



ANNUAL REPORT

2018/19

Moonee Valley Cricket Club Inc

Established 1971

Web: mooneevalleycricket.com.au

Ormond Park

Pattison St, Moonee Ponds 3039



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

What a wonderful new home we will all enjoy for the Moonee Valley Cricket Club when we return to Ormond Park for the 2019/20 season!

After more than a decade of plans, anticipation, false hopes and frustrations with the shortcomings of the old rooms, our new \$2.5 million pavilion was officially opened on May 3.

I can't thank enough our ward councillors Jim Cusack and Nicole Marshall for their support and their determination to get our new pavilion to the top of the Council's priority list. And they ensured that cricket and football had a real say in designing a building that was going to be fit for purpose and to suit our needs. I can't wait to get in there in September.

At one stage when the project was ahead of schedule it looked like we would be move in for the last couple of weeks of the season, but it wasn't to be.

So, we had to see out the whole 2018/19 season, and the last month or so of 2017/18, in the portables and the great outdoors in the north-west corner of the park.

That presented its own challenges, not least on our budget bottom line.

Income was well down without comfortable and efficient bar and canteen facilities, so thanks to Treasurer Peter Golding and other committee members for their diligence in also keeping a lid on costs. Thanks also to Life Member Dean Jukic for quietly taking on the role of monitoring and stocking the bar and canteen. Dean played a major role in maximizing our income in this area in what was always going to be a difficult season.

It was a difficult season in more ways than one. After our First Eleven challenged for a flag in 2017/18, our expectations were high for this season. It wasn't to be however, and we never really got going despite winning the first game we played, finishing well off the pace in ninth spot.

Several players from our grand final team moved on to other opportunities and Vice President Mark Gauci did a magnificent job in ensuring that we all knew that the grass isn't necessarily greener on the other side. It helped hold a nucleus together.

We went into the season with high spirits, with a new coach with international experience but due to a combination of circumstances we parted company after Christmas.

We have now reappointed past MVCC Premiership coach Tony Gleeson, following his 12-year term at Premier club Carlton. This culminated in a Firsts flag in 2018/19 with Tony at the helm as team manager.

The focus on our new pavilion also galvanized our life members into action under Ian Denny, and he was the driving force in organizing a committee to lead a meaningful and structured involvement into the future.

In conjunction with the football life members, they have already had a significant contribution to the fitting out of the pavilion.

We were thrilled with the Grand Final appearance of our Under 16s, in our first season in this age group since 2014/15. There are some ready-made senior players among the junior ranks, including Krish Kanchan, who played six games in our Firsts even though he was still eligible for the Under 14s.

I thank our club and our members for the endorsement they have continued to give me in my 11th year as President and thank and acknowledge the support of our committee - Peter Golding, Daniel Phillips, Matt Thomas, Kevin Gardiner, Michael Ozbun, Mark Gauci, Channa DeSilva, Peter Pickering, Allan Cumming and Brendan Rhodes.

We have to a large extent been distracted for the past two years with planning and preparing for the disruption of moving out of our old rooms and enduring the disruption of the rebuild. Now that we've realized our long-held dream, let's make sure that we have a great season 2019/20 while we enjoy our new home at Ormond Park.

Go Valleys!

Graeme "Charlie" Walker.
President, Moonee Valley Cricket Club

SENIOR REPORT

Season win/loss record

| Team | Mat | W1 | W2 | Draw | L1 | L2 |
|---|-----|----|----|------|----|----|
| Firsts (VTCA: Charles Clark Shield Div 4) | 13 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 1 |
| Seconds (VTCA: "Sport" King Shield Div 4) | 14 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 0 |
| Thirds (MCA:C North Grade) | 20 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 11 | 1 |
| Fourths (MCA:D Grade) | 20 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 9 | 0 |
| Fifths (NWMCA: Ern Girolami Shield) | 17 | 10 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 0 |
| Sixths (NWMCA: Barrie Clissold Shield) | 15 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 9 | 0 |

1st XI

It was a tough year for the first XI, averaging only 13.2 per wicket when batting with only 3 50's. On the bowling side we took wickets at 25.4 and bled runs at 4.6 per over. On the positive, we had a debut season for Krish Kanchan who was still eligible for the U14's and he managed to get us over the line in a partnership with Shivantha in one of our rare wins. Towards the end of the season things picked up and we shaped the finals, much to the disappointment of our opposition!

First season captain and long term MVCC player, Jack Newman (225 runs @ 18.8 and 11 wickets @ 34.3), certainly learnt a lot this year with able on-field support from Dan Comande (17 wickets @ 20.9). Our 28 players that moved through the firsts will be better for the experience in 2019/20.

2nd XI

The seconds had a much better time of it - at least until the semi-final when they were beaten by a better team on the day. The second XI averaged 20.5 per wicket when batting, with nine individual players passing 50. The batting was shared around, but Mark Gauci punished opposition attacks at the top with skipper, Stephen Ward, finishing them off on several occasions. On the bowling side we averaged 17.6 per wicket at only 3.1 per over. Jim Polonidis led the attack with 24 wickets at 6.6 and 3 five wicket hauls - it's fair to say Jim won a few games with his deadly medium pacers. Bede Gannon, Mark Gauci, Stephen Ward, and Daniel Philips provided able assistance.

3rd XI

The thirds suffered from not having a regular skipper for pretty much the whole season. Several players filled in the breach and there were a few highlights such as Josh Gorry's

hundred while skipper. We averaged 16.2 per wicket and took them at 20.4, so there's some work to do next season. On the batting side, other than Gorry's century, there were only six 50's with Dean Lawson leading the way with 239 runs at 39.8. Mark Gauci (15 wickets @ 7.7 and a season's best of 5/16), Dean Jukic and Josh Norsetter led the bowling, while Ian Denny turned the clock back in one game with the season's only other 5 wicket haul.

4th XI

The fourth XI also struggled early with captaincy issues until Manpreet Singh took over. They vied for the finals for much of the season, but the slow start and requiring 39 players during the year cost them in the end. On the batting side we averaged 16.8 per wicket with eight 50's led by Jeremy Davey's three half centuries (255 @ 88.0) in limited games. Other batting highlights were a first senior 50 from junior Luca Nimorakiotakis, and 50's from Stephen Esmore (against the Reds) and James Harrison. With the ball we averaged a wicket every 15.4 runs and the twin "peaks" of Josh Norsetter (25 wickets @ 10.1) and Stephen Esmore (25 wickets @ 10.4) were standouts. They were well supported by Luca Nimorakiotakis (16 @ 7.8), Pat Taylor (12 @ 14.2) and Kamal Sapkota (10 @ 11.2).

5th XI

The fifth XI dominated many games during the year under the guidance of Dom Rettino and looked on course for that elusive premiership right up until the last game. There were many stars in this side, with an average of 28.8 per wicket at 6.4 per over with three centuries (2 to Jesse O'Grady and 1 to Dan Comande filling in). There were also fifteen 50's spread among the team and they showed, when filling in for higher grades, they could mix it with the best. Four players scored over 200 runs (O'Grady, Rettino, Hughes & Farrell). On the bowling side they were less dominant, with an average of 22.2 runs per wicket at 6.0 per over, with Cassidy Box (24 @ 21.6) leading the way. He was ably supported by Charlie Jackson (16), Jesse O'Grady (12) and Justin Trowell (11).

6th XI

The sixth XI struggled to make an impact but played in a grade with a guarantee of making the finals. Having said that they were statistically successful, usually when higher grade players came down to support them. It is a great way for players to learn and there were four centuries (Mark Gauci, Mark Grenville, Jonty Rhodes and John Walter) and another seven 50's with an average of 22.4 runs per wicket. The leading run scorer, Sam Carbone (212 @ 53.0) played limited games and often started late after his auctioneering duties ended. On the bowling side we had limited success with Pat Taylor (12 @ 22.8) the best.









JUNIOR REPORT

Coaching and Players:

The coaching this season was stable in all age groups except for the U16s. Kevin Gardiner again took on the role of U10 coach, Steve Esmore was U12 coach assisted by his team manager Tony Nilsson, I was the U14 coach.

Problems arose early with the coaching of the U16s because it had been planned that the new senior coach, Mark Grenville, would be involved in the integration of the U16 training with the senior training. Unfortunately, this did not happen and it was not until Brendan "Jonty" Rhodes took charge in November/December 2018 that the U16s were properly organized on training nights. Similar lack of direction occurred on match nights up to the pre-Christmas fixtures. Stephen "Wardy" Ward stepped in from this point and took the team up to their grand final match.

Player numbers were slightly up this year. There was one Under 10 team, one and a half U12 teams, 14 U14 players and an U16 team for the first time in a number of years. The large number of U12 players meant that MVCC had one team and the additional players played in a combined team with Coburg CC. Two players who qualified for U14 also played in the U16s.

On Field Reports:

Under 10s

The 2018-19 season saw significant development of the team and individuals, most of whom were in their second year of competitive cricket. Strong batting, bowling, fielding and game-sense were key features of the team's style of play and the group's preparedness to persevere made them very coachable. To give an example, catches, sometimes rare in U10 cricket, were very common and frequently completed against a high degree of difficulty. Consistent parental support at training and on match evenings was invaluable.

Under 12s

The logistical issues of managing the individual player needs towards training was difficult to manage with fluctuating player numbers and the coach's inability to actively watch both games on Friday evenings however, significant improvement was noted among the playing group as the season progressed with a surfeit of personal milestones achieved by all players.

The Moonee Valley team, a more experienced and mature group of players took to their new, more difficult grade of the NWMCA Friday evening 3rd division with aplomb, regularly taking games to the final overs and always putting their best foot forward, en route to a 4th placed finish. The season's highlight would undoubtedly be a well-rounded victory against top of the table Westmeadows that proved to the boys that when they play their best together, they can beat anyone they come up against. This self-belief took them all the way to the Semi-finals, where unfortunately their season ran its course against eventual champions St Mary's. Special commendation should be made of Zac Nillson who finished the season 3rd in the division for aggregate runs with a scarcely believable average of 90.

Under 14s

Nine of the players from the previous season were joined by four players up from U12s. All played exceptionally well and there were no passengers in the team. The season was one of frustration at a number of points, but not due to the players. After the four grading rounds the team were 2/2 in Division 1, which like the previous season meant that we needed to win most if not all of our remaining games to make the finals. However, the weather worked against us before Christmas, with only one game able to be played in the last four due to heat or rain and that match being re-scheduled from our home ground to the ground of the top of the ladder opposition. The team rallied after the holiday break and it came down to the last match as to whether the team could make 4th place, only to fall short by one run on the last ball of the season. Congratulations to Nam Nguyen and Dejan Gilevski for being selected for the NWMC representative sides, and Harry Pickering for being runner up for most wickets in the Division.

Under 16s

Despite the coaching confusion, the team did exceptionally well in a hard Division 2 competition. It was a division dominated by batsmen and our team was no different, with centuries during the season to Krish Kanchan and Luca Nimorakiotakis along with a 99 to Noah Wallwork. The team made the grand final only to fall just short in the end, despite another century from Krish who at the time still qualified for U14. Across the season four players averaged over 50 - Noah Wallwork, Bevan Holder, Krish Kanchan and Luca Nimorakiotakis.

Congratulations also to Noah Wallwork for his award from the NWMCA for most runs in Division 2.

Peter Pickering
Junior Coordinator

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The club reported a small loss for the 2018/19 season of \$1,831 on the back of a 27% reduction in revenue, in the bar & canteen, social, and merchandise areas. While any loss is disappointing, spending more than a year in portables was always going to test us. I think we've emerged with a reasonable cash position which will be supported by members returning to the new clubrooms in 2019/20.

The table summarizes the breakdown of how the club earns and spends income to allow more than 100 players to take the field every weekend. During the period in the portables, the MV Council supported us with reductions in fees, and this will not be possible next year. We also had generous support from our sponsors, new and old, and the efforts of Dean Jukic, Mark Gauci, Michael Ozburn, and the President, Charlie Walker should not go unrecognized. Dean's efforts in keeping the bar stocked (and occasionally assisting with destocking) were simply a reflection of the love he has for the club and cricket.

Our membership fees would never cover the season's cost of putting 151 senior & junior players on the ground across about 135 matches, including ground & utility fees, player registration, afternoon teas, insurance, balls, equipment, coaches, and umpires. As usual, for the 2019/20 season we will need the social, apparel and sponsorship activities to be profitable to continue to subsidize the on-field activities. Our membership fees in 2019/20 will cover a new clothing line (already ordered!) and our overall membership fees remain at the lower end of what some other local clubs charge.

| DESCRIPTION | REVENUE | EXPENSES | PROFIT/LOSS |
|---|----------|----------|-------------|
| Social (Bar, Canteen, Functions) | \$21,948 | \$14,204 | \$7,744 |
| Other (Apparel, Sponsorship) | \$12,400 | \$6,644 | \$5,756 |
| Playing (Membership, Weekly Match fees, Ground Hire, Affiliations, Umpires, Coaches, Players) | \$29,394 | \$44,725 | -\$15,330 |
| Total | \$63,742 | \$65,573 | -\$1,831 |

Some thanks are in order. In addition to the people mentioned earlier in this report, the unsung heroes like Pete Smith, Danny Terzini, Pat Taylor and Michael Cumbo - you keep the club functioning in your own way. I'd also like to provide a special thanks to Brendan (Jonty) Rhodes for assisting with the bar till cash float during the year. And to the committee and captains who collect all the money, run the functions, clean up, lock up, score, make the drinks and sometimes even play cricket - it's a thankless task sometimes, but one that makes all of our weekends just a little bit more enjoyable.

As is normal practice, the covers (including hessians) have been written down to zero book value, although the covers should give us a few years yet. The club has a few other items of nominal value (for example, the super sopper, bowling machines, training equipment, junior match day equipment & BBQ's) which I have written down to zero. Clothing stock has been written down to zero. These may be adjusted upwards next year once when we conduct a stock take as we remove items from the storage container. Ball stock is regarded as having some value as they will be used in the upcoming season.

Peter Golding
Treasurer

OUR SPONSORS

