

**CLASSICS ROUND 1 v MOSMAN AT CAMPERDOWN PARK, CAMPERDOWN:  
ROUND 1 ON SUNDAY OCTOBER 13, 2013: REPORT BY JOFF JOHNSON**

First game of the season and up against the reigning premiers, Mosman. A tough assignment particularly after the skipper lost the toss and Mosman chose to bat on a perfect batting wicket, a lightening outfield, temp hovering around 37<sup>o</sup> and a howling Nor' wester. We determined if we could keep them around 200, we had the batting depth to successfully chase.

Due to v/c Peter Rolls being unable to bowl with a crook elbow, we opened with Mick McCormick and Paul Georgiadis. It became evident after only one over that that slow medium bowlers were going to struggle on this excellent wicket so we quickly turned to spin with Jay Patel replacing Paul. The Mosman openers were scampering between wickets and raced to 44 off only 8 overs when Mick struck with a super off cutter and cleaned bowled one of the openers. Followed quickly with Jay catching their number three, Chris Price who had to hurry to the ground after enjoying a champagne breakfast, plumb in front for 2 and clean bowling their number four for 6.

At 6 for 95 off 19, we were well placed and looking to roll the lower order in quick time. Unfortunately we did not count on financial guru and TV/radio star, Ross Greenwood and their number 7 piling on the runs, both players reaching enforced retirements at 30\*. We did manage to stem the flow of runs in the last 10 overs with Craig Somers and Mick McCormick keeping the ball full and forcing the batsmen to hit straight. Craig was looking down a hat-trick in his fifth over having their returning skipper, nicking one thru' to Keith Elloy, but the next returning batsman smacked the hat trick ball for 4. Mosman 9 for 202 after their allotted 40 overs and our objective achieved so we enjoyed our afternoon tea full of confidence believing we could run down the target.

Special mention in the field, on such a stinker of a day, must be made to Mick McCormick, Jay Patel, Garry Winney, Peter Rolls and Mike Birchall who never stopped putting in and were able to cover up for the remaining players crook knees and backs. And, as I recall, we only put down one catch (unfortunately it did cost us about 40 runs – “no names no pack drill”, (old army saying – for no blame)). But Frank Crowe did manage a brilliant stumping off Paul Georgiadis, with the ball ricocheting off his right glove back onto the stumps. And we look forward to some future wickets from Garry Winney who during the off season has developed a mysterious leg cutter.

The target was looking very achievable particularly after getting off to a flyer, with Joff Johnson reaching his forced retirement with the score at 44 off only 8 overs. However disaster struck in the next over, when Craig Somers was controversially giving out LBW off Greenwood. Even one of the Petersham rugby players, who were enjoying their end of season BBQ, came up and said it was the worst decision he had ever seen. (I do not wish to get fined \$10,000 – so better leave it at that).

Other than Mick McCormick scoring an excellent 26 before nicking one behind, our middle order struggled against some tight spin bowling. Ajoy Roy, Garry Winney, Peter Rolls and Keith Elloy all made good starts but never really get on top of the bowling. Therefore the equation of runs per over gradually climbed until reaching an impossible 10 per over. It was pleasing, at the death to see Mike Birchall and Paul Georgiadis getting the opportunity to put on a good last wicket partnership of 25\* when the task became impossible.

Unfortunately we had lost our first game of the season, but to a very good Mosman team. It is easy to see why they are the champions.

It was great to see the camaraderie after the game between the two teams – over the past many years we have grown to know the opposition individuals very well although generally only seeing or speaking once a year. The Camperdown Bowling Club is dead so Keith organised a 'chilly bin' with ice and beers and I can tell you after standing out in 37<sup>o</sup> sun for seven hours the best refreshment in the world is a cold XXXX or a VB. I am sure it is the reason we still play. It was well after dark when we packed up and headed for home, although Keith had to return as he had forgotten to pick up the beer money!

**The Team was:** - Joff Johnson (c) 31\*, Craig Somers 12, Ajoy Roy 12, Peter Rolls 18, Mick McCormick 26, Keith Elloy 20, Frank Crowe (w) 0 , Garry Winney 13, Jay Patel 5, Mike Birchall 16\*, and Paul Georgiadis 8\*

**The Result was:** -

**Mosman C.C.:** - 9-202 (C. Somers 3-30) (40 overs)

**Defeated**

**C.C.N.S.W.:** - 8-174 (J. Johnson 31\*) (40 overs)

**By 28 runs.**

**The Bowling was:** - M. McCormick 9-1-45-1; P. Georgiadis 5-1-27-1; J. Patel 9-1-35-2; A. Roy 6-0-32-0; G Winney 5-1-22-2; C. Somers 6-0-30-3

**The Fielding was:** - K Elloy 2 catches; F Crowe (w) 2 stumpings

**Player points:** - J. Johnson 3, M. McCormick 2, J. Patel 1

### **CLASSICS ROUND 2 v PARRAMATTA AT MERRYLANDS PARK ON SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER 2013: REPORT BY JOFF JOHNSON**

Unfortunately a second loss by the C.C.N.S.W. Classic team – now 2 out of 2. But a very exciting match that came down to the last over with Parramatta needing 2 to win. They actually only needed 2 to win with two overs remaining; however Paul Georgiadis bowled a superb wicket maiden to apply some last over pressure. Not to be, the first ball of the 40<sup>th</sup> over was clipped through midwicket for 4.

Parramatta has lost their usual home ground McCredie Park in Guildford but they cannot complain about their new ground Merrylands Park – excellent facilities, beautiful outfield and not a bad wicket. Ronnie Holmes had informed me on Saturday that in the 70's he played in a Manly second grade GF against Parramatta at this oval. Parramatta being the minor premiers only needed a draw so they duly batted for 5 sessions, leaving Manly one session to get 500 or so!

Winning the toss, we batted and after a cautious start, Ross Dalgliesh was stumped or was it run out by the keeper (the keeper got me last year – same way) off their opening bowler and Joff Johnson was caught behind for 17 just when he had settled in. Ajoy Roy and Keith Elloy batted judiciously through the middle overs but gradually both players began to master the bowling and finally raced thru their 20s to enforced retirements at 30\*. Two successive beautiful bat foot drives thru cover point by Keith brought back some long memories of the past. Ian Neil looked to get on with it until being trapped on the crease and Frank Crowe who was looking a million dollars until his body told him he may need to move to the next phase of his career. Peter Rolls who was also batting beautifully called for a quick one and 'Frantic' just making his ground before pulling up lame with another Achilles injury.

At 3 for 175 off 40 overs with 3 batsmen reaching enforced retirements, we believed we were in good shape. Although a very quick outfield, the wicket was not up to the standard of Camperdown, so with straight bowling – keeping the ball full, it was going to be difficult for Parramatta to chase down the target. Especially after their openers struggled thru the first 12 overs and were only going at 2.5 an over.

And at the drinks break, they still needed 6 an over. Peter Rolls, although a little wayward was bowling quick and Paul Georgiadis had been difficult to put away. The star of our bowling performance was "man of the match" Ajoy Roy who bowled with control and penetration and took the deserved figures of 9 overs, 4 for 33. However it became obvious when we were required to bowl our 6<sup>th</sup> bowler we were one bowler short (where was Jay!!!!!!!!!!). Their skipper and their number six both put on quick fire 30\*s to get them back on track and to be honest although only getting the runs in the last over – they were looking like winners after the 30<sup>th</sup> over.

Special mention must go to their opening bat, Barnes who is nearly 70 and recently had a third of his two lungs cut out due to a dose of cancer. He was able to cope with Peter's fiery spell and finished up with 23 runs.

**The Team was:** - Joff Johnson (c ) 17; Ross Dalglish 7; Ajoy Roy 33\*; Keith Elloy 30\*; Ian Neil 11; Frank Crowe 18\* (ret hurt), Peter Rolls 30\*, Garry Winney 15\*; Ken Grose 3\*; Greg Currie (w) dnb and Paul Georgiadis dnb.

**The Result was:** -

**C.C.N.S.W.:** - 3-175 (A. Roy 33\*; K. Elloy 30\*; P. Rolls 30\*) (40 overs)

**Lost to**

**Parramatta C.C.:** - 7-178 (A. Roy 4-33) (39.1 overs)

**By 3 wickets.**

**The Bowling was:** - P. Georgiadis 7-2-18-1; P. Rolls 9-2-40-0; G. Winney 6.1-0- 25-1; A. Roy 9-0-33-4; I. Neil 3-0-22-0; J. Johnson 2-0-9-0 and K. Grose 2-0-16-0

**The Fielding was:** - K. Elloy 1 catch; K. Grose 1 catch

**Player points:** -A. Roy 3 P. Rolls 2; K. Elloy 1

### **CLASSICS ROUND 3 v LINDFIELD LIONS AT ACRON OVAL, ST IVES ON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2013**

Game cancelled because of rain

### **CLASSICS ROUND 4 v ASHFIELD DE LA SALLE OLD BOYS AT ROTHWELL PARK, CONCORD ON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 24 , 2013: REPORT BY JOFF JOHNSON**

Despite having 13 players unavailable for this match and only turning up with 10 players of which two had to depart at 4 pm, the Classic team had a comprehensive win against De La Salle. First win of the season.

As a result of Brian Breakspear and Steve Cross having to leave early, the C.C.N.S.W. skipper, Joff Johnson asked the De La Salle skipper, if he won the toss would he bat. Getting an affirmative answer, the C.C.N.S.W. skipper said OK, we are happy to bowl so you bat. De La Salle skipper, becoming a little flustered with this logic then indicated "hang on, maybe I would like to field". He then relented on the knowledge that after 4.00 pm C.C.N.S.W. would only have 8 fieldsmen – not a good look.

The De La Salle openers started cautiously on a slow grassy wicket, with both Paul Kumar and Peter Rolls keeping it tight with good line and length. Jay Patel bowled first change and unfortunately in consecutive overs had both openers dropped – one a skied hit to long off and the second a chip to midwicket. If looks could kill!!! The score reached a healthy 0-56 before Dale Richards, who was bowling some delightful old fashion medium pace out swingers, cleaned bowled one of the openers for 24. With the other opener and skipper reaching his compulsory retirement, the remaining De La Salle batsmen struggled against our spin attack. Jim Robson and Steve Cross bowled exceptionally well in tandem. Jim concentrated on bowling a middle stump line with the ball turning into the pads.

The only productive shot was a hoick across the line to deep midwicket – three times the ball went straight to Peter Rolls who took two great running catches only to grass the third which was a little lower with a bit more power. This made Crossie feel a little better as he had already dropped 3 and one off his own bowling – a rare sight indeed. A total of 135 seemed to be 20 runs short of par but on a slow wicket, a very slow wettish outfield and only 10 batsmen we were going to have to bat well.

Joff Johnson and Brian Breakspear also started cautiously with only 32 coming off the first 12 overs but again when Joff was just hitting his stride he hit one straight to mid-on and was caught for 24. Crossie, due to his early departure was promoted to number 3 but was soon back in the shed when he tried to up the pace. At least he made his appointment. With the departure of Brian, Peter Rolls and Keith Elloy commenced to push the score rate along. It was great watching Keith running four threes and a number of twos, however he soon realised he needs to get back into the gym as a lazy exhausted drive saw him cleaned bowled for 22. Peter quickly raced to his compulsory retirement score on the back of some powerful cuts forward of point regularly picking the gap between cover and point. Dale Richards and Jim Robson kept the score flowing, with the last 40 runs coming off only 5 overs. Jim although in his late 50's runs like a whippersnapper; he soon realised if you hit the ball to a classic fielder and run – there is practically no chance that you are going to be run out!

The umpire awarded Man of the match to Jim Robson with Dale Richards receiving 2 points and 1 to Peter Rolls.

Might be an idea in the future that we do not organise Sunday social matches that clash with Masters or Classic games – it was embarrassing not being able to field a full team. (*Editor's note: the only over 50s player in the side v Old Oxleyans who would have been eligible to play in this game was Ian Neil who had chosen instead to play with his son, Lachlan*)

**The Team was:** - Joff Johnson (c) 24; Brian Breakspear 12; Keith Elloy (w) 22, Peter Rolls 30\*, Dale Richards 23\*, Jim Robson 16\*, Dean Drummond (dnb); Jay Patel (dnb), Paul Kumar (dnb) Steve Cross, (dnb)

**The Result was:** -

**De La Salle Old Boys:** - 8-135 (J. Robson 3-30) (40 overs)

**Lost to**

**C.C.N.S.W.:** - 4-137 (P. Rolls 30\*)

**By 6 wickets**

**The Bowling was:** - P Kumar 4-1-6-0; P Rolls 6-1-28-2; J Patel 7-0-26-0; D Richards 6-0-22-1; S Cross 8-0-19-1 and J. Robson 9-3-30-3

**The Fielding was:** K. Elloy 1 stumping; P. Rolls 2 caught

**Player points:** - J. Robson 3; D. Richards 2; P. Rolls 1

## **CLASSICS ROUND 5 v LANE COVE CAVALIERS AT KINGSFORD SMITH OVAL, LONGUEVILLE ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 8, 2013: REPORT BY JOFF JOHNSON**

Although the Kingsford Smith Oval wicket always appears to be batsman friendly, hard and well grassed with a very short boundary on one side, from years of experience we know it is anything but; therefore winning the toss and getting runs on the board is normally the winning formula. All went to plan – won the toss and elected to bat. Unfortunately after that it was all downhill. We staggered passed 100 in the 40<sup>th</sup> over on the back of an excellent patient knock from Jay Patel (47\*) and then watched the Cavaliers treat our bowling with disdain, racing to the required target in the 27<sup>th</sup> over and only losing two wickets. A thoroughly demoralising defeat.

Joff Johnson and Dale Richards opened the innings and as expected found the ball keeping low. Dale, in the first over of the match, after cracking a beautiful cut to the short boundary for 4, tried to clip the next ball to midwicket only to be rapped on the pads and given out LBW. Keith Elloy looked a million dollars as he cracked two fours in the first over he faced however disaster struck in the next over when Joff called for quick single changed his mind and as a result left both batsmen shaking hands at the same end. Joff moved passed Keith and was run out by the length of the wicket. Peter Rolls confidently strode to the wicket remembering his recent 30\*. He was quickly shaken from his self-assurance as he watched Elloy clean bowled by a beautiful leg cutter from the 66 year old Richard Pym followed by Denis Drummond out LBW to the last ball of the over. In the 4<sup>th</sup> over of the match we lost 3 wickets for nought runs. Peter himself was soon sauntering back to the sheds for 3 after being bowled neck and crop by a shooter from Pym.

Martin Berry, who had expected to enjoy a relaxing afternoon on the sideline drinking beer and watching the cricket, fortunately had his creams in the car (do they ever get washed??) and as we only had 10 players was quickly roped into the side. Martin was next in and survived the last two balls of the Pym over who at this time had the fine figures of 5 overs 3 for 2. Martin thinking he may have gained a reprieve from the devastating Pym was disappointed as first change Whitehead, who is apparently still playing the occasional grade match, proved too quick and knocked over his middle stump for nought. At this stage we were 6-22 and looking at a very early completion to the match. Jay Patel then joined Brian Breakspear and they commenced to put together a minor recovery by not taking any unnecessary risks and picking up the ones and twos. Just when Brian was getting into his stride, after cover driving Whitehead for 2 delightful fours he pushed one back to the slow offie skipper and was unnecessarily caught and bowled. The lower order took the score from 7-47 to a respectable 112 all out in the 40<sup>th</sup> over. Paul Kumar smacked a couple of fours using his massive piece of willow but it was Jay's excellent knock that kept us in the game. After his forced retirement he only reached the pickets when the next wicket fell and he about turned and went back to the fray to face the final 4 overs. Jay managed scored 15 invaluable runs off the last over of our innings to ruin Pym's immaculate figures including a terrific hit for six. 112 on a difficult wicket gave us some hope if we bowled straight and took wickets.

Paul Georgiadis' first four overs yielded only 3 runs but Peter at the other end was proving to be expensive. He was digging the ball in just short of a length but unfortunately it looked like we were now playing on a perfect batting wicket as the ball was bouncing to a normal height and not keeping low. Consequently their opening bat had no trouble pulling the ball to the square leg boundary. Paul Kumar replaced Peter, bowled tightly but could not make the vital breakthrough so it was time to get our wicket taking spin twins bowling in tandem. Crossie and Jay had proved to be match winners in our previous outing against De La Salle but unfortunately although keeping the batsmen watchful they could not make the vital break. With the game now nearing its conclusion Denis Drummond was given the ball and in his first over he had Petrie stumped as he danced down the wicket swung and missed. Their number four batsman David Thompson replaced Beattie, who reached his compulsory retirement, he carefully pushed forward to the first ball he faced but the second was smashed over the square leg boundary for the winning runs.

Lets hope we can get a full strong side for the 22 Dec and start our reversal of form.

**The Team was:** - Joff Johnson (c ) 1; Dale Richards 4; Keith Elloy 8 (w), Peter Rolls 3; Dean Drummond 0; Brian Breakspear 20; Jay Patel 47\*; Martin Berry 0; Paul Kumar 16; Steve Cross 4; and Paul Georgiadis 2

**The Result was:** -

**C.C.N.S.W.:** - 10-112 (40 overs) (J. Patel 47\*)

**Lost to**

**Lane Cove Cavaliers:** - 2-113 (27.5 overs)

**By 8 wickets**

**The Bowling was:** - P. Georgiadis 6-2-9-1; P. Rolls 3-0-20-1; S. Kumar 3-0-7-0; D. Richards 3-1-5-1; J. Patel 5-0-18-0; S. Cross 5.5-0-28-0 and D. Drummond 2-0-5-1

**The Fielding was:** - K. Elloy 1 stumped; P. Rolls 1 caught

**Player points:** - J. Patel 3; P. Georgiadis 2; B. Breakspear 1

**CLASSICS ROUND 6 v SRI LANKA LIONS C.C. AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL,  
CAMPERDOWN ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 22 2013: REPORT BY GARRY  
WINNEY**

A warm humid day greeted the two teams. We struggled to get a team and finished up with 10 players including Jay Patel who had injured his shoulder and could not bowl. Thankfully Harry Solomons, the opposition skipper had 12 players & offered the services of B.N. Mahmoud, a 70 year old returning from injury. A former first class off-spinner, his inclusion was gratefully accepted. It did leave one problem; we now had 6 off-spinners in the team! A fast outfield, 200 target I thought maybe chaseable.

Lions won the toss and batted on a great deck, with short boundaries. Sri Lankan players all seem to have the ability to hit sixers, today was no different. Joe Scarcella and Paul Georgiadis opened, with Paul bowling the opener, 1-14 after 4. After 8 overs 1-31 they had done a good job. Paul Moorhouse and Mick McCormick took over, Mick immediately bowled the no 3 bat to have them 2-41. Runs kept ticking over as did the wickets. Mick now bowled the opener who looked a danger bat, now 3-66. Enter Harry Solomons a key wicket. Mick was at it again next over bowling their no 4 bat, They all wanted to smash Mick over mid-wicket & kept missing it. Now 4-74 with their two main bats now in. Mick beat the bat numerous times but no edges.

Another bowling change, let's see how the fill in player BN bowls – BN was good , he bowled 5 overs of accurate offies that they played with respect. Harry was bowled in the last over before drinks by a great delivery from Denis Drummond which had Harry playing the wrong line, bowled for 14, 5-95 at drinks, a pleasing score line. But never underestimate any of their bats, they all can hit. After drinks their young 50 yr old bat opened out, hitting a succession of sixers as did his partner .Garry Winney and Steve Cross came on to break the next partnership. After a six off Steve that landed in the next suburb, his next ball (a change of pace?) - had the batter playing and missing, out lbw – now 6-136. Inspirational fielding by Mick with a full length diving 4 run save, and a great overhead catch on the boundary by Paul Moorhouse only to tumble back over the boundary cones for a six. However shortly after, Paul took another bowled wicket 7-146 to get his man out, 10 overs left. We started to tire in the humidity and they kept on hitting. Nos 9 and 10 added over 50 in rapid time until a slower ball from Paul Georgiadis had our first and only catch of the day by Garry Winney on the boundary. Their recycled 50 year old came out and smashed a few more sixes with Mick bowling another victim at the end in a great bowling spell of 4-49, Paul Georgiadis 2-35 the other main wicket taker. Score line: - 9-227. It would take a whole hearted team effort to get close to that, a super effort to beat it.

Harry in a good tactical ploy told us that the young 50 year old took 7-15 against Stirling Hamman's Mandalong team the previous game with his fast bowling. OK, let's gets stuck into him! Garry Winney and Keith Elloy opened up and took up the attack to the Lions. A succession of fours virtually one an over, all good drives, cuts, flick off the pads by both players had us 0-48 off 8 overs and both opening bowlers were spelled. As usual in cricket, both batsmen were soon out, both bowled, Garry for 23, Keith for 26 but this brought in our in-form Mick McCormick along with Paul Moorhouse who played a classic innings, rotating the strike with singles along with the occasional boundary. We rocketed to 2-110 by drinks with Mick retiring on 31\*(7 fours) all classic shots hit so hard the fielders on the boundary had no hope to stop them. Paul continued on to retire at 30\*. Pressure on our middle and lower order now to continue the attack. They did. Jay Patel 20 and Joe Scarcella 21 worked the ones and twos with the deep defensive field. Both out to top edged shots. We then saw a cameo from Ross Dalglish twinkle-toeing down the track to the spinners. However a hard straight drive was plucked out of the air by the bowler. Now 5-167 with 2 retired bats in the bank - 9 overs left. It became a game within a game now; our tail tried to hit out or get out; they wanted to keep them in and hopefully not use our two players in the bank. Denis Drummond was struggling with his running between wickets but worked the ones. Paul Georgiadis played the classic shot of the day. First ball he faced , a

sweetly timed shot between two fielders on the mid wicket boundary, both converged running along the boundary, both put out their foot at the same time to stop the ball, both missed it – four! Paul was out shortly after chasing quick runs. Brought Steve Cross in now, still just over a run a ball needed. Between Steve and Denis, a lot of big swings, edges, scampering running between wickets, both running out of puff but added 20 runs. Steve scoring 12 before being bowled; score now 7-198 with 30 to win and 16 balls left.

Out came BN to bat, our fill in – the Lions team all stood and applauded him on his way to the crease. BN knew quick runs were needed. First ball he smacked a hard cut shot, unfortunately well caught at point, 8-198. Re-enter Mick McCormick – you could almost hear the tune from Rocky going on as a crowd had built up – rugby players previously warming up were all now watching, picnic groups all watch intently, as were the Lions supporters. No easy job here Mick with 3 balls of the over to go, field bar two all on the boundary – Mick sized up the situation, whack 4, whack 4, blistering shots sped to the fence, then nudge for one - now 8-207. Two overs to go - 21 to win. Mick smashed a four then a single, Denis worked a quick one, Mick another one. Knowing Paul was still ready to come Denis had an almighty slog, it flew over everyone for four – yahoo! In with a show now, we could all sense a mighty victory might happen.

Equation – 6 balls, 10 to win. OK- Mick a four would be good, maybe a rushed 2. No he had other ideas, ball 1 Cruuunch!!! Flew 20 metres over the boundary – yahoooo! Four to win, come on Mick you can do it - 2<sup>nd</sup> ball whoosh – an air swing, 3<sup>rd</sup> ball a bottom edge to the keeper, ran one. Getting a bit uncomfortable now, Denis 3 balls to go, 3 runs to win, as the whole field is brought up to stop a single, Mick screaming at Denis – “*we are running at all costs*”.

As the bowler bowls Denis advances down the pitch for his shot – the sound of bat hitting ball was great, watching the ball disappear over mid on and race away to the boundary was better. Wowers what a win, you don't get many better team efforts batting wise where all contributed. Mick 52\*, Denis 20\*; 8-229 score. A marvellous batting display by Mick and well supported by Denis. The happiest person I think was BN – he had a huge smile and really loved his day – I'm so pleased that all our players were so supportive of his effort throughout the game. He showed that there is still life left in this Lion.

**The Team was:** - Garry Winney (c) 23; Keith Elloy (w) 26; Mick McCormick 52\*, Paul Moorhouse 30\*; Jay Patel 20; Joe Scarcella 21, Ross Dalglish 4, Paul Georgiadis 5; Steve Cross 12, B N Mahmoud 0; and Denis Drummond 20\*.

**The Result was:**

**Sri Lanka Lions C.C.:** - 9-227 (M. McCormick 4-49)

**Lost to**

**C.C.N.S.W.:** - 8-229 (M. McCormick 52\*)

**By 2 wickets**

**The Bowling was:** - J. Scarcella 4-2-10-0 ; P. Georgiadis 7-1-35-2 ; M. McCormick 8-0-49-4 ; P. Moorhouse 6-0-36-1 ; B.N. Mahmoud 5-0-23-0; D. Drummond 5-1-27-1; G. Winney 4-1-19-0; and S. Cross 1-0-7-1

**The Fielding was:** - 1 catch Garry Winney

**Player points:** M. McCormick 3; P. Moorhouse 2; G. Winney 1

## **CLASSICS ROUND 7 v LINDFIELD LORDS AT JUBILEE OVAL, GLEBE ON SUNDAY JANUARY 19, 2014**

Match (v League Leaders) forfeited.

By Thursday night, Keith Elloy and Joff Johnson had only 6 players with a limited ability to call on irregulars because of holidays, the ODI at the SCG and the Masters Intra-club 12-a-side social game with our C&S side which at the joint request of the C&S and Masters' Captains had been moved from the Saturday to the Sunday.

Whether it would have made the slightest difference to Sunday Classics availability, had this social game been played on the Saturday must remain a matter of speculation but it is the first C.C.N.S.W. Masters or Classics game I can ever recall C.C.N.S.W. forfeiting in over 20 years - maybe someone else has a better memory?

The President of the Masters and Classics Competitions Stirling Hamman has rung to ask what is happening to C.C.N.S.W. as forfeiture for failure to raise a side is unheard of by this Club.

### **CLASSICS ROUND 8 v LINDFIELD LARRIKINS AT CAMPERDOWN OVAL, CAMPERDOWN, ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2014: REPORT BY JOFF JOHNSON**

It is with much trepidation, I put pen to paper this Monday afternoon particularly following the two marvelously eloquently Master's reports penned recently by Terry Pontikos. I use to think Ed Smith's reports were cleverly written but Terry has taken match reporting to another level. - If only he were over 50.

Before the start of the game on Sunday, Keith Elloy advised the team we were currently third last on the ladder so requested a big effort from here to the end of the season to get near our runner up placing from the previous season. Unfortunately our efforts on Sunday did nothing to resurrect our dismal season.

We were greeted by a stunning summer day and an equally superb looking well grassed centre wicket and a luscious outfield – I have never seen Camperdown Oval in better shape. For some inexplicable reason the C.C.N.S.W. skipper won the toss and decided to BOWL – did not Ian Chappell once say – *“if the wicket looks like it will give your bowlers some assistance – think about sending the opposition into bat but don't think for long – then bat”* Well our skipper obviously did not heed that advice.

After ten steady opening overs by the wily Paul Georgiadis and the now *accurate “off his short run”* Peter Rolls, the Lindfield Larrikins openers could only muster 29 runs. Unfortunately first change bowler, Jay Patel, managed only one over due to a crook shoulder resulting from wear and tear of playing 10 games a week for the past 50 odd years. Age is finally catching up to our Peter Pan. Jim Robson's first over proved fruitful when he cleaned bowled the Larrikins' dangerous opener, however their middle order took a liking to Paul, Ajoy Roy and Garry Winney, all going for more 6 runs an over and at the 30 over they were well placed at 3 – 149, looking good for a score well in excess of 220. Garry did get his first “hit wicket” of his long career when he had the Larrikin skipper attempting to protect the ball from rolling back onto his wicket only to ram his Gray Nicholls bat through middle and off stump. The ball actually then passed harmlessly outside the off stump.

At 3-149, what do we do? Keith reminded the skipper that it may be time to give Denis Drummond a bowl and this proved to be fortuitous advice. Denis giving the ball plenty of flight kept the batsman confused and with Paul Georgiadis bowling his remaining tight overs from the hospital end, we were able to keep the total down to an obtainable 205.

After a splendid afternoon tea (pity about the lack of tea bags – Brooksie said there were plenty in the kitchen), we began our chase in disastrous fashion. Joff calling for a quick single in the first over, resulting in Ken Yardy being run out by a direct hit from square leg with one stump to hit. And then first ball of the next over, Joff flashed outside the off stump only to top edge to a one handed catch at first slip. 2 for none! Keith Elloy and Ajoy Roy settled the innings until Keith cut in the air to point once too often off the curiously difficult to hit “donkey dropper” leg spinning opening bowler. Peter Rolls, our middle order saver on many occasions, pushed forward at a beautiful leg cutter first ball, and nicked it straight to first slip. We had slumped to 4 for 43 off 13 overs.



At this stage Ajoy took it upon himself to resurrect the run chase and quickly raced to his compulsory retirement which included some massive thumps over midwicket. Ajoy's retirement was followed by an excellent partnership between a limping Jim Robson and our consistent Garry Winney. Unfortunately Jim's injury steadily became more debilitating so he hit out once too often and was well caught on the boundary by Larrikin's youthful opener who had already scored 30 and ran out Ken. Jay joined Garry and they rapidly put us into a 50/50 position. At the end of the 32<sup>nd</sup> over when Garry reached his compulsory retirement, we needed 64 off 8 overs and with Paul Kumar, accompanied by his massive blade, we reckoned we were in with a chance.

After smashing a couple of 4s and 2s, Paul strangely appeared to retire "unhurt". On questioning we ascertained he had been told by his fellow batsman "Jay" to return to the shed and change his boots. Another extremely odd cricketing moment that could only happen in "Classics cricket" or when Jay is dominating centre stage. Apparently the umpire had agreed Paul could temporarily retire and return at the fall of a wicket. Maybe Adrian can check his rule book. *(No such provision in MCC Laws or Rules! Editor)*

We then fell into a hole and could only manage to score 21 off the final 6 overs, losing 4 wickets in the process of which 3 were run out. A very disappointing end to a game we were in a position to win.

Happily the result had dissipated somewhat by 7.00 pm after a few enjoyable cold ales with the Larrikin players.

**The Team was:** - Joff Johnson (c) 0, Ken Yardy 0, Ajoy Roy 37\*, Keith Elloy (w) 18; Peter Rolls 0, Jim Robson 14, Garry Winney 31, Jay Patel 30, Paul Kumar 19, Denis Drummond 8, and Paul Georgiadis 5 (ret) .

**The Result was:** -

**Lindfield Larrikins: - 6- 205**

**Defeated**

**C.C.N.S.W.: - 10 – 171** (A. Roy 37\*, G. Winney 31, J. Patel 30)

**By 34 runs.**

**The Bowling was:** P. Georgiadis 9-2-32-2; P. Rolls 7-0-21-0; J. Patel 1-0-7-0, J. Robson 7-0-22-2, S. Kumar 4-0-32-0; G. Winney 5-0-36-1; A. Roy 4-0-29-0 and D. Drummond 3-0-20-1.

**The Fielding was:** - K. Elloy (w) 1 caught; 1 stumped; J. Robson 2 caught

**Player points:** - A. Roy 3; G. Winney 2; J. Patel 1

## **CLASSICS ROUND 9 v MANDALONG LAWYERS AT JUBILEE OVAL, JUBILEE PARK, GLEBE ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2014: REPORT BY GARRY WINNEY**

A beautiful setting and wicket greeted our Classics team today with a welcome return from injury by Frank Crowe, and late fill ins by Brian Fallon and Richard Wonders. Lost the toss and fielded on a warm day. They proved to have a very solid batting line-up led by Over 60s Australian player Steve Kavanagh. We contained them to 1-78 at drinks; Paul Georgiadis and Mick McCormick bowled well; Paul Kumar had trouble going up the hill and bowled too many full tosses. But it was our catching that let us down throughout the day. You can't afford six regulation catches to go to ground against quality bats without them making the most of the reprieve. That's what happened. Five of their 6 top order scored 28 or more as we held them to 3-188.

Our response was positive up to drinks - 3-75 headed by a lovely innings from Keith Elloy 33 ret; Mick McCormick 20 and Ajoy Roy 21 both batted well. After drinks they tightened the screws with a fine spell of bowling from Steve Kavanagh and Peter Naughton conceding just 20 runs in 12 overs while taking 4 wickets. We lost wickets trying to up the scoring rate which mounted each over. In the end Ian Neil and Paul Georgiadis added some respectability to the cause - all out 114.

It was good to catch up with Simon Lyon captaining Mandalong with Stirling being in South Africa. We had seven batsmen bowled on the day, an unusual number missing the ball.

**The Team was:** - Richard Wonders 1, Keith Elloy 33 , Mick McCormick 20, Garry Winney (c) 0, Ajoy Roy 21, Frank Crowe 11 (w), Jay Patel 2, Paul Kumar 1, Ian Neil 11, Paul Georgiadis 9 and Brian Fallon 2\*

**The Result was:** -

**Mandalong Lawyers:** - 3-188

**Defeated**

**C.C.N.S.W.:** - 10-114

**By 74 runs**

**The Bowling was:** - P. Georgiadis 9-0-40-1; P. Kumar 9-0-40-1; M. McCormick 5-1-17-1; G. Winney 9-0-51-0; A. Roy 6-1-28-0; and I. Neil 1-0-6-0.

**The Fielding was:** - 1 catch P. Kumar; 1 stumping F. Crowe (w)

**Player Points:** K. Elloy 3; M. McCormick 2; A. Roy 1

**CLASSICS ROUND 10 v KU-RING-GAI DISTRICT C.C. AT JUBILEE OVAL, JUBILEE PARK, GLEBE ON SUNDAY MARCH 9, 2014: REPORT BY JOFF JOHNSON**

Finally that winning experience – we had forgotten how good it feels. Batting first on an excellent wicket – accumulating a healthy 3 for 182 off our 40 overs with 5 compulsory retirements, having Kur-ring-ai 6 for 83 off 27 overs, we thought we would cruise to victory. However we had not anticipated the strength of their 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> batters who smashed a quick fire 40 runs off the next 6 overs. With 7 overs remaining Kur-ring-ai only needed 55 runs with wickets in hand, very achievable with our “classic” fielding rapidly in decline.

With our Classic convener, Keith Elloy “OS” for this match, it was left to the skipper to organize the home match at Jubilee Oval. By Thursday pm after the average 50 emails and numerous phone calls, a confirmed team was announced - now time to relax. However as per the check list there are a few other things to be considered – new ball, scorebook, kit, tea, sugar, milk, kettle, afternoon snacks, beer, ice, water container – who has it?, plastic cups for water, cups for tea, Jubilee Oval key??, groundsman contact, opposition contacts in case of rain, umpire etc etc. Then the designated late drop out, again another xx calls to find the eleventh player – by Friday pm again all in order – I think, I hope. Keith please come home!!!

The skipper, was advised by David Fagan the grounds man, when picking up the key, if you win the toss, bat as the pitch is a belter. Fortunately he won the toss and duly took Dave’s advice. Ajoy Roy and Joff Johnson cautiously had a look at the opening attack until Ajoy reckoned he didn’t wish to stay for long in the hot sun, belted 8 off the 6<sup>th</sup> over and 17 off the 8<sup>th</sup> over. He raced to his retirement when the total score was only 38, including 2 super 6s over cow corner – right off the meat of the bat. Peter Rolls replaced Ajoy, and was looking good until he pulled a full toss straight to backward square where he was well caught by late comer Gurka. No one else in Ku-ring-gai team would have taken this hot chance. Garry Winney and Joff steadily took the score to 1 for 84 at drinks, setting the platform for a middle order assault. First Joff retired, then Garry after a well compiled knock of 31\*.

The highlight of the innings was the batting of ‘El Presidente’, Greg Brooks and Dale Richards. Both were in fine form and raced to their retirements on the back of some superb shots. Dale’s lofted drive over long off must have knocked a picket right out of the fence. His clean driving only matched by

Brooksie's aggressive pulling. The second wicket didn't fall until the 34 over when Ian Neil was bowled and he was quickly followed by Jay also cleaned bowled by Gurka who was proving to be difficult for our lower order to handle. The opposition reckoned he bats better than he bowls so beware. Dale retired, when he clipped Gurka for 4 to backward square leg leaving Paul Kumar to face 2 balls of the final over. A comedy of errors by the Ku-ring-gai fielders allowed Steve Cross to survive the final ball run out. So Kur-ring-ai was chasing 183.

Paul Georgiadis opened and bowled extremely tightly taking 2 for 11 off his first 6 overs and Peter Rolls although a little wayward was a bit too quick and a handful to hit for the Ku-ring-gai openers. Dale Richards replaced Peter and in his fourth over cleaned bowled Gurka with a special leg cutter that took the top of off stump. Gurka, as advised, had looked the goods scored 10 off only 8 balls before he played and missed Dale's super cutter. Actually Dale believed his off cutter that was nicked to our new keeper Garry, was a better ball but unfortunately after three attempts Garry finally pushed the ball too far forward for a successful 4<sup>th</sup> attempt. The left handed number 3 went on to his retirement and was finally out caught brilliantly by Paul Kumar tumbling in the attempt at mid-on in the 39<sup>th</sup> over without adding to his score.

Man of the match Ajoy Roy was brought on immediately after drinks and bowled his off spinning darts as opposed to his looping leg spinners. Although only taking one wicket, Ajoy bowled beautifully, time after time beating the bat and unluckily having the leftie clearly stumped by Gary but curiously given not out – can only guess Gurka standing at square leg was otherwise occupied pondering how he missed Dale's cutter. When the going became tight, Brooksie replaced Paul Kumar, and using his guile and experience of making life difficult for batters again proved the goods and was able to curtail the big hitting. Ajoy, after suffering a nasty fall on the last ball of his 6<sup>th</sup> over, returned to bowl the 40<sup>th</sup> over and had the big hitting number 8 well caught on the boundary by Crossie in front of the large Sunday picnic crowd that has gathered on the hill.

Paul Georgiadis was brought on to stem the flow and duly bowled 3 super overs and took 2 for 6. Paul is proving to be an excellent death bowler, keeping it straight and full and a pace that the big hitters just find difficult to collar.

Ku-ring-gai finished up 9 for 152, which on paper looked a comfortable win for C.C.N.S.W., but as mentioned we did have a scare late in their innings.

**The team was:** - Joff Johnson (c) 32\*, Ajoy Roy 30\*, Peter Rolls 8, Ian Neil 0, Dale Richards 32\*, Gary Winney (w) 31\*, Jay Patel 3, Greg Brooks 30\*, Steve Cross 2\*, Paul Kumar 2\*, and Paul Georgiadis (dnb).

**The Result was:** -

**C.C.N.S.W.:** - 3 for 182 (J. Johnson 32\*, D. Richards 32\*; G Winney 31\*; A. Roy 30\*, G. Brooks 30\*) (40 overs)

**Defeated**

**Ku-ring-gai C.C.:** - 9 for 152 (P. Georgiadis 4-17) (40 overs)

**By 30 runs**

**The Bowling was:** - P. Georgiadis 9-3-17-4; P. Rolls 4-0-12-1; D. Richards 6-0-16-2; P. Kumar 3-0-11-0; S. Cross 4-0-14-0; A. Roy 7-0-32-1, G. Brooks 7-0-38-1

**The Fielding was:** - 1 catch to each of J. Patel, S. Cross and P. Kumar

**Player Points:** - A. Roy 3; D. Richards 2; P. Georgiadis 1

**CLASSICS ROUND 11 (FINAL ROUND) v BURWOOD AT ALEXANDRIA PARK**  
**SOUTH SYDNEY ON SUNDAY MARCH 23, 2014: REPORT BY JOFF JOHNSON**

An excellent victory, in our final match of the season, as a result of consistent line and length bowling, a solid fielding effort and a conscientious batting performance. Why has it taken so long to get it all together?

On a dicky deck, which produced many unplayable balls, it was surprising only 7 wickets fell for 306 runs. And, it must be some short of record, the C.C.N.S.W. in chasing a difficult target of 153 on this deck, achieved the runs losing one solitary wicket. (*Editor's Note we once scored 1-200 v Parramatta*) Pleasingly, as a result of this win, the C.C.N.S.W. Classics jumped from 10<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> position on the competition ladder.

During the week prior to the game, with predictions of thunderstorms and rain, it was imperative to get the covers down by Thursday pm. After being killed in the rush by the C.C.N.S.W. players, on request for assistance, it was left to Burwood to give the groundsman a hand with the covers. Stuart Lind, skipper of the Burwood crew, arrived on the Thursday afternoon only to see an unprepared wicket. And arriving at the ground on Sunday, again we were met with an unprepared wicket but at least the grass was cut and crease marked but that was all.

Having been given advice to bowl, if he won the toss, the C.C.N.S.W. skipper, remembering the famous Chappelli words "*never bowl first*", fortunately lost the toss therefore leaving it up to Burwood skipper to make the decision. After consulting with his team mates he chose to bat on the crappy wicket. The Burwood openers, although having trouble getting the ball off the square, did not appear to be in too much trouble against the tight opening pair of Paul Georgiadis and Peter Rolls. It was not until the 10<sup>th</sup> over, after relieving Peter that Mick McCormick bowled a corker and up rooted the patience Wright's off stump. Burwood then slumped from 0-30 in the 10<sup>th</sup> over to 5 – 56 in the 21<sup>st</sup> over. Paul Kumar, bowled an excellent line and length taking 3 for 15 off 6 tight overs. His best effort of the season. The highlight being the dismissal of the Burwood number 3 who flashed outside the off stump and was brilliantly caught by Keith Elloy keeping wicket, one hand low down to his right. (I told you – he can actually bend when required)

From 5-56, Burwood began a recovery as their fifth and seventh batsman both scored their 30\* before compulsory retirements. The next wicket did not fall until the 37<sup>th</sup> over. The partnership was based on the premise, if you run decisively in Classics cricket, there is little chance that you will be run out. And very easy to turn ones into twos if you put pressure on the fielding team. A final flurry, with a 6 off the Ajoy Roy's last ball saw Burwood reach a competitive 152. Again Paul Georgiadis proved what an excellent death bowler he is by taking 1 for 7 off his last 2 overs when they were trying to bash everything.

Ajoy Roy and Joff Johnson commenced the run chase in a circumspect manner – the first four coming off the first ball Ajoy faced which he clipped uppishly between keeper and first slip. For some strange reason the scorers decided to count the balls faced, and embarrassingly it took Joff 47 balls to get 31\* and Ajoy 61 balls to reach 30\*. In his last game Ajoy scored 30 off 16 balls, so the slow scoring, an indication of Burwood's tight opening attack compounded by the difficult wicket. But the opening pair had set the foundations for the middle order to take advantage of the lesser change bowlers. At drinks, C.C.N.S.W. were well placed at 0-65, only needing a 4.4 runs per over to achieve the target. Peter Rolls came in at No.3 and Keith at No. 4 and immediately dominated the bowling. Keith confidently raced to 30\* on the back of some well-timed heaves to midwicket and Peter ensuring Keith did not miss an opportunities for quick single and the occasional two, also compiled a well-made 30\*. After Garry Winney pushed one to be caught at midwicket, the only batsman out in the innings, Mick McCormick, came in and made a quick fire 20\* to take C.C.N.S.W. to victory.

A check of the season's statistics shows that Ajoy Roy, on the back of 4 not outs had a fine average of 81.5 for the season just behind Harry Solomons (former C.C.N.S.W. member who used to play for our Masters but now Sri Lanka Lions over 50s) who had an average of 86. Maybe we should try and entice Harry to play again for C.C.N.S.W. next year.

In regard to bowling, Paul Georgiadis took out the honours, 13 wickets at 15.23 and an excellent economy rate of 3.41.

**The Team was:** - J. Johnson (c) 31\*; Ajoy Roy 30\*; Peter Rolls 30\*; Keith Elloy (w) 30\*; Garry Winney 7\*; Mick McCormick 20\*; Dale Richards 3\*; Ian Neil dnb, Jay Patel dnb :Paul Kumar dnb and Paul Georgiadis dnb

**The Result was:** -

**Burwood C.C.:** - 8-152 (40 overs) (P. Kumar 3-15)

**Lost to**

**C.C.N.S.W.:** - 1-153 (38.3 overs) (J. Johnson 32\*, A. Roy 30\*, P. Rolls 31\*, K. Elloy 30\*, M. McCormick 20\*)

**By 9 wickets**

**The Bowling was:** - G. Winney 3-0-21-0; P. Georgiadis 6-0-20-1, P. Rolls 4-1-7-0; M. McCormick 9-2-22-1, P. Kumar 6-0-15-3; D. Richards 3-1-9-0; A. Roy 8-0-34-0 and J. Patel 1-0-10-0.

**The Fielding was:** - 1 catch K. Elloy (w)

**Player Points:** - J. Johnson 3; P. Kumar 2; M. McCormick 1

## Sydney Classics Overs 50s

### FINAL LEAGUE TABLE

RANK	TEAM	P	W 2	W 1	D	L 1	L 2	WKTS LOST	RUNS FOR	WKTS TAKEN	RUNS AGST	POINTS
1	Lindfield Lords	11	0	10	0	1	0	63	1308	90	1100	384.40
2	Sri Lanka Lions	11	0	8	1	2	0	87	1897	91	1448	360.85
3	Mandalong Lawyers	11	0	7	1	3	0	56	1380	91	1306	318.00
4	Mosman	11	0	6	3	2	0	68	1391	77	1334	310.55
5	Lindfield Larrikins	11	0	6	2	3	0	60	1296	73	1131	287.80
6	Parramatta	11	0	5	1	5	0	84	1541	78	1518	270.05
7	<b>C.C.N.S.W.</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>1445</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>1551</b>	<b>226.25</b>
8	Lindfield Lions	11	0	3	2	6	0	78	1197	68	1210	221.85
9	De La Salle	11	0	3	0	8	0	101	1369	85	1771	213.45
10	Lane Cove	11	0	3	1	7	0	75	1304	65	1413	213.20
11	Burwood Briars	11	0	2	3	6	0	79	1172	60	1246	198.60
12	Ku-ring-gai District	11	0	1	1	9	0	87	1388	57	1660	161.40