

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN CRICKET UMPIRES ASSOCIATION



OVER
MAGAZINE



March 2015



SRG members with the ICC Match officials who stood in the World Cup matches at the WACA

Thank you for your commitment and dedication

Barry Rennie

As the season rapidly draws to its conclusion with finals commencing this weekend I would like on behalf of the WADCC, to recognise the dedication and commitment from all those who have offered their services to officiate in all competitions of WACA cricket. Our group of umpires service Senior male, junior male, female, masters, schools, Talent programs, country week, Pre season, Futures League, and the list goes on. From a relatively small base this means huge commitment from everyone involved.

One highlight that occurred recently was the presence of the ICC officials attending a meeting of the State Representative Group. Putting aside their World Cup commitments for a night, they all spoke openly about their time in umpiring and the pressures of being an elite umpire. What did come out was that they are just ordinary people interested in cricket and umpiring in particular. The overriding message was about attitude, teamwork and enjoyment. Be positive, work as a team and demonstrate that you are enjoying the opportunity and the challenge.

As one season ends, it will not be long before we turn our thinking to next season and the challenges of recruitment and retention and then the training programs that will commence in August.

Once again have an enjoyable break and I look forward to seeing everyone back in 2015/16.



Front Cover: Ernest Chua standing at Kingsway 2 in the match between Wanneroo and Willetton.

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Presidents Message

Matthew Hall

President of the WACUA

I find it difficult to believe another regular season is completed and that we are into finals cricket with the season ending at the end of the month.

The General meetings this season have once again been very well attended with training being conducted at most monthly meetings, the highlight for me was the session presented by Mathew Cheeseman in January with great tips on match management and communication.

In February we hosted the life members breakfast which was once again well attended and an enjoyable time was had by all who attended. It great to share time with our life members and listen to the stories they share with us.

I wish to thank all the umpires who have committed their time during this season. Your time and effort is well appreciated by the WACUA and the broader cricket community.

Congratulations go to all the umpires who have been appointed to finals cricket in all competitions and I wish you all the best for the games you are standing in.

The Olly Cooley Medal night is on the 10th of April 2015 and once again it promises to be a great night where WACA district cricketers and umpires come together to celebrate.

Thank you for your continuing support of the WACUA by being a member this season and coming to our general meetings to share your experiences and stories and build on the fellowship by spending time with our umpiring colleagues.

Wishing you a great off season where you can spend quality time with friends and family.



Matthew Hall standing in the First Grade match between Claremont-Nedlands and Wanneroo.

Photographer: Gary Richards



The shirts say it all. Barry Rennie and Terry Prue in the Willetton Old Boys vs. 1st XI match

Message from the Umpires Appointment Committee

Terry Prue

Commitment

As the season draws towards its conclusion it is pleasing that strong numbers have been maintained through a hot summer. Commitment to the WACA and its competitions is appreciated and the UAC is mindful of the family/work/cricket balance that individuals must maintain. With the senior male competitions being essentially a Saturday competition, the balance is a little easier than in the not too distant past when a greater Saturday/Sunday commitment was required. All should be aiming to be the 'best umpire you can be' but those who have the capacity to umpire beyond the WACA competitions are faced with a very delicate balance in their quest to achieve that.

Performance

In general terms the captains' reports have been very positive. With 64 appointments to each of the 15 round of grade cricket there will be some stumbles, but fortunately through this season not too many. Strong, consistent performances have been recognized with progression through the grades and those individuals have been acknowledged elsewhere. With the finals upon us the allocations will continue to be based on rankings (and of course availability).

Future Developments

Cricket Australia (CA) has announced an increase in competitions to be launched in 2015-16. This includes an U16 male carnival and expanded U17 and U19 male carnivals (10 teams per carnival). The Futures League will be expanded to probably include one additional home fixture. A Women's BBL will be introduced with teams aligned to the current male teams. The format of the Women's National Cricket League (WNCL) is still under consideration but may be conducted in a tournament style similar to the male competition. All this will impact the umpiring pathway.

I would encourage each of you to have an end of season review with Barry. Thank you again for being part of WACA cricket.



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The Western Australian Cricket Umpires' Association would like to thank all the photographers from this season.

In particular John Sherry, Carmen Sherry, Gary Richards (Wanneroo District Cricket Club), Daniel Gibbons, Sharon Micenko, Todd Rann and Trent Steenholdt.





All smiles: Ashlee finally getting on the field on yet another wet day in Ballarat.

Ashlee at the Women's U/18's National Carnival

Ashlee Kovalevs

I was very excited to return to Ballarat to umpire the U/18 Women's National Championship this January.

The weather in Ballarat was cold and wet, dramatically different to the scorching temperatures at last year's carnival. Heavy rain in the days leading up to the carnival made it difficult for grounds to be prepared for the games. Continuous rain resulted in four games being called off over the first two days. Whilst it was disappointing that my first game was called off that afternoon, it was a good opportunity to develop my match management skills and test my knowledge of the GWL playing conditions!

I enjoyed meeting up again with Claire and hearing about her experiences in NSW and at the U/21 Women's Tournament in New Zealand. It was great to see the number of female umpires at the carnival double from last year, with four women including myself participating from across Australia.

On the Friday night we had a Professional Development session with Richard Patterson from Cricket Victoria. I found it really valuable discussing all aspects of umpiring with the group. It was also interesting to examine the similarities and differences between the various States both for women and umpiring generally.

The week ended with my selection to umpire the 3 vs 4 final and a presentation evening. Overall it was a fantastic carnival!



From the carnival: South Australia vs. Western Australia

Jamal at Imparja Cup

Jamal Principle

I represented Western Australia at the 2015 Imparja Cup – the National Indigenous Cricket tournament run by Cricket Australia. The tournament continues to improve each year to the point where most cricketers in the state/territory division play Grade cricket in their respective states. Overall there are 500 cricketers which play at the tournament ranging from the top level being the state/territory men's division to the community division. I flew over with the Western Australian indigenous team on the Boeing 717-200 aircraft operated by QantasLink on behalf of Cobham to Alice Springs for a week of Twenty/20 cricket played under KFC Big Bash playing conditions. I was appointed to umpire in the State/Territory Men's division in which I did seven games and I also umpired two games in the State/Territory women's division as well. All up I umpired nine games in five days in temperatures that would be up to 41 degrees and the lowest being 38 degrees. The games that I umpired were:

Monday February 9 2015

- State/Territory Men's Div: NSW vs VIC (at Traeger): VIC 5/115 defeated NSW 7/105
- State/Territory Men's Div: QLD vs TAS (at Larrapinta): TAS 2/134 defeated QLD 10/80

Tuesday February 10 2015

- State/Territory Men's Div: NSW vs TAS (at Albrecht): NSW 3/63 defeated TAS 6/62
- State/Territory Men's Div: NT vs VIC (at Larrapinta): VIC 3/96 defeated NT 8/95

Wednesday February 11 2015

- State/Territory Woman's Div: VIC vs NT (at Albrecht): VIC 2/89 defeated NT 10/88
- State/Territory Men's Div: NT vs TAS (at Traeger): TAS 6/91 defeated NT 8/90

Thursday February 12 2015

- State/Territory Men's Div: VIC vs TAS (Larrapinta): VIC 4/151 defeated TAS 8/91

Friday February 13 2015

- State/Territory Men's Div: South Australia vs TAS (Larrapinta): South Australia 2/99 defeated TAS 4/97
- Semi Final State/Territory Woman's Div: VIC vs Western Australia (Albrecht): VIC 2/116 defeated Western Australia 3/107

I umpired with the following umpires at the tournament: Glen Stubbings (NSW), Millendon Gawd (S.A), Steve Farrel (QLD), Jason Whalley (VIC), Scott Pearce (TAS) and Mark Donfeld (N.T). The Umpire's Manager was Mark Hanton from VIC. I enjoyed umpiring with all of my colleagues and it was interesting to view how they went about their umpiring and their preparation and routines.

I was fortunate to be appointed to umpire a semi-final in the state/territory woman's division – VIC vs Western Australia and that game went down to the wire with VIC winning in a thriller. I wasn't able to umpire the Imparja Cup state/territory men's final as my home state Western Australia made the final and umpires at the tournament are not allowed to umpire their home state in the mens division. This final was also a thriller with Western Australia being bowled out for 93 and in reply QLD were 0/44 after 10 overs but then collapsed and lost six wickets in the next 10 overs and in the end they needed 4 runs to win off the last ball and only got the 1 run. Western Australia won the Imparja Cup and made it back-to-back Imparja Cups as they also won in 2014. Overall it was their third Imparja Cup.

Highlights

- Umpiring a night game (NT vs TAS).
- Umpiring with the other umpires and learning and sharing techniques and field craft off each other
- Having the pleasure of giving the WA team a quiz on the Laws of Cricket (I used Barry's laws exam from pre-season) during the flight to Alice Sprngs and then marking the sheets which saw every player.....fail the exam and if they thought that was tough - I then followed up with giving them an aviation quiz which again saw every one of them.....fail.

I thoroughly enjoyed my time in Alice Springs and this was my ninth Imparja Cup and I always enjoy heading back to Alice Springs to catch up with familiar faces including returning umpires, players and officials. I think that's what is the best thing about cricket.....it's about making friendships which last a lifetime.



Jamal in the night game at Traeger Park. Match was played between NT and TAS.

James Hewitt's Men's U/19's Report

James Hewitt

At the start of January this year, Nathan Johnstone and I had the honour and privilege of being selected for the National Male Under 19 Championships in Adelaide.

My preparation for the tournament started the moment I received the call from Barry Rennie informing me of my selection. Playing conditions, personal arrangements/logistics, who is in each squad, who are the coaches, who are the other umpires going, set pre tournament goals, obtain as much advice as I can, be well aware of what an opportunity this is and grasp it with both hands.

My main question was "What will the difference be between the U17's that I attended last year, to the U19's this year?" The answer was pretty simple. "The players will be bigger, better and under more scrutiny. You will therefore need to be bigger and better as you too will be under more scrutiny" Oh how right they were!

Over the course of a two week tournament one learns such a huge amount about oneself as a person as well as about being an umpire. There just simply isn't enough space in the publication to fully describe the value it can have on your career.

Nathan and I arrived in Adelaide with weather forecasts of rain for the next few days. Prior to travelling, I had completed a considerable amount of scenarios involving wet weather and how to apply the playing conditions when interruptions occur. Do not underestimate the value of asking yourself "What if" when considering what might happen and when in a game of cricket.

Round 1 was a relatively short game for me. All over in less than 50 overs with NSW Metro comfortably accounting for Tasmania at the Adelaide cricket club. We later adjourned to the Adelaide Oval for the BBL game between the Strikers and the Sixers. It rained, A LOT!

The wet weather preparation paid dividends in Round 2. I travelled to Pertaringa Oval, the home of Tea Tree Gully CC for Queensland v WA in another one day match.

Pertaringa is about a 40 minute drive from the heart of the city of churches. During that drive my partner for the day and I were able to discuss strategies for handling the obvious ground, weather and light scenarios that would present themselves through the day, as well as signaling, teamwork, preferred brand of bourbon for the evening, all the important issues.

When we arrived, it was raining.

Not raining hard, but just constantly drizzling, followed by a spell of harder rain, followed by a quick clearance, then back to drizzle.

By the time the teams arrived and my partner, David Taylor and I met the captains and coaches, we were armed with full list of possible start times, over reductions, bowling restrictions, power plays, weather radars, local knowledge from some very experienced club members.

Dave and I had also sought out our best mate for the day – The curator. He had told us that the deck underneath the covers would be as dry as a bone and a road, but it would need a trim and quick roll. His super soaker worked overtime for most of the day and at 3.30pm when we finally abandoned the match with the area around the block more conducive to bog snorkeling (it's a genuine sport – trust me) than cricket.

Days such as these occur extremely rarely here in sunny ole WA. I learnt more that day about GWL and match management, communication and teamwork with all stakeholders than in my previous seasons in the WACA competition. One rainy day at Floreat Oval, I'll tell you all about – I promise!!

An enjoyable evening at the South Australian Cricket Umpires and Scorers Association meeting, followed by a bottle of bourbon, tray of coke and a rest day, we moved towards the two day rounds of matches.

The rest day incorporated a most enlightening presentation from a Behavioral Strategist. His message was that we are all different people, with different opinions and life experiences and expectations, that is what shapes us. Some people will just never get on with others, acknowledge it, accept it, try to understand why and get through it. He also highlighted certain areas of our personalities and behavior that could possibly land us in hot water in the future. Managing stress, being susceptible to giving batsmen out when you are under more pressure, or not being a genuine team player, eating too much at tea. Several areas for us all to consider methods for improvement.

Preparation for the two day matches was very similar to the one dayers. Learn, discuss and master the playing conditions, make sure



Close Call: James after a head height pull shot was played right at him in the Willetton vs. Midland-Guildford 1st Grade match

there are no surprises when you step out onto the field. Set some match goals for each round, ensure you acknowledge and consider any feedback given from the UHPP, partners and observers and shape at least one goal for your next game. Focus on your strengths and well as perceived weaknesses and come through a stronger character and improved umpire.

The value of having members of CA's UHPP observing our performances and giving us advice and wisdom was immense. The reinforcement from CA that all the tutelage, advice, instruction received over the years was certainly a huge positive from attending the tournament. I can assure you that here in WA we are taught the same set of skills that the National Umpire Panel members possess. Communication, signaling, positioning, laws, playing conditions, dealing with success and failure, player management, match management, self-assessment.

The NUP just happen to do it under more pressure, with more scrutiny, the players are bigger and stronger with bigger and stronger characters.

One of the main messages I received was to ensure your attitude is absolutely spot on, keep that glass half full, even when it's half empty.

It was just before the first round of two day fixtures that disaster struck for my room mate, our very own Nathan Johnstone. Jono was taken ill and admitted to Adelaide hospital with a mystery illness that stumped the finest medical minds in SA. The umpiring group rallied round him and gave as much support for him as they could. We tried to ensure he remained hydrated, in good spirits and did our best to take the mickey out of him at any opportunity. I visited him in hospital one evening and knowing Jono has a sweet tooth, took him a family size bar of Cadburys Marvellous Creations. Only to be met with a "Nil By Mouth" sign above his bed. I selflessly delivered Nathan from temptation by scoffing most of the chocolate right in front of him!

It speaks volumes about Nathan's personality and attitude towards his teammates when I tell you that he was more concerned about not being a distraction from our preparation and on field performance than his own physical condition that was clearly both serious and extremely unpleasant for him. Jono is a great roomie, when he's there!

The two day games were played to a high standard and I was fortunate to witness a couple of centuries and some bags of wickets from players who I am sure will grace both state and international cricket in years to come.

My final match, back at Pertaringa (the sun shone this time) involved two power houses of recent years in Victoria and New South Wales, who fought out an exciting game that was decided by an 8th wicket partnership of 88 from NSW.

At 7-161, chasing 228 for a first innings points, Victoria were pushing hard for victory against their fierce rivals. The next passage of play was testing, but so enjoyable and rewarding. As the target came closer and closer, so did the fielders and the pressure was mounting on all involved. I am proud to say that my partner and I stood firm, worked hard together and did our absolute best to ensure both teams were permitted to play exciting and hard fought cricket that ultimately decided the competition winners.

As the tournament concluded I was able to reflect on a most enjoyable and rewarding fortnight with a close knit and highly skilled team of umpires who I know will remain friends for many years to come. I will certainly enjoying tracking their progress through the ranks, hopefully along with my own. Having just a few friends from different jurisdictions to bounce ideas off and pool strategies with is a hugely valuable tool to take you forward.

I departed Adelaide with a host of new experiences to log into my umpiring bank for the future and to share with my colleagues. To cite just a handful:

- Remain absolutely rock solid when giving a decision, try not even to twitch a little toe.
- Do not assume you have got your message across when dealing with stakeholders in your game. If you have some information to impart, do it professionally, courteously and make sure there is no ambiguity or confusion.
- Do not tweak the playing conditions, even if it appears common sense might be required. They are written for a reason, and we as umpires owe it to the bigger picture of the competition not to amend them.
- Keep on an even keel, no matter what the situation of the game. When the game is drifting, do not allow yourself to drift with it and when the pressure is mounting, be sure to maintain your composure (outwardly at least.)
- Set short term goals based on recent feedback and your strengths and weaknesses. Revisit and assess these goals regularly. Ask for advice from partners and colleagues. Short term goals can help to achieve long term ambition.
- Preparation is key, go onto the ground knowing you have completed your preparation to the highest standard and the rest will just flow.
- Your attitude needs to be a significant driver in your success. Positivity is absolutely vital.

My arrival back to Perth was filled with mixed emotions. Always great to be home and see the rocks in my life, but also immense hunger to take my career back to this level of competition and beyond.



Congratulations Mick Martell on your first ODI match on home soil!

England vs India — GABBA
January 20th, 2015



IND 5/135 | BINNY* 37 44 | DHONI 32 50 | ALI 1/31 | OVER 33.5



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The image shows the fuelwatchWA application interface on two devices. The tablet screen displays a list of petrol stations under the heading "today unleaded petrol (metro : all areas)". The list includes:

- 111.1 Coles Express Mount Lawley
- 111.1 Coles Express Wanneroo Pearall
- 111.1 Coles Express Warwick (WA)
- 111.8 Caltex Woolworths Joondalup-Winton Road
- 111.8 Caltex Woolworths Mirrabooka
- 111.8 Caltex Woolworths Southern River
- 111.9 Gull High Wycombe
- 111.9 Wesco North Perth
- 112.3 United Mt Lawley
- 112.3 United Northbridge
- 112.9 Peak Armadale
- 112.9 Peak Grangara

On the right side of the tablet screen, there is a "select your suburb" dropdown menu with "LEDA" selected and "113.7 United Leda" listed below it. The smartphone screen shows a similar view of the application, displaying the same list of petrol stations.

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