



# ASHBURTON WILLOWS CRICKET CLUB

## ANNUAL REPORT SEASON 2023/24

CLUB FORMED 2007

(Through amalgamation of *Ashburton CC* and *Eastern Willows CC*)



**ONE CLUB YOUR CLUB**  
*Welcoming new families this summer!*

[ashburtonwillows.com](http://ashburtonwillows.com)



ASHBURTON  
WILLOWS  
1876  
CRICKET CLUB

The complex block features a silhouette of a cricket player on the left. The central text 'ONE CLUB YOUR CLUB' is in bold green, with a green banner below it containing the slogan 'Welcoming new families this summer!' in white script. Below the banner is the website 'ashburtonwillows.com'. On the right is a shield-shaped logo with a willow tree, the text 'ASHBURTON WILLOWS' and '1876', and 'CRICKET CLUB' at the bottom.

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**Clubrooms:** Ferndale Park, Glen Iris Road, Glen Iris, VIC 3146.

**Telephone:** 0402 038 514

**Website:** [www.ashburtonwillows.com](http://www.ashburtonwillows.com) **Email:** [timmurphy1181@gmail.com](mailto:timmurphy1181@gmail.com)

**ABN:** 71 857 072 533 **Inc. Assoc No:** A0050775G

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Of the Ashburton Willows Cricket Club Inc

Dear Club Member,

This is to advise that the Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of Ashburton Willows Cricket Club will be held as follows;

**Date:** Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May  
**Time:** 8:00pm  
**Location:** ZOOM – Details will be shared on TeamApp and Facebook closer to the time

AGM Agenda items are:

1. Ordinary Business
  - 1.1 Confirmation of the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting
  - 1.2 Presentation of Annual Report for 2023/24
  - 1.3 Presidents Report on season 2023/24
  - 1.4 Club Financial Report for 2023/24
  - 1.5 Election of Committee Members
  
2. Special Business
  - 2.1 General business

Copies of the Annual Report will be available online prior to the AGM or by request via email to [timmurphy1181@gmail.com](mailto:timmurphy1181@gmail.com)

If you either do not wish to, or are unable to attend the AGM, you can keep up to date with what's happening at the Club at the Ashburton Willows website, via Team App and Facebook.

Any Club members wishing to supply proxies should ensure they are provided to a Committee member before the commencement of the meeting.

Any Club members wishing to nominate or be nominated to be a Committee Member can obtain a nomination form by emailing [timmurphy1181@gmail.com](mailto:timmurphy1181@gmail.com)

We look forward to seeing online for the AGM on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm

Regards,

**Tim Murphy**  
**President**  
**M 0402 038 514**

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT – TIM MURPHY

My ninth season as President of AWCC was probably the most enjoyable and rewarding of all. It coincided with a period where I was professionally much more available than usual, and this allowed me the space to be more present than ever before. Involvement in the Friday night Junior Blasters Program, and the opportunity to play cricket with old and new mates of a weekend was also cherished. The summer of 2023/24 will be remembered fondly. My family made new friends, spent quality time with old friends and thoroughly embraced once again just how positive and powerful a club like AWCC can truly be.

At the start of the season we welcomed some brilliant new members to our committee. Dan Nguyen who led the challenging transition from MyCricket to PlayHQ. Anne Renwick who is championing our Diversity & Inclusion initiatives. Sonali Sharma who brings endless energy and ideas for social events and has established a wonderful NFP partnership with St Kilda Mums. Jasmine Sahni whose diligence and strategic mind cannot be undervalued. And Lachlan Baird whose incredible experience in community sport will be critical as we map our clubs next 150 years.

We refined a 3 Year Plan on a Page and presented it to club members at our Season Launch (see back of report for Plan summary) This simple plan offers a guide for the areas we need to focus on and gives clarity to members as to the key initiatives and activities we want to drive over the coming years to ensure we achieve our winning ambition:

*AWCC will be a safe and fun environment where any cricketer will be given the best chance to compete and develop. We will strive to win and always play with pride representing our club's remarkable history.*

I want to thank our returning committee members. Paul Ewart who as Treasurer is trusting, approachable and professional. His impact on our club on and off the field continues to astound. Mandeep Sahni, who pours countless hours ensuring our Junior Boys and Girls have an environment that is positive, organised and fun. At times, leading a Junior program can be very challenging and there are increasing stakeholder management complications. Mandeep – thank you for your efforts, your energy and your tolerance. Liam Sharp whose communication and marketing expertise is imperative. Our new club website is testament to that! <https://www.ashburtonwillowscricket.com/>

We welcome new members to join the committee or play a role on a sub-group. We are clear as to what a strong club leadership framework should look like and would love to chat with anyone interested in learning more. I always say it, but you will always get more back than you put in at AWCC.

Our Club Coach Muditha Fernando did an incredible job this year. He was organised, communicative, available and keen. He was also superb on the field once again making the ECA Wright Shield Team of the Year. Our 1<sup>st</sup> XI Captain Chris Barr, our culture king and one of the competitions most fierce and feared players, led from the front again. Our other senior

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skippers; Andy Ellis, Nish Kothari, Jake Falkenberg and Justin Samlal were all fantastic and their approach to selection, managing player availability and working together was as positive and collaborative as I have seen in many years.

Our Junior Coaches are the best in the association. Its that simple. The safe, fun, positive environment we provide our players and families is something we should all be extremely proud of. I know I am.

Nothing reiterates this than seeing Juniors make their senior debuts. And even more so when Fathers and Sons play together. We had a lot of this in 2023/24 - special moments and memories for life. Surely it doesn't get better than that!

3 of 4 Senior sides made Semi Finals this season. And whilst it was shattering to not progress to GFs, we must remember the winning seasons, the wonderful individual and team performances (see back of report for all award winners) and the momentum we have going forward. We also had Junior Sides enjoy amazing seasons, highlighted by the mighty U14B team coached by James Patterson who brought home the flag and are continuing to celebrate months later!

Its important to thank our sponsors. Bendigo Bank Ashburton continue to be a force behind our financial wellbeing. Our support of them means they support us – its that simple. MyClubFirst continue to contribute meaningfully. Our Many Team sponsors (see back of report) and of course The 1876 Club – our powerful coterie who offer financial, professional and strategic support for AWCC. Thank you, Gentlemen.

The cost of running our club continues to increase Year on Year. Equipment, Council, Association costs etc all rise. Support of our members through social income, community partnerships and donations are the key ingredients to a prosperous future.

This season Ashburton Park went under a full ground redevelopment. It will be wonderful to have our envied Turf Playing and Training facility back in 2024/25. And we will use it -a lot! We are committed to having more teams (Junior and Senior) play and train on turf. We are also working with council on the approved installation of an Electronic scoreboard.

The much anticipated Ferndale Park pavilion redevelopment plans are progressing and with Tom Harrington acting as AWCC's representative at the table, we are excited about the outcomes for our club.

In 2023/24 AWCC had a thriving heartbeat. The social aspect of our club was alive and well. The on-field performances were strong and proud. Sunny Friday nights were festive and fun with Blasters taking over Ferndale. Our Junior Girls program shone brightly as does our Junior Indoor program through the winter months. Financially we are solid and future-proofed. We welcomed dozens of new families, new players and new friends into our community. I am proud to be the President of this great club.

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BUT I am not willing to be the boy who cried wolf for much longer. If I am to remain as President in 2024/25 it will be my tenth and final season. Definitely. For the well-being and security of AWCC, it is time for someone else to step into the role. I will never not be around. But it is time for a change.

As a committee, we are proud to lead this incredible club.

Our history is so rich, and our future is so bright.

So, as we approach 2023/24 our ~148<sup>th</sup> season of cricket, I encourage everyone to get involved. Play a small part. You will always get back more from AWCC than what you ever put in.

## TREASURER'S REPORT - PAUL EWART

The season got off to an ominous start with the transition to PlayHQ causing a few headaches for a number of our members. However, by the end of the season we had over 220 players register across juniors, seniors and indoors successfully signed up via the platform.

The Club once again ends the season in a strong position with a cash holdings of \$24.5k and no payables at balance date.

Membership income remained consistent with the prior year with both the senior and junior side of the club in a healthy position. Bendigo Bank remains a fantastic sponsor of the club and remains our major sponsor. In prior season we received a one-off bonus from Bendigo which explains the reduction in the current year.

Due to the great success of the Woolworths Blaster program on Friday night at Ferndale, social income saw a notable increase on the prior year. Margins on these sales saw a decrease on the prior year as the club expanded its offering to include food at events which were largely sold at cost. Overall, however the social income generates was a great addition for the club both financially and for the cultural benefits it demonstrates.

Overall, costs outside of social expenses remain materially consistent with the prior year. It is worth noting that facilities hire remain lower than historical amounts due to the absence from cricket at Ashburton Park. In the current environment all costs are expected to move in upward trajectory, and ground fees will be included in this. It is something the club must be agile to and respond accordingly. The support of the 1876 Club in allowing the club to pursue strategic objectives with their support remains an invaluable point of different for the club.

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Running a cricket club requires volunteers and the support of our members. Thankyou to everyone who has contributed to the season gone, and look forward to seeing you all back next year.

## Ashburton Willows Cricket Club Statement of Profit or Loss For the year ended 30 April 2024

	Notes	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>Income</b>			
Membership Income	2	41,177	40,147
Clothing & Equipment Income		3,319	3,515
Social Income	3	22,289	11,730
Sponsorship, Grant & Donation Income	4	12,667	27,903
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>79,452</b>	<b>83,296</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Clothing & Equipment Expense		(5,409)	(6,117)
Social Expenses	3	(13,000)	(4,222)
Facilities Hire		(11,895)	(11,535)
Coaching & Player Fees		(18,186)	(17,484)
Association Fees		(7,187)	(4,740)
Match Day Fees		(12,454)	(10,180)
Other Expense		(10,094)	(11,622)
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>(78,225)</b>	<b>(65,900)</b>
<b>Total Profit / (Loss)</b>		<b>1,227</b>	<b>17,396</b>

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## Ashburton Willows Cricket Club Statement of Financial Position As at 30 April 2024

	Notes	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	5	24,496	37,694
Investments	6	54,314	47,316
Receivables	7	4,500	-
Other Assets		2,730	-
Cricket Inventory	8	13,184	12,012
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>99,224</b>	<b>97,022</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Social Equipment		155	50
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>155</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>99,379</b>	<b>97,072</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Payables	9	-	5,424
Contract Liability	10	3,673	4,167
1876 Club Cash Held by AWCC		54,314	47,316
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>57,987</b>	<b>56,907</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>57,987</b>	<b>56,907</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>41,392</b>	<b>40,165</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Retained Earnings		41,392	40,167
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>41,392</b>	<b>40,167</b>

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## Ashburton Willows Cricket Club Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 April 2024

### 2. Membership Income

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Senior Subscriptions	9,879	9,018
Juniors Subscriptions	25,646	26,006
Indoor Cricket Subscriptions	5,652	5,123
<b>Total Membership Income</b>	<b>35,525</b>	<b>35,024</b>

### 3. Social Income and Expenses

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Bar Income	21,770	11,658
Less: Cost of Goods Sold on Bar Income	(11,390)	(4,222)
Gross Profit Bar Sales	10,380	7,436
	48%	64%
Social Event Income	-	-
Less: Direct Costs of Social Events	(1,610)	-
Gross Profit Social Events	(1,610)	-
		#DIV/0!
Fundraising Income	519	72
Less: Direct Costs of Fundraising	-	-
Gross Profit Fundraising	519	72
	100%	100%
<b>Total Net Social Income</b>	<b>9,289</b>	<b>7,508</b>

### 4. Sponsorship, Grant & Donation Income

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Sponsorship Income	7,667	23,903
Donations	5,000	-
Grant Income	-	4,000
<b>Total Sponsorship, Grant &amp; Donation Income</b>	<b>12,667</b>	<b>27,903</b>

### 5. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Club Account Cash at Bank	23,063	36,261
Club Term Deposit	1,432	1,432
<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>24,495</b>	<b>37,694</b>



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## Ashburton Willows Cricket Club Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 30 April 2024

### 6. Investments

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
1876 Club Cash at Bank	12,368	6,368
1876 Club Term Deposit	41,946	40,947
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>54,314</b>	<b>47,316</b>

### 7. Receivables

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Trade Debtors	-	-
Other Receivables - owed by club related parties	4,500	-
<b>Total Receivables</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>-</b>

### 8. Cricket Inventory

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Cricket Clothing	6,775	5,445
Cricket Balls	5,604	4,146
Junior Girls Equipment	-	-
Training Equipment	806	2,421
Bar Stock	-	-
<b>Total Cricket Inventory</b>	<b>13,184</b>	<b>12,012</b>

### 9. Payables

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Accounts Payable	-	543
Accured Expenses - owing to club related parties	-	4,881
<b>Total Payables</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,424</b>

### 10. Contract Liability

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Unearned Income - Indoor Cricket Subscriptions	3,673	4,167
<b>Total Payables</b>	<b>3,673</b>	<b>4,167</b>

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## 1st XI –CHRIS BARR

Season 23/24 provided a unique challenge for our side in knowing that Ashburton Park was going to be unavailable while it received the works to ensure we have top class playing and training facilities moving forward. This presented us with a fixture full of away games, with a couple of neutral venues mixed in, and our training base moved for the season to Ferndale Park.

As different as this was for our squad, Mudi's efforts in taking on the clubs Head Coaching role, and the response and buy in from the senior club, contributed heavily in us being finals bound at seasons end. Be it extra net work and throw downs, to intense fielding sessions and tactical discussions, the training structure provided everyone the opportunity to get the best out of themselves for the season.

While the season didn't end how we wanted going down in a tightly contested semi final, the season provided a number of highlights, starting with welcoming Rodrigo to the team, along with the returns of Paul and Oli from long term injuries the year before.

Rodi's 147 not out was exceptional, and accompanied with Mudi's run a ball 87 got us past 300 for the first time in a number of years, while Soy's 99 not out the next week batting all 80 overs, whilst one of the most difficult with a scoreboard malfunction in the last over, was also a great sign of application and reward for hard work.

Club champion Hetti had a dominant season with bat and ball, regularly being the one to make something happen during difficult periods with energy and focus that was contagious for the team. With 22 wickets at a ridiculous average under 8, Mark Quamil was a star with ball in hand, regularly being the one to take key wickets and build pressure, whilst he and Jacob Latchford also took match defining 5 wicket hauls in games that were key setting up our season.

As always I'd like to highlight the work put in by our President Tim, Coach Mudi, the committee and volunteers throughout the club, and thank them for the work they do to make the Willows club and community what it is.

To our playing group, well done, we took our show on the road whilst Ashy park got its work, which I feel galvanised us and it is a credit to you all for turning hard work and preparation into the high level performances produced throughout the year. It's a great time to be at the Willows; we've got Ashburton Park coming back, Ferndale development in the plans, a great leadership team and a fantastic playing group, so let's keep building!

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## 2<sup>nd</sup> XI – ANDREW ELLIS & NISHAD KOTHARI

The Second XI had a season filled with mixed emotions. Due to works at Ashy Park, the 2s had to move to the Synthetic grade making the beautiful Ferndale Park our home base for the season. With some past players, the team also had a good mix of new recruits along with some promising juniors. The 2s haven't had a good run of wins in the last couple of years so the vision for this season was simple- create a positive culture & bonding, give our hundred percent on the field and have fun; which would eventually result in wins.

In great new additions, we welcomed the Knights (Chris & Brad), Rocket (Rod Hines) and Nathan Pietsch to the mix while it was exciting to see some really promising juniors like William Robertson, Lachie Grey, Jack Brockhurst and Lucas Bradley play a considerable amount of games in the 2s.

It was a season of two halves with some really strong performances until Christmas and although we managed to get wins in most games post-Christmas, we know that as a collective unit, our standards dropped a little bit. The season started off with an Away game defeat to Salesian Old Boys CC. With quite a few new players joining the team, we were still trying to find the right balance of the XI in the first couple of games, but once we did, the team had a long run of wins ensuring a tight grip on the Top 4.

Along with some close finishes, the team also had quite a few dominant wins. Bowling out Northcote and North Balwyn for just 59 & 33 runs respectively to scoring LOC 3's highest score for the season 326 (against Abbotsford Anglers at Anderson Park) were some to note.

We had some strong performances throughout the year, highlighted by Chris Knights scoring close to 500 runs in his first season with the club and Kevin Sundar spinning his way to a whopping 33 wickets at an average of just 9. We also had a few tons this year with Michael Baysinger scoring 2, with Chris & Robbo both registering a ton each to their names.

The team's performance in the Finals was below par as we failed to chase down 136 with a batting collapse the boys would want to forget. While unsuccessful in making it to the Grand Finals this year, it was a credit to the boys to play some very good cricket over the season. Each and every player who played in this team this year knows that in the end, it was an extremely disappointing end to the season as we expect a lot more from ourselves as a unit.

I'd also like to recognise and thank some people including Tim, the committee, Coach Mudi and all the other Captains who have tirelessly worked behind the scenes to ensure this club runs and operates well.

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The learnings from the season will definitely help us do better and constantly improve in order to move this club forward. And like most people reading this, we cannot wait to get back to the newly laid turf at Ashburton Park in a few months!

## 3rd XI – JAKE FALKENBERG

The 3s 2023/2024 season summed up in one word would be "growth." We had seven juniors play their first senior game. Each of them showed glimpses of what they can bring to the table and it was exciting to watch. The juniors would end up coming back week in week out, providing solid contributions and proving why they should be contending for their own spot in the team. The dedication to personal improvement that they repeatedly displayed throughout the year was inspiring. I'd like to thank everyone around the club, the coaches, players and parents as this is only possible by having a safe environment in which they can flourish.

I believe this environment also helped foster development in senior members of our team. Throughout the year we saw players exceeding their own expectations and improving due to hard work, persistence and dedication. In the 2nd half of our season, the emergence of self belief became obvious and players started to stand tall. This brought on the emergence of Nathan Barr, Tim Mendis & Sam Hewitt as confident batters; Ryan Seefled, Daniel Nguyen, Kaine Axten & Rahul Kalra as bowlers and Brady Rankin, Harvey Patteron & Tim Mendis (wkt) as fielders. The future is looking bright for the Willows!

## 4<sup>th</sup> XI – JUSTIN SAMLAL

Season 23/24 for the 4ths team was incredible. We came together at the start with a mission to go deep into the finals and the team pushed hard every week. I genuinely believe we were the second best team all year, unfortunately the best team was way too good for our league and did not drop a game all season, ultimately beating us in the semi final.

We saw the emergence of some great young cricketers, Oli, James and Aubrey who played every week. We also blooded some juniors throughout the year, as like each year this is a highlight seeing these young guns get a taste of senior cricket, even more of a highlight some of them playing with their dads.

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Club champions like Blandy, Terry and Siggo were pillars each week providing much needed experience. Throughout the season we had many others come to help out when needed, big thank you to them also.

As captain, my biggest thanks has to go to the MacDougall brothers, Nick and Rob. Both committed to me before the start of the season that they would give everything each week and push this side. Fair to say that both did their jobs, in particular Nick, making team of the year, such a great batter and bowler.

Some highlights worth mentioning, Olis 50 not out and his personal best bowling figures, Luke foleys hat trick, Nick MacDougalls 5 wicket haul and consistent bowling and batting figures and the 1st season of Aubrey bowling was magnificent.

Terry playing with his son both opening the batting and putting on a great partnership was also a major highlight, seeing Terry so happy is what it's about.

For me, having a chance to play with 2 of my best mates, Mick and Ash again in memory of our good mate, like we did last year.

To every player that wore the whites for the Supa4's throughout the season, thank you.

I would also like to thank the Foley brothers, Brendan and Nick for all the support and guidance they have given throughout this season.

This season will always be memorable, thank you to the club for providing us with a platform to create such wonderful experiences. To all the volunteers, parents, players, committee members and the president, thank you for doing a wonderful job.

## **UNDER 10 'SWIFT' – DAVID BREWSTER**

A new team was formed for the Sunday under 10s, with 3 out of the 8 kids playing in their first season of cricket. The boys had a wonderful season together, winning most of their games and developing their cricket well over the 4 months.

Multiple highlights included a hat trick and 5 catches in a single match from Finlay (who also won our bowling trophy for his excellent 16 wickets with the new ball), an incredible boundary catch at deep square leg by Ned G (who also became a very reliable fast bowler), and some wonderful leg spin bowling including best figures of 3/5 in one match from Sam. Sam also set a record with 3 run outs in a game. As the season went on, Ned S took on the responsibility of protecting his wicket when opening and was rewarded with some runs in the second half of the season,

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including a high score 16. Neil was the most feared fast bowler in the competition, and bowled even better than his 11 wickets at 11 runs would suggest. He also plummeted 136 runs with the bat. Riaan, our youngest star, worked hard on occupying the crease and was so courageous each week. He will be a superstar to watch next season.

Alex (batting award) and Nikhil (all rounder of the season) should be commended on wonderful seasons. Nikhil was the 5th ranked batsmen and 3rd ranked bowler in the ECA under 10s Sunday completion this year with 191 runs and 19 wickets. Alex led the completion in both runs (250) and wickets (24). They both loved batting together, running hard and playing lovely shots. As well as bowling some wonderful spin bowling as well.

I wish all the kids a happy off season and can't wait to see what they can do back at the club next season!

## UNDER 10 'HILL' – SIMON O'DONNELL

As the curtains draw on another thrilling AWCC cricket season, our under 10s Hill's juniors team can proudly reflect on their achievements. For many of our budding young cricketers, this was their first dive into the world of cricket, and what a ride it was! With two epic ties and a handful of victorious moments, our team displayed great determination. But it wasn't just about the wins and draws; it was about the fun they had as a team, as well as many nail-biting finishes that had many of us on the edge of their seats.

Amidst the fun, a few shining stars emerged from the pack. Ronak and Ollie dazzled us with their prowess, both wielding the bat and ball with finesse. Meanwhile, Eddie showcased his versatility, regularly transitioning between spin to pace mid over, keeping the opposition guessing. And we need to call out our trusty trio of regular wicketkeepers – Tom, Eddie and Owen – keeping opposition batsmen honest!

But beyond the stats and scores, what truly made this season unforgettable was the sheer joy and laughter shared by all. Michael, Nathan, and Ned epitomized growth and development, their enthusiasm keeping games fun throughout the season. As we call a wrap, we will remember a season filled with memories, milestones, and above all, fun.

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Finally, a big thank you to our parent team of volunteers that ensured the games played out smoothly. Tim as team manager, and stand in coach. Michael with endless hours of scoring. James & Dean for all the umpiring support. And to all the parents for the support and encouragement through training, game days and everything in between.

## UNDER 12 BLUE APACHE – JAMES HENDRY

We had a side that looked forward to their cricket every Saturday and it was really pleasing to see how the cricket improved throughout the season.

Our focus this year was batters valuing their wickets and trying to retire as well as bowling line and length at the stumps and intensity in the field. We focused the final 15-20 minutes of training every week on fielding and it really paid off with some very impressive catches taken throughout the year.

Whilst it left a big hole in our batting line up, I was especially proud of Jishnu for being promoted to the U12A side after Christmas. Congratulations to the trophy winners

Ivaan Joshi – Batting

Austn Sun – Bowling

Noah Lenger – Coach's Award

I was once again incredible lucky to have a lot of help from all the other parents. I'd especially like to thank Prabu (Jishnu's Dad), Varun (Ivaan's Dad) and Michael (Austin's Dad). All of these parents contributed every week to ensure that we had 11 players on the park every week and umpired and scored every week.

Unfortunately it was not the most successful year in terms of the win/loss ratio, however I felt we matched up well most weeks however the other sides tended to have depth when we needed it. I am also constantly reminded by my eldest son that the only win we managed for the year was under his coaching stewardship when I was way overseas for the week!

Everyone contributed every week be it with the batt, ball or in the field. As I mentioned previously our fielding improved out of sight this year to the point where we were regularly taking catches in the field, on the run and couple even behind the stumps.

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Thanks to all the players, parents and committee for another enjoyable season. No doubt there will be a bit of interruption next season with the building works but it will no doubt be worth it.

## UNDER 13A 'HAWTHORN INDOOR CRICKET' – CHRIS ALLAN

The U13A's had a nice mix of youth and experience, allowing me to give all of the boys a good opportunity with bat and ball. We had mixed results for the season, with some wonderful individual performances and nice team efforts, but ultimately came up against some very strong opposition for most of the season. I had great fun coaching the boys and was very ably supported by team manager extraordinaire Kim Joyner and all the parents helping with scoring, BBQs, drink provision, and general positive vibes. Rohit very nicely doubled up from his Saturday duties by providing excellent tactical insights and motivation for the boys when required.

Individually, our batting was won by Nathan who also volunteered to be our regular keeper despite not having donned the gloves before. He did an wonderful job all season with the bat and in the field.

Ishar won the bowling award and could easily have won the batting too if not for a late season dismissal. He batted beautifully and took important wickets for the team. His brother Arjan bowled with great guile and variety, fielded courageously for his size, and played a couple of really nice innings.

Ryan won the coaches award for being a great team leader, playing a couple of crucial innings with the bat and bowling consistently. Liam had a couple of nice cameo innings, fielded beautifully all season, and took important wickets. Will bowled with pace but without luck, kept well, and batted like a whirlwind. Aiden shored up numerous batting efforts, bowled fast without any luck and was a constant positive influence on the team. Harry had feedback from a couple of opposition coaches that his off-spin was wily and excellent, and I really look forward to it developing over the next few seasons. Aarav bowled fast and with great effort and batted powerfully taking pride in his performances. Brady batted stoically, bowled some nice overs and fielded well all while keeping the team entertained with his comic stylings. Arman took some wonderful catches, chatted constantly, took important wickets, and batted well when given the opportunity. Angus kept the vibe up on the field, played some very important innings, and varied his bowling nicely between spin and medium keeping us all guessing.

I was really excited to play a couple of senior games with a few of the boys this season too (my poor performance notwithstanding), and really hope that they will keep playing senior cricket next season along with a few more of their teammates!



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Thanks again to my team and their families for this season, and I look forward to seeing them front up again in season 24/25.

## UNDER 12B 'WOODGATE' – JAMES FERRIER

The 2023/04 season started with some volatility – a comprehensive loss in the opener was followed by a dominant performance in the second game – as the players spent some much needed time in the middle. By round 3, we had found our rhythm and identity.

Close loses to Canterbury and North Alphington, who would ultimately battle it out in the grand final, demonstrated the team's skill level and mental strength to stay in the battle right to the end. Round 5 was a washout and round 6 brought a much deserved, albeit tight win against the team that thrashed us in the first round. A nice way to enter the Christmas break.

Round 7 was arguably our worst performance, where subpar skills were compounded by a lack of concentration. Too much Christmas cheer for the boys it seemed. Our mental strength was tested in round 8 where an unfortunate batting collapse combined with some bad luck saw us concede an innings defeat.

The team had one final chance to demonstrate our best with a final round rematch against the eventual premiers. While we lost the game, the boys once again demonstrated good cricket skills and mental strength to push the opposition all the way to the end in a tight one.

Scheduling was not our friend this season, where we played both grand finalists twice and only one team below us on the ladder. But the final win / loss tally does not tell the full story. Our season was one of improving skills, mental strength, comradery and enjoying the game of cricket.

While every player contributed to the team and showed moments of brilliance during the season, the individual awards saw Ed Rivers win best batter, Seb Wee win best bowler and Daniel Tannock win best player. Congratulations to these individuals and all the boys for a rewarding and enjoyable season.

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## UNDER 12A HIGHMARK CRICKET – ROHIT SINGH

The cricket season of 2023-24 was a thrilling ride for the Willows Under -12 A team, marked by incredible performances and exciting moments. From dominating with 10 consecutive wins till a narrow loss in the grand-final, our players showcased exceptional skill and determination throughout.

Our bowlers were unstoppable, delivering two outright wins by dismissing the opposition twice in under 40 overs. Despite falling short in the finals, our players reigned supreme, topping the charts in batting, bowling, and fielding for the entire competition.

On the batting front, Nathan Riedler, Shray Sahni and Ishar Manj shone brightly, each scoring over 300 runs with four fifties to their names. Ayaan Srinivasan and Callum Mendis displayed solid performances in the middle order with a fifty each, while Arman Shaw, Rayaan Ghosh, and Will Cutler contributed crucial cameos with the bat. Aiden Richards stole the show in the grand final with a brilliant half-century, earning him the player of the finals title. Aiden's brilliance extended to the bowling department, where he was very economical in picking 7 wickets for the season.

Ronak Shaw, Oscar Smyth, Ishar Manj and Arman Shaw also stood out with more than 10 wickets each, with Arman leading the pack with an impressive tally of 15 wickets and Ronak securing a memorable five-wicket haul. Lachlan Harrington bowled with a lot of control and was a live wire on the field. Behind the stumps, Will Cutler's skills as a wicketkeeper were unmatched, while Nathan's agility made him the standout fielder with 8 catches. Shray's exceptional leadership as captain, coupled with his all-around performance, was instrumental in the team's success.

Special mention goes to our fill-in players Edward Rivers, Jishnu Ekambaram, and Arjan Manj, whose selfless contributions bolstered the team whenever called upon. As we look ahead to the next season, the prospect of players moving up to under 14 and others aiming for the premiership title in under 12 promises an exciting journey ahead. Here's to a fantastic 2024-25 season for everyone involved!

## UNDER 14 'McLARDY McSHANE' – GAVIN THOMPSON

It was another super enjoyable year of cricket at the Willows. The boys applied themselves all season but unfortunately a wash out against the winless bottom side and two games going down to the wire that we let slip, cost us a finals gig in the end.

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The competition was very even and I have no doubt we would have given the top four a fair shake up if we snuck in, but in the end it wasn't to be.

There were a number of individual highlights during the year and we had Alex Wilhelm take out the batting award in another stellar performance. Mitch Tannock took out the bowling award in a super consistent display of stump to stump bowling. Jordy McVey took out the coaches award with his leg spin bowling turning (pardon the pun) a couple of crucial games where we were looking down the barrel of defeat but Jordy spun us back to victory.

The thing I love about the team is the way they back each other and get the best out of each other with the unfettered support on and off the field. Cricket is such a mentally demanding sport and it is vitally important that you have your teammates backs, and we showed that in spades.

Once again, thank you to the parents as well for entrusting me with coaching a super bunch of humans and for all of the support given in all the roles at training and on game day.

Special thanks to Ben Middleton for being the second best team manager in the business (Sonia is first!) and ensuring my orange vest was always well ironed.

It's fantastic to be involved in such a great club. Steeped in history, very well run and supported, here is to even bigger and better things in all of your future cricket endeavours.

Stick together and keep supporting each other and enjoying the game or cricket.

## **UNDER 14 'NAVY BLUE PLANNING' – JAMES PATTERSON**

Premiers 2023/24!

Wow what an Amazing year Ashy Willows under14/B

The season was just brilliant from start to finish. Individual performance was had by every player, this had contributed to a team that did not look like losing. These wins were based around Individual batting , bowling, and fielding performances.

- Players Individual batting scores we averaged from 50+ runs to 333 runs.
- Players Individual bowling we averaged taking wickets from 3 to 12 throughout the year ( Sharing the workload )
- The support of all players in the field with some amazing catchers and runs outs.

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- Our fantastic Wicket keepers Jack D and Jack R who did an amazing job

Winning the Grand final top of what was so much fun throughout season 2023/2024.

A big thank you to our team Manger Jeni with support from husband Ryan.

A big thank you to all Parents who chipped in through-out the season supporting the score book and all other duties that makes the day run smoothly.

A massive thank you to the club and their support and our Sponsor Navy blue Planning.

Back-to-Back



## GIRLS STAGE 2 GREEN – OLIVER WILHELM

We entered our first Willows team in the stage 2 girls competition.

The girls had an outstanding season finishing on top the ladder after the home and away rounds winning 11 of 13 games.

We entered the finals confident that we could take home the first girls cricket premiership for the Willows.

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The girls had their best performances for the season in our semi-final match against Canterbury, bowling them out for 67 in 15 overs. Emily and Hanya doing the damage combining with 5 wickets. We chased down the runs in 14 overs with Sophie top scoring with 18 runs.

We were confident that we could beat an all top age side and last year's runners up in Richmond Union in the grand final. We previously played them twice during the season with results being one win a piece. Unfortunately, we lost the toss and had to bat first. We lost early wickets and never recovered being bowled out for 54. In reply, we fought hard to take a couple of early wickets having them 2/9. But they were too strong on the day and were able to chase down the runs. It was a disappointing result given how well we had played all season. I'm looking forward to seeing the girls bouncing back next season and hopefully had another chance to take the next step.

It was very pleasing to see the development of team in all areas of the game.

Congratulations to Frankie (U/14), Emily (U/12) and Sophie (U/12) who were selected to play ECA representative cricket.

Thank you to all the parents and their extended families who helped out, encouraged, brought food and supported the team at training and on match

## GIRLS STAGE 1 GOLD – AMLESH MASKIKAR

The cricket season of 2023-24 was an exciting start for the Stage-1 girls team, many of whom had just begun playing cricket.

The Stage-1 girls unanimously demonstrated a positive attitude and a keen interest in learning the techniques of the game. They also demonstrated superb resilience and collaboration on the field, despite few occasions of bad weather. Of the 15 games in total, 2 had to be abandoned due to weather and the Stage-1 girls team managed to score 2 clear victories and lost 3 games only by a very thin margin. A tremendous applause for their efforts.

Special mention to Coach Sharath and Coach Stuart for being fair on the field during the game and gently nudging the Stage-1 girls to improve their skills. Indeed, it was a tough task to maintain a balance with the girls and inspire them to have fun while playing cricket and developing their skills for future potential. A tremendous applause

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goes to Coach Stuart for volunteering to step in when Coach Sharath had to take a month off from his coaching duties when work called upon him to travel interstate.

Special mention also goes to the parents of the Stage-1 girls who always helped in ground duties and engaged with their child in practising and finessing cricketing techniques.

Here's to a fantastic 2024-25 season for everyone involved!

## ANNUAL PRESENTATION EVENT & AWARD WINNERS

The AWCC Presentation Event was enjoyed by club members young and old as Ferndale Park dripped in sunlight like the gravy from the world famous lamb rolls!

One of our community's most revered, Mr Bob Stensholt, opened proceedings with a message from AWCC's #1 sponsor, The Ashburton Bendigo Bank (the only branch still open in Ashy!) before President Tim Murphy and Junior Program Lead, Mandeep Sahni recognised and thanked the tireless efforts of all of our Junior Coaches and Team Managers.

It was great to see all the teams together and celebrating a fantastic summer of cricket, including a special presentation of our Under 14s Premiership winning team and Captain James Patterson.

DJ Arv ensured the music echoed over Ferndale following the Junior formalities before the Senior Program presentations took place later in the afternoon.

In what was a season bursting with incredible individual and team performances, the trophy list was long and the speeches shared more than memorable (most of them anyway!)

In what was an incredible season with both ball and bat, Udara Hettige (pictured here with Noel Skermer) was named the Sharp Skermer Medalist (1st XI Club Champion) whilst Mark Quamil took out the Bowling Award and our Coach Mudi Ferndando recognised with the Batting Award after a great season both on and off the field.

Mudi's coaching and his commitment to our training standards, organisation and feedback was called out as a highlight of the season and a reason behind so many successes. Thanks Mudi – we love having you and your family as a huge part of our club community!

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The MyClubFirst Team of the Year was also announced with players from all 4 senior sides making up the illustrious 12 spots!

## SENIORS

1st XI Sharp Skermer Medalist – Udara Hettige

1st XI Batting Award – Muditha Ferndando

1st XI Bowling Award – Mark Quamil

2nd XI B&F – Chris Knights

2nd XI Batting Award – Chris Knights

2nd XI Bowling Award – Kevin Sundar

3rd XI B&F – Jake Falkenberg

3rd XI Batting Award – Jake Falkenberg

3rd XI Bowling Award – Ryan Seefeld

4th XI B&F – Nick Macdougall

4th XI Batting Award – Oliver Holbeach

4th XI Bowling Award – Oliver Holbeach

## MYCLUBFIRST TEAM OF THE YEAR

1 – Michael Baysinger – 394 runs

2 – Nick Macdougall – 248 runs and 17 wickets

3 – Chris Knights – 674 runs

4 – Udara Hettige – 350 runs and 25 wickets

5 – Mark Quamil – 218 runs and 25 wickets

6 – Oliver Holbeach – 165 runs and 21 wickets

7 – Jake Falkenberg – 275 runs and 8 wickets

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- 8 – Kevin Sundar – 33 wickets
- 9 – Chris Barr (captain) – 26 wickets and 127 runs
- 10 – Thusith De Soysa – 174 runs and 13 wickets
- 11 – Aubrey Brownhill – 24 wickets
- 12 – Andy Ellis – 21 wickets and 108 runs

## JUNIORS

- Stage 1 Girls Batting Award – Anika Maska
- Stage 1 Girls Bowling – Ellie Forehan
- Stage 1 Girls Coach's Award – Zara Chauhan
- Stage 2 Girls Batting Award – Emily Pugsley
- Stage 2 Girls Bowling Award – Hanya Sahni
- Stage 2 Gils Coach's Award – Sophie Wilhelm
- U10 Hill Batting – Ronak Shaw
- U10 Hill Bowling – Oliver Ward
- U10 Hill Coach's – Tom Mcilroy
- U10 Swift Batting – Alex Brewster
- U10 Swift Bowling – Finlay Rivers
- U10 Swift Coach's – Nikhil Das
- U12B Woodgate Batting – Ed Rivers
- U12B Woodgate Bowling – Sebestian Wee
- U12B Woodgate Coach's – Daniel Tannock
- U12 Blue Apache Batting – Ivaan Joshi
- U12 Blue Apache Bowling – Austin Sun
- U12 Blue Apache Coach's – Noah Lenger



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U12 Highmark Cricket Batting – Shray Sahni

U12 Highmark Cricket Bowling – Arman Shaw

U12 Highmark Cricket Coach's – Nathan Riedler

U13 Hawthorn Cricket Centre Batting - Nathan Reidler

U13 Hawthorn Cricket Centre Bowling – Ishar Manj

U13 Hawthorn Cricket Centre Coach's – Ryan Seefeld

U14 Navy Blue Batting – Lewis Lanigan

U14 Navy Blue Bowling – Max Harrington & Charlie Dollman

U14 Navy Blue Coach's – Jack Riedler

U14 Mclardy McShane Batting – Alex Wilhelm

U14 Mclardy McShane Bowling – Mitchell Tannock

U14 Mclardy McShane Coach's – Jordan McVey

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## AWCC STRATEGIC PLAN ON A PAGE






# AWCC 3 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN



**AWCC will be a safe and fun environment where any cricketer will be given the best chance to compete and develop.  
We will strive to win and always play with pride representing our club's remarkable history.**

<b>Winning Aspiration</b> 23-26	AWCC will be a safe and fun environment where any cricketer will be given the best chance to compete and develop. We will strive to win and always play with pride representing our club's remarkable history.								
<b>Strategic Priorities</b>	Have the most welcoming & organized Junior Program developing great young adults for our community			Create a deep connection and engagement with every single club member			Ensure Financial, Facility and Volunteer stability to allow strategic investment in club long term future		
<b>Key Focuses</b>	Retention of key Junior Coaches and Team Managers	Priority Partnerships with local clubs/communities/associations	Establish fool-proof Governance practices & Club Operations resourcing	Appointment and support of appropriate Senior Coach and Captains	Reiteration of relevant Selection Policies and Competition Structures & Team Gradings	Drive a 'one club' culture complemented by clear communication practices and social activities	Encourage all club members to promote and explore Community Sponsorship (and 1876 Club) opportunities	Reset club Committee Structure and Subgroups to align with 'tomorrow' challenges	Partner with Council to steer Ashburton and Ferndale Park redevelopment projects

To Learn more; connect with the AWCC Committee – [ashburtonwillows@outlook.com](mailto:ashburtonwillows@outlook.com) or call President Tim on 0402 038 514

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