven bowlers were used. This was reflected in the bowling figures with all twelve boys taking wickets, ranging from two to a highest of six. Due to the rotating batting rule and the fact that we sometimes only lost three or four wickets in an innings, it was more difficult to even out the batting and it worked out that one boy batted 8 times, four batted 7 times, one batted 6 times, four batted 5 times and two batted 4 times (these two joined late). As can be seen, batting opportunities were limited but most did extremely well and the battle to see who would end up with the highest aggregate was enthralling. The best ended up being 99, followed by 93, then 92 then 83 and 73. Enough of statistics-the true measure of a successful season is the answer to the question......DID YOU HAVE A GOOD TIME? Now, lets see - the team won lots of games, each boy performed at least one great feat during the season, there was very little whinging, the coach took us swimming and provided BBQ's, nearly everyone turned up for training, the parents came along and cheered for us, the opposition played the game in the right spirit (nearly always), we learned lots about cricket and the weather was mostly good (no wahouts). The answer is YES.

Congratulations boys, you turned out to be a fine cricket team. The team consisted of:-

MATTHEW BRYAN: A very correct left handed batsman who had the audacity to hit the first ball of the season for four. Matthew had limited opportunities but proved to be a very consistent batsman with a top score of 15 and an average of 11.00. If he continues to play with a straight bat and improves his front foot shots he should score lots of runs next season. His bowling improved markedly each game, played and proved to be our most economical bowler, taking 5 wickets at 11.8 each. Bowling left arm medium pace, with some occasional wrist spin thrown in, his line and length became very good and he should take many more wickets. Keep up the good work Matt.

NICHOLAS COWAN: One of our first timers but you would not know it to see him play. Although his grip and stance could not be described as classic he had a keen eye and quickly learnt to wait for the loose ball before attacking. Nick also put a high value on his wicket and hated getting out. He was one of the leading run getters with 93 at an average of 18.6 including a masterly 35 n.o. to help win our last game of the season. Nick also showed ability at bowling and always troubled the opposition to end up with 5 wickets at an average of 16.6. These feats enabled him to win the team's all rounder award. Keep working on the basics Nick and you will develop into a fine cricketer. Very well played.

MARK CULLEN: Joining the team in round 4 for his first season of cricket, Mark worked hard on picking up the basic techniques of batting, bowling and fielding and with the improvement shown he should be a much improved player next season. His batting was steady and he put a high value on his wicket never throwing it away with a rash shot. This was typified by his first ever innings (7n.o.) where he helped to put on 37 for the 6th wicket to ensure a win against Como. His bowling was also of a high

standard considering it was his first year and he picked up two wickets at 21.00 a piece. He was a pleasure to have in the team always polite and eager to learn. Mark, you can be proud of your efforts this year.

JARED GOODE: One of the youngest in the squad, Jared often seemed to get an unplayable ball but with more work on the forward defensive stroke runs will start to come. He saved his best till last when playing in a make up game for round 10 (the opposition had forfeited) he top scored with 17 n.o. to rescue us from 5-16 to win the game, revealing a very powerful pull shot and good footwork. His right arm medium pace bowling was mostly accurate and he bagged three wickets at 31.3. Jared was also wicket keeper on a number of occasions, showing he had good anticipation and quick movements which resulted in a good catch. Well done Jared. In a difficult decision, Jared has won our fielding award.

CHRISTOPHER JACKSON: Chris showed what a fine all round cricketer he is in having a very successful season. As a batsman he showed he could hit strongly on both sides of the wicket and once he learns to hit the ball along the ground especially in the early part of his innings, even more runs will come. He played many fine attacking innings to finish with 73 runs with a high score of 36 and an average of 14.6. His bowling was also of the highest quality and by continually aiming at the stumps he took out the teams bowling award with 6 wickets at 7.66. Chris demonstrated he was eager to learn, always listened to the coach and was a fine team man. He is the type of player every coach and manager want in the team.

JARRAD LANGMEAD: Having his first season of cricket Jarrad was the 'happy jack' of the team. He never lost his smile of sense of fun even though he struggled for runs as he tried to pick up the basics of the game. He had limited opportunities due to some unavoidable absences and the whole team was delighted when he hit up his high score of the season (5) in the last game we played. His bowling really showed improvement especially in the last few games with his right arm medium pace becoming more accurate and dangerous to end up with three wickets at 21.66. His fielding was always enthusiastic and with quick movement and sure hands he took 3 catches. We all look forward to seeing your smiling face next year Jarrad.

RHYS MOWLAM: Seemed to receive more than his share of good deliveries when batting but must learn to defend them before launching into his more aggressive shots. Rhys showed he is a fine hitter off the front foot in a block busting innings of 29 whilst putting on 70 for the 1st wicket against Caringbah Sports in just 46 minutes. His five fours all came from straight or on drives in an awesome display of power hitting. His bowling was somewhat erratic but in the last two games seemed to get his rhythm right and he bowled much better, getting two wickets for the season. Rhys was a fine team man typified by his volunteering to be 12th man in the only case where all twelve players were available. Well played Rhys.

MARK RICHARDS: Another in his first year of cricket Mark immediately showed he was an excellent fieldsman with good anticipation and safe hands resulting in most catches for the team - the tally being 7. His bowling was very dangerous at times but it could also be somewhat erratic when he tried to bowl too fast, finishing with 5 wickets at an average of 22.00. However, it was Mark's batting that really improved, progressing from trying to hit every ball out of the park to defending the good balls and putting away the loose ones. It was using this method that he hit up the teams highest individual score of 54n.o. to win the game against Illawong. Mark ended the season with 83 runs at 16.6. A fine effort.

KURT RIDLEY: Not having played since the u/8's four years ago, Kurt was basically a new starter but immediately showed ability as a bowler displaying both accuracy and pace. He bowled well throughout the season but he must have had a disliking for the Illawong batsmen as he really got stuck into them taking 4-8 against them over the two rounds. Overall he took 4 wickets at 24.25 and probably deserved better figure. His batting could be a bit fragile at times but he did play an important hard hitting innings of 22n.o. against Sylvania which nearly got us into the final. Kurt showed plenty of improvement throughout the season and should have plenty of success next year.

CHRISTOPHER WARD: Chris had a very successful season and was probably our most reliable batsman especially in the early part of the season when the inexperienced players were still finding their

feet. His judgment of line and length was very good and he was always looking to hit the loose ball for four. Chris played many fine innings none better than a dominating 38 when opening against Como but it was his attitude of putting the team first which made him so important to the team. He was always prepared to sacrifice his wicket in the pursuit of quick runs when the team needed them. Chris ended up with the team's highest aggregate of 99 at an average of 19.78. His bowling was normally very good but he did suffer from dropped catches to bag 2 wickets at 19.0 He also showed good form as a wicket keeper effecting three run outs in one innings. Well played Chris. Chris deserved the team's batting award.

MARK WEIR: Another player having his first season. Mark immediately showed ability with the ball, firstly with his right arm medium pace and then over the wrist leg spin. However, towards the end of the season his action became too round arm and will need work on getting the arm coming 'straight over' for next season which will result in him taking many wickets. It was Mark's batting which came on in leaps and bounds, at first being tentative and unsure but as the season progressed he showed a fine eye and the right temperament to score lots of runs finishing with 92 runs at 46.0. Mark had a game with the 12A's and held his own in the fielding and bowling departments. Congratulations Mark on a very successful season. Mark receives our Coaches Award.

BLAKE WOODLEY: One of the youngest players in the team but this did not stop him from being one of the better performed bowlers in the team. His right arm medium pace was normally on a good length and he troubled all batsmen he bowled against finishing the season with 5 wickets at an impressive average of 12.2. Blake did find runs a little hard to come by, often getting a start but not going on with it due to lapses of concentration. The ability is there and he just needs to work on tightening his defence and waiting for the right ball to hit. Well played Blake and you should get a bundle of wickets next year.

ROB MOWLAM - COACH

KEVIN BRYAN - MANAGER

12E TEAM REPORT

AWARD WINNERS-

ALL ROUNDER: ALAN WOOD
BATSMAN: ANDREW WISE
BOWLER: SIMON HALL
COACH'S: TIM JONES
FIELDER: GORDON BOYD

Oh, what a season! We started this summer loosing our first game by just 6 runs and then, apart from a few Illawong exceptions, we never lost a game by more than 35 runs. Victories were there with our team winning three of their last five games. All in all we finished with a group that had a great team spirit, and with everyone improving their skills in all areas of the game and with each player taking an active part in each match.

As with all teams, there are players who deserve special mention. Alan Wood with an aggregate of 126 runs, averaging 21 at each knock and taking 6 wickets takes out the all-rounder award. This coupled with being a more than useful keeper Alan did well in his first season.

Simon Hall showed us all how practice can improve your game. After rolling his arm over right through the Christmas break, Simon finished the season with 10 wickets at just 7.4 runs each to take the bowling award. With best figures of 4 for 3, Simon proved that hard work produces results.

Andrew Wise was an example of consistency. With season aggregates of 80 runs including 4n.o.'s and 6 wickets at 1.5 each, Andy was unlucky not to get the all-rounder award. This was the hardest award to judge with Andy, Cameron Stuart, Dean Griffith and Ross Cannon all coming within a whisker of Andy's efforts. It should be great to watch these lads next season.

The hardest art to master within the game of cricket is spin bowling. Within the ranks of spinners, the leggie reigns supreme. Tim Jones only started tweeking after Christmas and then went on to take 7 wickets at a respectable 19.4 runs per wicket. This earns Tim the Coaches award.

In mentioning these players first and in giving some awards, in no way can or should it be said that they were all that this team had to offer. Daniel North, Daniel Myers, Tim McMahon, Chris Davis and Gordon Boyd all regularly played to the best of their ability and each one made significant improvements and contributions during the season. We must always remember that cricket is a team game and , as such, no single player is above another or above the team as a whole. In a difficult one to pick I have opted for Gordon Boyd as my choice to receive the fielding award for he never stopped trying. Well done lads! Well done parents! See you next season.

STEVE NORTH - COACH

GEOFF DAVIS - MANAGER

14A TEAM REPORT

AWARD WINNERS-

ALL ROUNDER: CHRIS PENDERGAST

BATSMAN: MITCHELL THOMPSON BOWLER: JARRED VANDENBURGH

COACH'S: CHRIS MAR

FIELDER: JOSHUA COLLINS

The season started with doubt about Engadine having a 14A team for this seasons competition. However, as the team formed and with the coaches guidance it proved to be the third best team by the seasons end. The Dragons only losing matches to the big two of this age groups games. Caringbah. The eventual winners "Congratulations" Como the "Runners up".

These two teams made up the bulk of the Moore Shield's number One team(This age groups SSJCA Representative team) so really an excellent performance "Well done to you all"

I must also congratulate our teams captain Chris Pendergast for making the Number 1 Moore Shield team and for going on and reaching the Metropolitan Team. Chris also had the honour of captaining the Metropolitan team on occasion. An excellent season for Chris. Also Braiden Gilbert making the Gee Shield No1 team Well done. Special mention also to Jarred Vandenburg, returning after an operation. When you read the following report on him you will appreciate what a good season he had after being given the all clear to play by his doctors.

In closing, when a team is having a good season it usually means the parents are in there with help and support and this was certainly the case for us. Sincere thanks to Jillian, our scorer, it makes life so much easier when you have someone like Jillian assisting you on Match Day. Thank you again. Bernie and Steve for your assistance with umpiring or at square leg when Dennis required a break - thank you. I have only mentioned a few, but thanks to all for your support and assistance when required this season. P.S. Sharon could have done with a few more at the Trivia Night. See you there next season.

CHRIS PENDERGAST (Capt). Chris, our Captain, had a remarkable year, scoring 403 runs with scores of 113n.o., 80, 62, 49, 30n.o. and a few other not outs owing to declarations when chasing outrights, he finished with the impressive average of just of 67. He took to all bowlers from the first game in the most aggressive style, he has all the shots and an air tight defence and handles pace and spin equally well. Only five wickets cam his way with his spinners although he was economical in over rate. Chris took 5 catches as well as figuring in some great run outs, his ground fielding was as to be expected, first rate. In representative games he made the Moore Shidl 1, Metropolitan East and the Combined Metropolitan team, captaining the winning N.S.W.C.A. U/14 against combined Queensland. He averaged around 50 in these games with three scores over 50 and other innings of 158n.o. against South Eastern and 41n.o. against A.C.T. Congratulations Chris on an outstanding year.

JOSHUA COLLINS (Vice-Capt) Josh had another good year with the Dragons and as Vice-Captain put a lot of hard work in with Chris. Again excelled in all departments. Taking 11 wickets at an average in the low twenties with his leggies was a good reward, his 3-12 off 12 overs against Illawong started the season off in good style,. Batting only 6 times in the year normally in the middle order, he averaged around twenty with a dashing top score of 33 to help put us on the path for a good win against St.Pats in Round 2. As to be expected his fielding was always of the highest standard, always within ear range of the square leg

umpire he pulled off four catches. A tribute to his fielding came in a game against Sports, when their top batsman and Captain actually dropped his bat and clapped when another pull shot was yet again stopped by a diving/sliding Josh special. Josh also had a good year in the Moore Sheild No: 2 team.

BEN CUTLER: Ben came to us this season from the previous U12B side, quite a hurdle! Ben has a good eye and likes to get on with the job and accelerate the scoring. He normally batted down the list, usually on a rotating order although he was given the chance to open on one occasion., His top score of 16 against the strong Como/Jannali bowling side came at a good time when runs were hard to find. Ben bowled 25 overs in the year of which 6 were maidens, a good economy rate for a young one in his first year of "A" grade. He bowls good medium pace and will go well next season as a senior member. Ben can be very hard on himself when either dismissed or a few is taken off his bowling, this I hope he will overcome as it is a hard enough game with eleven of the opposition against you, without adding further pressure upon yourself.

MATTHEW DANIELS: Matthew had his first crack at "A" grade, I really hope he enjoyed his cricket. With the bat Matt mostly rotated down the order apart from opening the innings against Miranda in round 4, here he put in a gutsy performance in a good opening stand with Mitchell Thompson to start us off on a huge total of 264, his runs out in this knock being highly controversial. Matthew was used sparingly with the ball in this tough grade but I feel that he should be pleased with the contributions he made with the bat. He was one of the boys who answered the call late in the innings against St. Pats, seeing us home at high noon in a thriller to keep us in with a sniff for the finals. It will be noted that Matt has always played up in a higher age group than required, always a big ask. Matthew was selected in the Moore Shield No: 2 team.

BRAIDEN GILBERT: Another young U/14, Braiden impressed me from the first game to the last. A totally dedicated young man, Braiden was another who had outside training to improve his cricket. Braiden usually was our first change bowler, sending down 61 very economical overs (2runs/over) and taking 8 wickets at just over 15. Tall and possessing a good high action, Braiden quickly falls on a good line and length. He is a stylish batsman who made some more than useful scores. His innings of 23n.o. when the going was tough saw us home in a tight one. In round 2 Braiden opened the innings against St. Pats, seeing off their big quick and enabling us to go on to compile 215. Braiden has good safe hands and took three catches. He was picked in the Gee Shield this year. The side reaching the semi-finals. Will go well next year.

SEAN HALL: Sean was another boy having a crack at "A" grade for the first time. He had mixed fortunes with injuries on several occasions. One, a back complaint meant a change of action was needed to overcome the problem. Sean is a natural athlete, strong and aggressive. A left hander he hits the ball powerfully, especially through the on side and has a tight defence when called upon. Sean made several good scores for us this past year, his best innings I thought, was cut short when his back gave way, retiring hurt at 16 in a real tight game and in obvious pain, Sean always a team man agreed to use a runner for the team's cause if needed, thankfully, we won the game and he wasn't needed. Sean also kept wickets this year in a tidy fashion, Well done Mate.

BEN MAR: The other part of the look-a-like double, Ben is highly proficient in all aspects of the game. He adapted well to the keeping duties for most of the year and did an excellent job taking five catches. Like his brother he listens and absorbs all that happens around him. Ben had two big innings, firstly his 60n.o. in a trial off only twenty scoring shots, and in the last match against the premiers Sports, with a hard hitting 68, featuring in an opening stand of 120 with Mitchell Thompson. A couple of twenties and a thirty complemented his ability and he finished with 178 runs for the year. Ben, a fine medium pace bowler, when not behind the stumps, still managed 28 overs, picking up four wickets. You should be proud of your effort Ben. Both Ben and Chris made the Moore Shield No: 2 side this year.

CHRIS MAR: Chris came to the side this year in a package deal with his twin brother Ben. Both took to "A" grade like ducks to water. Naturally strong, Chris took the fight to the opposition all year. Batting usually at four, Chris scored 209 runs at an average of 23.22. His top score of 90 was spectacular, adding

over 150 in a tremendous partnership with Chris Pendo, he savaged poor Miranda's bowlers (in the two games plus as trial) in a blazing innings full of power hitting. A thirty and a couple of innings around twenty were always worth watching. Chris normally opened our bowling attack, his pace is genuinely quick, although he still has to work on his run up and delivery, I have no doubt that with Chris' keenness and dedication to his game, all will be in good order for next season. Chris has a huge throwing arm and figured in a few spectacular run outs.

ROSS PURDY: Ross again put in a 100% team effort this past year, a team member down to his boot laces, Ross had many good days for the Dragons. Batting down the order he was in, not out, on four occasions, , with a top score of 27n.o.. This was one of my seasons highlights as well as obviously his, coming in late he took over the scoring and hit freely to capitalise on an already good position to see us score a mighty total of 264, the highest innings by any side in the season. Ross again bowled well and sent down 26 tidy overs, picking up 4 wickets around 20/wicket. The "big" fellow again shocked many of the opposition with his fielding, not expecting his dart like throws, he found more than a few short of their ground. Not many catches came his way this past season but a couple made their way to his safe hands.

KEIRAN ROUTH: Keiran, swapping clubs this year, found a welcome home with the Dragons. Another young U/14 lad, Keiran really motivated the team from the first game to the last. Never one to worry about the reputations of our opponents, he plays in the most aggressive manner, be it batting, bowling or fielding! Keiran didn't have as many opportunities as he may have wanted, but your time will come next year as a senior. He works hard on his game and is keen enough to have had outside coaching. He bowls at a good medium pace and drops onto a line and length early. Whilst his batting is full on aggression, he needs to pick the right ball to score off, this will come when he ties together a few good scores and spends more time in the middle after realising a bowler can bowl the occasional good ball worth defending! Keiran has soft hands and took 3 catches. He also made the Gee Shield Representative side as a shadow player.

MITCHELL THOMPSON: Mitchell should be proud of his results of the past season. Elevated to open the innings for the year, he was most consistent with scores of 53,51,45n.o.,44 and 29, he normally saw off the quicks giving us a solid start. His 254 runs came at an average of 36.28, an excellent performance in "A" grade. In the last match of the season Mitch and Ben Mar added a brilliant 120 for the first wicket against Sports, the ultimate premiers, Mitchell making his top score of 53, actually he was robbed of a few more in this innings because a square leg, flat footed umpire could not move fast enough to escape a tremendous pull shot, the ball almost breaking his knee cap (it still hurts two weeks later). Mitchell again opened the bowling, this year taking 6 wickets off 83 overs at an average of the middle twenties. Add three catches to the above and it all makes a very good season. Mitch also had a great year in the Moore Shield No:2 team.

JARRED VANDENBURGH: Jarred missing the first two matches due to a major operation, bounced back to be our leading wicket taker for the year, finishing with 12 wickets at the miserly average of only 10.83. Five of these wickets came in one innings when he shattered Illawong, his figures read 6-2-9-5, to give us a crack for an outright. Jarred swings the ball late and has all opposition bats cautious. His fielding again was top level, figuring in some outstanding run outs. He didn't get all that many opportunities with the bat this year therefore not showing the skill we all know he possesses, his top score of 24 against St. Pats came when needed the most to help get us home. Well played Jarred, I know you will be looking forward to next season. Jarred was another who made the Moore Shield No:2 side.

DENNIS PENDERGAST - COACH

STEVE DANIELS - MANAGER

14C TEAM REPORT

AWARD WINNERS-

ALL ROUNDER: PETER WACKWITZ
BATSMAN: SIMON ANDREWS
BOWLER: JASON RADFORD

COACH'S: DAVID PEARCE RYAN SIMONS

By most standards, given our finishing spot in the competition, you may get the impression that we didn't have a very good season.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

Most of the players were experiencing their first year in the 14's and in a very good "C" grade competition at that.

With a squad of 14 players it was never going to be easy, leaving 3 out every match, however, the team spirit was such that in the majority of cases, barring illness, we always had our 3 reserves on fielding duties.

And so to the cricket season in general and gone were the friendly days of the 10's and 12's. For most this was their introduction to the age group of fast bowlers and big hitting batsmen.

This year, in my opinion, the team came to learn the value of occupying the crease and taking every single on offer.

Our opposition, in most cases, built their innings by taking their singles early in the innings and generally left the big hitting until the end when they had wickets in hand.

The experience of match practice started to rub off, however, it was late in the season when we too learnt to compile our runs more constructively, giving our bowlers more reasonable totals to defend.

We learnt also the need to alter fielding positions in order to put pressure on the oppositions batsmen and not to let them get to comfortable.

One thing we do have to remember however, is the need to encourage one another more in the field.

Cricket, as we have heard so often is a confidence game and a pat on the back or a yell of encouragement at the right time can do wonders for the teams performance.

From all reports, it appears that all the players enjoyed the seasons cricket. The Clubs policy of sharing the batting and bowling responsibilities amongst all team members was supported by the Coach and Manager and I'm sure it was appreciated by the players and parents.

As for the parents, I would like to thank our team of scorers, flagmen, field rotation manager, morning tea providers and cheer squad for without them there would be no season.

In particular special thanks to Co-coach Mal Andrews who, on very short notice, always found time to take over

Thanks also to Tracey Vickery who was often called on to interpret the cricket rule book.

Once again, thanks to all the members of the team for an enjoyable season. I too learnt from the 14 different points of view and Engadine Dragons reputation was enhanced by your sportsmanship.

<u>DAVID COOKE</u> Good runner between the wickets, keeps the scoreboard ticking over and encourages the other team members to do the same with good calling. Always keeps the opposition guessing, mixing spin and medium pace bowling.

<u>SIMON ANDREWS</u> Simon was consistently in the 40's over the season. Always treating every ball bowled on its merit, playing straight meant he was difficult for the opposition to remove. His medium pace bowling with the ability to move the ball in the air was always difficult to play.

JASON RADFORD Jason bagged the best bowling figures for the season. An accurate wicket to wicket bowler who has the ability to move the ball away from the batsmen. Very difficult to score off. Had a passion for the pinch hitter position in the batting line up when needed.

KEEGAN BROWN Strong batsman square of the wicket with the ability to score runs quickly. Medium pace bowler angles the ball across the batsman making it difficult to score.

<u>DAVID PEARCE</u> Slow start to the season but got amongst the runs in the last couple of games with good concentration. Slow bowler who has the ability to turn the ball sharply. Picked up some good wickets.

<u>PETER WACKWITZ</u> The teams genuine all rounder has the ability to bowl medium/fast and is always amongst the wickets. Strong batsman who can score very quickly when required or spend time at the crease. Also good in the field.

JOHN CLARKE One of our 2 regular keepers. John kept wickets well in some difficult conditions and to some pretty quick bowling. Picked up wickets himself and is showing improvement every time he visits the batting crease.

WAYNE VICKERY
his class at removing the bails when standing up to the pace bowlers. Not an easy task for a tall player. His batting is also improving and punishes the bowling when he gets his eye in.

RYAN SIMONS Ryan had a good year with bat and ball, but showed considerable ability in the field. Ryan put his body on the line many times keeping the runs down. Ryan has shown he can occupy the batting crease for long periods and figured in a good partnership in the first game of the season.

SUNJAY PATEL One of our strike bowlers, Sunjay recovered from an injury at the start of the season to open the bowling. He is an elegant batsman who works the ball and is a very good leg side player to quick bowling.

MATTHEW RUSSELL Another of the teams stylish batsmen who played some very good innings. Also has the ability to work the ball. Medium fast bowler who has surprising speed at times to keep the batsman guessing. Always encouraging others in the field.

MATTHEW CARROLL "Killer" showed again this season that his spin bowling is very difficult to play. He spins the ball so well at times the batsman are unable to get a touch. His ability with the bat is also improving with some fine boundaries during the season.

<u>REECE PENINTON</u> Another of our strike bowlers, Reece's strength lies in his speed of the wicket generated by his sling action. Always keen to do well with the bat his last two visits to the crease produced good runs for the team. Maintained his good fielding at point.

BEN SHARPE Good solid all rounder who started the season with a slight back injury. Reliable middle order batsman who put in some good performance when needed. Ben's bowling improved towards the end of the season and should be back to his best for next season.

NEIL PENINTON - COACH

TRACEY VICKERY - MANAGER

16A TEAM REPORT.

AWARD WINNERS-

ALL ROUNDER: SPENCER WHITE

BATSMAN: ANDREW HINE

BOWLER: TIM CUTLER COACH'S: PETER BYNE

FIELDER: LUKE STEVENS

playing in a strong competition we found the going tough, especially as no player had any previous experience playing 16A cricket.

In our first man who might be 12th man due to injuries to 3 of the 11 graded into the 16a's.

16c's allutations and the same of the Cook but it graded into the 10a's.
In round 6 against Gymea, we again were 3 short. To run a team in the Shire's top competition, asking for in round 6 against Gymea, is not only embarrassing to the Cook but it. In round a substitute fieldsmen is not only embarrassing to the Coach, but it is also bad for the image of the Club. Hopefully, next season, we can field 11 players on a regular basis.

Hopeium, the season was a learning lesson for the boys, and despite only winning two matches, on the bright side, the season was a learning lesson for the boys, and despite only winning two matches, On the original state of the cleven boys will be playing again with us next season, 6 going into Men's Senior Cricket and 5 again eligible for the U16A's.

Men s some enjoyment over the season. Whilst our batting fell away after the Xmas break hope they received some enjoyment over the season. Whilst our batting fell away after the Xmas break our bowling and fielding showed a marked improvement, taking 18 wickets against the premiers, the only match they were all dismissed and against the other finalist team, Miranda, who only scored 94. In the first round, they scored 4 for 286 and 9 for 202.

Big thanks to Roy White, Tony Hines, Steve Selvage and Peter Morgan for their support over the season.

ANDREW HINES (Capt.) Opening bat and keeper was our mainstay with the bat, the only one to top 200 runs. His captaincy improved over the season and with his enthusiasm for the game, next season should be a big one for him.

STEVE OKKONEN: A tearaway fast bowler and sound batsman. Shows a lot of potential and he also will have a great season next year.

DARREN BAXTER: Unfortunately, broke a leg which kept him out for half the season. He won the clubs top bowling award in 96/97 playing 14C cricket in his first season. Despite the big jump from 14C to 16A cricket he performed great. In the 2 matches against the finalists teams he captured 7 for 39. Big hopes for him next season.

TROY SELVAGE: Troy the big hearted. Whenever our batting was in trouble he would battle away keeping one end going, whilst his team mates would be throwing away their wickets. Thanks Troy.

PETER BYRNE: In his 1st season with the club, performed quite well. His bowling was mostly on a good line and in 4 matches he claimed the first wicket. Unlucky in his batting, but shows good potential.

The above 5 players are again eligible for the 16's next season.

SPENCER WHITE: A hard hitting batsman and fast bowler. Once he learns to control himself and wait for the right ball to attack and keeping the ball on the ground, would become a top bat in any grade. His bowling and fielding are of a good standard.

MATTHEW WACKWITZ: Bowls with good pace, but can be a bit erratic. Very pleased to see his batting improve over the season, changing from a slogger to playing straight, waiting for the loose ball. Well done, Matt,.

LUKE MCNEE: The most stylish batsman in the team, but fails to utilise this in matches. His off spin bowling improved out of sight and if given the opportunity in senior cricket he could become a handy bowler in any grade.

TIM CUTLER: Opening bat and left handed spinner. He was always willing to open the batting which was appreciated, especially as most of his team mates all wanted the No:6 spot. He was our leading bowler, taking 5 for 20 against Miranda.

LUKE STEVENS: Luke is one of the few who never stopped trying at practise sessions, bowling flat out all the time. With limited chances he improved over the season into a handy medium pace bowler.

DOUG BEVAN: Doug was another player succumbing to injuries. He showed plenty of fight with the bat against Gymea when he helped save a possible outright loss, supporting Andrew for over an hour. I was hoping to develop him into a spin bowler, but his back injury curtailed that.

The best of fortune for the above 6 going into Senior Cricket.

I enjoyed the season, the boys are a good bunch and it was my pleasure to be associated with them.

HARRY ROBBINS - COACH

ROY WHITE - MANAGER

16C TEAM REPORT

AWARD WINNERS-

ALL ROUNDER: BRETT ERSKINE

BATSMAN:

NATHAN ALTERATOR

BOWLER:

DANE LOGAN

COACH'S: FIELDER:

SHAUN WARREN **MATTHEW MANNS**

The 1997/98 season could not truthfully be described as our best season. We managed to win only one

game, but came within a few runs of positing another couple. Only three players possessed previous Under 16 experience and the team found the jump in class daunting, never really recovered from a first round

pounding.

Having disposed of some of the gloom and doom in the first paragraph, I am pleased to report that the team was a happy one from the first practice session to the last ball of the season and while they lacked consistency, managed to play patches of good aggressive cricket, displaying glimpses of their real

capabilities.

The team's Achilles heel was undoubtedly batting. One many occasions we confined the opposition to moderate totals, only to falter where first innings points should have been obtained with the loss of a handful of wickets. Only two scores of over 50 were recorded during the season, ironically in the same innings and in a total that normally would have won us the game. Unfortunately our bowlers chose this one game to have an off day and the target was well beyond us. Our batsmen must learn that the only way they can amass big totals is to occupy the crease for more than a couple of overs. Too many times a good start was cut short by a rash stroke to a ball that could easily have been let go.

Bowling, was a strength but one that lack of consistency diluted. A number of very good performances were achieved by individuals or pairs during the season. Only to find backup wanting. No balls and wides frequently challenged the opposition batsmen to be top scorer. Giving the opposition a 20 run start negated

five or six overs of good, tight bowling.

In between the above two aspects of cricket lay our fielding. Hot one day, woeful the next. Throws from the boundary to run a batsman out were quickly followed by the dropping of a dolly catch or seeing the ball somehow find its way between the legs of a player where no such gap should humanly be possible.

Here is a run down of our players in alphabetical order:

NATHAN ALTERATOR Captained the side well from wicket keeper and the number six position. Was one batsman who made the opposition get him out. Scored 61 not out against Bosco and on two was one the heart of the position outright points. Averaged 16 with the bat and took 4 catches occasions thwarted Miranda in their quest for outright points. Averaged 16 with the bat and took 4 catches and 2 stumpings. Won the award for the best black eye of the season. Would look cool in sunglasses except he lost them.

MICHAEL DALY Off spin bowler and hard hitting lower order bat. Played a number of no nonsense innings throughout the year, threatening to take the bowling apart but losing his wicket just when he had done the hard work. Averaged 10 with the bat and took 9 wickets at 26 each. Michael was more dangerous when he flighted the ball rather than pushing it through. Took great delight in bowling to Matt at practice.

DAVID DUFFIELD Duffy, when he didn't have any broken bones, showed real potential as a bowler. On a number of occasions bowled with real fire and threatened to make a real dent in the opposition. He was a prime mover in setting up our one win with a tight first spell. Averaged 4 with the bat and took 3 wickets. His swot onto the Princes Highway will long be remembered. Kept many people employed at the local hospital over the course of the season.

BRETT ERSKINE Brett showed the way in all respects of the game. His batting from mainly the opening position set the stage for large totals but was not effectively backed up. His 62 against Bosco was the highest score of the season and on he passed 20 on three other occasions. However, he will never live down being dismissed by a girl twice during the season. Brett opened the bowling and really gave the opposition something to think about. Averaged 13 with the bat and took 13 wickets and 14 each with the ball. In the field, Brett set a shining example for his team mates always anticipating the action and backing up a wayward throw. Brett can be well pleased with his season.

<u>DANIEL FILLETTI</u> Daniel was the vice captain of the side and displayed many forceful innings with the bat, but only went on with it on one occasion - top scoring with 43. He scored 146 runs at 11 for the season. Daniel was one who, having done all the hard work, tended to lift his head. If he can get over this and concentrate for longer periods, many runs lay in the future. A surprise packet with the ball in the latter part of the season. Daniel bowled accurately to snare 7 victims. Looked cool at first slip with sunglasses.

KEVIN ISAAC After early solid performances, Kevin found himself in the opening position and really tried hard, top scoring with 20 and amassing 102 runs at 8 for the season. Kevin has a technically correct approach to batting and made the bowlers get him out rather than playing rash strokes. In the bowling department, his accurate medium pace was called on in many instances and rarely failed to make a breakthrough. Kevin took 9 wickets during the season which complemented a solid display in the field at all times. Definitely looks cooler than his father in shorts.

DANE LOGAN Dane was solid with the bat this season, playing many long innings but finding it difficult to penetrate the field. He must now look to developing the art of running quick singles rather than hoping to hit boundaries, being run out twice this season he must also work on this part of his game. He scored 98 runs at 8, top scoring with 22 against Illawong. In the bowling department, Dane was the leading wicket taker with 14 and this could have easily have been doubled had he perfected the skill of keeping the ball up to the batsman. On too many occasions the pressure he mounted was dissipated with 3 and 4 short balls an over that sailed harmlessly down the leg side.

MATTHEW MANNS Mat had the best "eye" in the team but got himself into trouble with faulty footwork. If he can solve this problem he will be able to stay around long enough to take the opposition apart. Mat scored 64 runs at 5 with a top score of 16. In the field Mat was dynamic. His run out from the boundary at Canberra Road was top class as was his 3 catches on the same day. Looked equally as cool in his white hat and was only happy when he had an autographed picture of Michael Daly in the back pocket.

GEOFF SCOTT Geoff is one of those frustrating players that displays technical correctness only to lift his head at the wrong moment. He scored 65 runs for the year at 6 but this does not reflect his capabilities. When with the ball he showed a great deal of potential as a spinner but suffered from small fields and dropped with the ball he showed a great deal of potential as a spinner but suffered from small fields and dropped with the ball he showed a great deal of potential as a spinner but suffered from small fields and dropped with the ball he showed a great deal of potential as a spinner but suffered from small fields and dropped with the ball he showed a great deal of potential as a spinner but suffered from small fields and dropped with the ball he showed a great deal of potential as a spinner but suffered from small fields and dropped with the ball he showed a great deal of potential as a spinner but suffered from small fields and dropped with the ball he showed a great deal of potential as a spinner but suffered from small fields and dropped with the ball he showed a great deal of potential as a spinner but suffered from small fields and dropped with the ball he showed a great deal of potential as a spinner but suffered from small fields and dropped with the ball he showed a great deal of potential as a spinner but suffered from small fields and dropped with the ball he showed a great deal of potential as a spinner but suffered from small fields and dropped with the ball he showed a great deal of potential as a spinner but suffered from small fields and dropped with the ball he showed a great deal of potential as a spinner but suffered from small fields and dropped with the ball he showed a great deal of potential as a spinner but suffered from small fields and dropped with the ball he showed a great deal of potential as a spinner but suffered from small fields and dropped with the ball he showed a great deal of potential as a spinner but suffered from small fields and dropped with the ball he showed a

MICHAEL WARD Michael bowled steadily during the season with 4-9 off 9 overs against De la Salle his best return. No batsman really got on top of him during the year and with a bit of practice his figures could have been even more impressive than a season total of 8. Michael had limited opportunities with the tould have been even more impressive than a season total of 8. Michael had limited opportunities with the tould have been even more impressive than a season total of 8. Michael had limited opportunities with the tould have been even more impressive than a season total of 8. Michael had limited opportunities with the tould have been even more impressive than a season total of 8. Michael had limited opportunities with the tould have been even more impressive than a season total of 8. Michael had limited opportunities with the tould have been even more impressive than a season total of 8. Michael had limited opportunities with the could have been even more impressive than a season total of 8. Michael had limited opportunities with the could have been even more impressive than a season total of 8. Michael had limited opportunities with the could have been even more impressive than a season total of 8. Michael had limited opportunities with the could have been even more impressive than a season total of 8. Michael had limited opportunities with the could have been even more impressive than a season total of 8. Michael had limited opportunities with the could have been even more impressive than a season total of 8. Michael had limited opportunities with the could have been even more impressive than a season total of 8. Michael had limited opportunities with the could have been even more impressive than a season total of 8. Michael had limited opportunities with the could have been even more impressive than a season total of 8. Michael had limited opportunities with the could have been even more impressive than a season total of 8. Michael had limited opportunities with the could have been even more impressive tha

SHAUN WARREN Shaun batted with more determination as the season progressed and almost took us to victory on a number of occasions. He got into the habit of making the bowlers get him out rather than throwing his wicket away, and his season total of 40 does not do justice to his improvement. With the ball throwing his wicket away, and his season total of 40 does not do justice to his improvement. With the ball throwing his wicket away, and his season total of 40 does not do justice to his improvement. With the ball throwing his wicket away, and his season total of 40 does not do justice to his improvement. With the ball throwing his wicket away, and his season total of 40 does not do justice to his improvement. With the ball throwing his wicket away, and his season total of 40 does not do justice to his improvement. With the ball throwing his wicket away, and his season total of 40 does not do justice to his improvement. With the ball throwing his wicket away, and his season total of 40 does not do justice to his improvement. With the ball throwing his wicket away, and his season total of 40 does not do justice to his improvement. With the ball throwing his wicket away, and his season total of 40 does not do justice to his improvement. With the ball throwing his wicket away, and his season total of 40 does not do justice to his improvement.

THE WORKERS Laurie Daly was the team's manager/scorer and this task was handled with great skill throughout the season, even after someone souvenired his van. Thanks Laurie.

A big thank you to Mike Isaas who volunteered to help out with the umpiring and pep talking and shared with Laurie and myself the agony of watching the side turn victory into defeat on a number of occasions. But, as I said at the beginning of this report, the players enjoyed themselves immensely and while the management may have been downhearted, the kids laughed, planned their Saturday afternoon and generally benefited from the camaraderie of cricket. Roll on next season!

PHIL ALTERATOR - COACH

LAURIE DALY - MANAGER

16D TEAM REPORT

AWARD WINNERS-

ALL ROUNDER: KAINE JOHNSON

BATSMAN: ROBBIE KNIGHT BOWLER: DANE WARD

COACH'S: PATRICK CHESTERFIELD

FIELDER: MITCHELL DAVIS

It has to be recognised that the season was going to be a challenge from the start given that seven of the twelve boys were really Under 14's and had limited experience between them. Obviously the Club had no choice if cricket was to be found for this group but it was sad for so many to have to play so far above their present ability. Self confidence took a hammering, particularly in the early part of the season. Having said that the real surprises were firstly how high the standard was in "D" grade and secondly, how pressure of losing every game, several outright, but training sessions were still fully attended and the

The enthusiasm and support for each other was noticeably higher by the end and a encouragingly, more players were asking for advice. Certainly most needed to improve their attitude to training (a problem cheerfulness and effort they could not be beaten.

The boys were:

<u>DAVID CHAPMAN</u> Captain. Played after suffering severe hip and shoulder injuries and showed just glimpses of his ability by the end. Big year 98/99.

MATTHEW CROUGHTON Another carrying early season injury meant his bowling only came good near the end. Fielding improved 100%

MITCHELL DAVIS New to the club and organised cricket he settled in very quickly with bat and ball and fielded well. Great asset and bright future.

JASON HILL Started very well as opener and showed his experience and courage. Lost his way later which did affect the side.

KAINE JOHNSON Vice Captain. Took a long while to fire but finished the year very well with bat and ball. Showed increased enthusiasm and leadership and should do well in 98/99.

<u>ROBBIE KNIGHT</u> Not sure quite what he wanted to do or be, Robbie did it anyway in his own fashion and when it worked it worked well.

ANDREW MAIR Quiet but effective Andrew bowled well in spells and showed great commitment in the field. His batting improved 100% along with his self belief.

MARK MITCHELL Started well as opening bat but became worried at his slow scoring rate and lost consistency. Always a great trier and will improve as his technique is sound.

RICHARD NEWMAN Greatly talented natural leg spinner who confounded many batsmen.

<u>DANE WARD</u> First year in grade but a lot of potential. Gave 100% every time and often bowled without luck.

<u>PATRICK CHESTERFIELD</u> The baby (Can play Under 14 next year) he stook tall as a trier with bat and keepers gloves. Very brave and could be a very good batsman in future.

STUART SMALL Despite a season of varied luck, and perhaps too little opportunity, Stuart always tried hard and remained cheerful.

HARRY CHAPMAN - COACH

MAL CROUGHTON - MANAGER

A1 TEAM REPORT

AWARD WINNERS-

BATSMAN: GREG HEFFERNAN

BOWLER: BLAKE COUSEMACKER

This season we finished third. We only have ourselves to blame for not making the final. The games we lost early in the year were through our own undoing. All players believe we were good enough to be in the final and win. We defeated both sides who contested the final by 98 and 92 runs.

We finished the year strongly and defeated Gymea Bay No: 2 by 92 runs in the last round, knocking them out of the Minor Premiership position, it was a great way to finish the year.

Although we were disappointed not to make the final we must realise we missed our two best bowlers for half of the season. Glenn Hickey has to be commended for his outstanding efforts this year, unfortunately

work commitments only allowed Glenn to play half the matches, but bowled exceptionally well and played some impressive innings with the bat.

Jason Crimlisk scored the only century of the team. A great dig it was 101n.o. Let's hope Jason can score another next season.

Club veterans Peter Bland and Greg Heffernan played superbly this year showing they still have plenty of

good years left in them. Mike Fordyce filled in when needed, thanks Mike.

I would like to thank several players who filled in when we were short. Lee Bailey, Marcus Loxley, Stuart Slack and Brett Adams all showed they have the potential to become A1 players in the future. Thanks Paul "Wally" Waddell and Phillip Johnstone, who fielded for us when short.

I would just like to say how it was an honour to Captain such a talented team. Thanks to all the boys for their efforts and support throughout the year.

BLAKE COUSEMACKER - CAPTAIN

B5 TEAM REPORT

AWARD WINNERS- ALL R

ALL ROUNDER: MARCUS LOXLEY

BATSMAN: LEE BAILEY

BOWLER: MARCUS LOXLEY & PAUL WADDELL

After finishing 3rd last season in B6, we found ourselves promoted to B5 with only a change of 2 players. We started off the season slowly with a draw, a narrow 1st innings loss and then a win. From this point on we grew in confidence with the players realising that we would be very competitive. Due to a change in format by the Association this season with 1 round of 2 day matches and 1 round of 1 day matches, meant players had to adapt well to the change, which is what happened.

The bowling all season was top class as was the fielding and this enabled us to keep the pressure on the opposition batsmen and thus enabling us to bowl most sides out for 120 or less. The bowling which started with Stuart and Paul and then followed by Darren, Marcus, Lee and Ron, always had the opposition in trouble by hitting the stumps or finding the edge.

The catching and fielding of Adam, Graham, Andrew, Neil and Jackson was always of a high standard and the wicket keeping of Cameron helped keep this standard.

The batting was the area where we struggled however, there was always a couple of different batsmen each game who performed well enough to win the game and very rarely did we score over 180.

This is reflected in the individual batting aggregates where all batsmen finished with similar runs with the exception of Lee who was consistent in scoring runs for most of the season.

So, with these performances, we were able to finish 2nd on the table with 10 wins, 2 draws and 2 losses (which were both by only 5 runs each). You can be very proud of your effort.

Going into the final we knew that we could be very competitive against Caringbah Inn, even though they were far more experienced. However, it was not to be. On an extremely windy weekend the bowlers had them in trouble on numerous occasions, however, we could not dislodge their No:1 batsmen who was extremely good and therefore enabled them to score 220 runs which we still thought was a reachable total

On the Sunday their main bowler was on fire and we all found it difficult to score and unfortunately we were out for 80 with him taking 7 wickets off 25 overs in a row.

Guys, you can be proud of your efforts this season and thanks again for your keenness and commitment I would also like to thank Bob Price for scoring and taking the kit as this was greatly appreciated. See you all next season to go that one step further.

RON SHEPHERD - CAPTAIN

C2 TEAM REPORT

AWARD WINNERS-

BATSMAN: ROGER TAYLOR BOWLER: BRETT ADAMS

with 4 wins (1 outright, 3 1st innings). I draw, 2 duty rounds and 7 losses the Dragon's C2's finished 5th with 49 points. Result wise it was not a very successful season, due to some very inconsistent batting, that allowed the opposition off the nook, when the bowling and fielding efforts made a win seem on the cards. It must be said that no team managed to score more than 188 against our bowling attack and we failed on 2 occasions (both against Loftus, who finished 2nd) to not take the 10 wickets required. However, in most of the losses it was the "sundries" that made the difference between a win or a loss. They can be put down to inexperience. Players who were either new to the game or coming back after long periods out. Best bowling was by Brett "Hubba" Adams, who took 25 wickets at 12.36. Best batting was shared by Roger Grey, who scored 308 runs @ 25.6 for the aggregate and Bill Ziegler, who scored 264 @ 26.4 for the best average. Rookie award was shared by Andrew Wackwitz (ex 16's) and Matt Whitney (new to the game) who both proved to be very capable with both bat and ball or in the field. Matt's very unorthodox batting, while not being pleasing to the purists' eye, proved to be very effective and exciting to watch and also upset a few bowlers averages along the way. Best all rounder would have to be Michael Green, who, while he didn't score as many runs as he would have liked, proved to be a very useful bowler and in the last 3 games kept wickets most successfully.

The most pleasing outcome of the '98 season was the way the team worked together, with all players giving moral support when needed and backing up the bowlers in the fielding department. 66 catches went to hand (not too many being dropped). There were also a few good run-outs.

With 16 players ranging from 16 years to 51 years, it must be said that all players, regardless of age or experience, contributed to what was a very enjoyable season with every player giving his all in an effort to uphold the Dragon's spirit, and win or loose, it was done with the right attitude of sportsmanship that the Club demands and can be proud of. If we can keep this team together with the experience gained by the new players and those "rusty" talents that were re-awakened the C2's will be a very successful in 98/99. On behalf of Captain Steve North I would like to thank all players for their efforts throughout the season and I thank our trusty scorer Judy Lofthouse for the accuracy of the "Book" and score sheets. I hope to see all back next season where I am sure we can turn those losses into a "final" appearance.

ALLAN LOFTHOUSE - MANAGER