

# Wandering About

Issue 7, 2008/09

## Monners runs (his mouth)...

The season rolls on: just four weeks until finals start now, so hopefully you are all starting to hit form at the right time. Wins in 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade last weekend raised the question: does a win in each grade qualify for a **President's Keg**? El Presidente Bowman says no, it must be a win by *each team*. I say "pester power" will win the day; if you want that keg badly enough, annoy the Prez so much his quality of life will improve if he just gives in. I'm not getting involved though.

As I write this, many Wanderers will either be recovering from or continuing on a long day of sun, heat, cricket, "rehydration" and whatever else goes on at the **Prime Minister's XI** game at Manuka. By all reports this is always a good day, so hopefully today was no exception.

The Prez already Said on Wednesday, so there won't be any more from him in this edition. However, we do have updates for the umpires course, caption competition, along with reminders of Presentation Night, Ladies Day and the raffle. There might even be a match report. Check it.

Please send stuff to [matthew.sk.morrison@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.sk.morrison@gmail.com) or [josh.crase@gmail.com](mailto:josh.crase@gmail.com). It can be photos, articles, news, ... whatever. Clearly, we don't set the bar very high.

Enjoy the read,

Crazy and Monners.

## Training

Players, get down to **Duffy Oval** (Dixon Drive) on **Wednesdays** at **5:00pm** for a bat, bowl and field. Not all of us are blessed with Nick Millar's talent, so fine-tuning those skills wouldn't hurt.

Some other informal sessions have also been known to occur on other days at other locations. If you would like to have a hit or bowl but can't make it to Duffy on Wednesdays, ask around the club and you might find another session more to your liking.



**We've run out of training photos. Sorry.**

## Umpires Course

The umpires course is all set for **Wednesday 18 February** at the "bowlo" (WDHBC) from 6-9pm.

It's been great to have so many nominations from new guys to the club! If you have nominated yourself, expect to be contacted in the next week or so to confirm your attendance. We could still do with a few more from 3<sup>rd</sup> grade so if you play with the happy\* team please consider nominating yourself by sending an email to [josh.crase@gmail.com](mailto:josh.crase@gmail.com) ASAP.

Remember, once completed and observed umpiring you will gain Cricket Australia accreditation and the club is going to cover all costs involved.

\*there may be other happy teams in the club.

## Caption competition!

We've had entries! More than one! I was so surprised, but there you go. Particular mention must be made of our 1<sup>st</sup> Grade captain of seasons past, Sab Ellis, who sent in more than a dozen entries all on his own. All you have to do is create a clever or humorous caption for this photograph, starring our esteemed President at the club's Christmas party held at Pine Island...



I am on a self-imposed Facebook and Beached Whale joke ban, so to put it simply, I am out of jokes and won't be making a caption attempt. Please help me by sending a caption for the photograph to either Crazy ([josh.crase@gmail.com](mailto:josh.crase@gmail.com)) or Monners ([matthew.sk.morrison@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.sk.morrison@gmail.com)) and we will judge the best at the end of the season and present the award at the club's Presentation evening. Multiple entries encouraged!

## Selections

Communication is the key – notify [selections@wodenwandererscc.com](mailto:selections@wodenwandererscc.com) of your availability for the foreseeable future ASAP. Please keep them in the loop when circumstances change, as we're really getting to the business end of the season now.

To see where you're playing each week go to <http://www.wodenwandererscc.com/site2/pages/Selections/>.

## Presentation Night

Presentation night will be on **Saturday April 4**. Please keep this date free, as if you haven't been, it's lots of fun. Tickets will be \$40 for one or \$70 for two. Further details as well as invitations will be coming soon so watch this space.

## Ladies' Picnic – The Sequel



Wanderettes! Get your champagne drinking shoes polished and ready for action on Saturday 21 February for the second and final Ladies Travelling Picnic of the 2008/09 season. The cost is \$20 per ticket which covers champagne\*, lunch, champagne, cakes, champagne, cheeses, champagne, bus hire and did we mention - champagne. Kids and non-drinkers tickets are available for \$10/head. More information will be provided soon. For enquiries in the meantime or to book your seat early, please email Caitlin at:

[treasurer@wodenwandererscc.com](mailto:treasurer@wodenwandererscc.com).

\* may only be sparkling wine from somewhere in Australia

**Contrary to previous advice, underage drinking will NOT be tolerated – that's what Skyfire's for**

## Raffle

Hopefully everyone is flogging off their raffle tickets like crazy. If you are having any difficulty in selling them please inform Rocket or another committee member and we will distribute them to those who can. So get in there and start hassling your parents and workmates and strangers in the street.

## Contact Details

Here are the details of people you may need to contact at the club:

President	Peter J Bowman	0419 293 592	<a href="mailto:president@wodenwandererscc.com">president@wodenwandererscc.com</a>
Vice President	Michael Holdom	0423 949 392	<a href="mailto:president@wodenwandererscc.com">president@wodenwandererscc.com</a>
Secretary	Clint Fritz	0407 667 948	<a href="mailto:secretary@wodenwandererscc.com">secretary@wodenwandererscc.com</a>
Treasurer	Caitlin Hammick	0412 737 851	<a href="mailto:treasurer@wodenwandererscc.com">treasurer@wodenwandererscc.com</a>
Club Coach	Paul Bunn	0419 327 460	<a href="mailto:coach@wodenwandererscc.com">coach@wodenwandererscc.com</a>
General Committee	Paul Bunn		
	Rod Chancellor		
	Josh Crase		
	Gareth McAlister		
	Nick Millar		

## A word from our sponsors...



The **West Deakin Hellenic Bowling Club** has been the home of the Woden Wanderers Cricket Club since the 2004/2005 season. After games on Saturdays, players of all grades retire to the "Bowlo" to swap fishing tales from the day's play over a couple of beers. Every week the captains deliver a "Call of the Card", a barbecue is held and those present go into the draw for a meat tray.



**Compuware Corporation** provides software and IT services that help you maximise the value of your technology investments. They have been valued sponsors of the Woden Wanderers Cricket Club for five years. The ongoing support that Compuware provides has helped the Wanderers to their first championship, and we look forward to a long relationship that brings more success to both organisations.



**Alive Health and Fitness** has now amalgamated with Bodyworks Health Clubs to provide Wanderers members with access to six top-class facilities across Canberra. Any active Wanderers member is entitled to the Alive Health & Fitness sports club membership. This membership comes at a reduced rate of \$29 per fortnight and a reduced joining fee of \$49.50.



**5 Star Cricket** is Canberra's local specialist in cricketing equipment, providing quality equipment made for cricketers of all abilities. As specialists they are able to provide the equipment and quality advice on how to best maintain your top gear. The shopfront is located at 4/9 Townsville Street, Fyshwick.

**Kingston Butchery** provides the meat trays for the badge draws after games each Saturday. If you spend \$40 or more at the Kingston Butchery this season you will get 20% off the purchase price. We recommend any of Jody's prize-winning sausages, with his marinated roasts and steaks fantastic for any occasion.



**Weston Indoor Sports**  
45 Lizardet Street  
Weston ACT 2611  
Ph: (02) 6288 0444  
Fax: (02) 6288 4800

**Weston Indoor Sports Club** offer indoor cricket, access to a cricket bowling machine, netball, volleyball and soccer for people of all ages and all sporting levels. You'll find plenty of Wanderers at Weston Indoor Sports in teams such as the Polar Bears and the Partridge Famulee Sporting Club on Tuesday nights.

The **Civic Merry-Go-Round** is run by a new Wanderer to the club, James Penny. He has generously donated some vouchers valid for 10 free rides on the Merry-Go-Round. If you are interested in collecting one of these vouchers, whether for yourself or someone of a more appropriate age, send an email to [president@wodenwandererscc.com](mailto:president@wodenwandererscc.com).



**JP will hold your hand if your scared**

**Match reports**

1<sup>st</sup> Grade, Round 14 vs Lanka Lions

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## 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, Round 14 vs Lanka Lions at the Mint by Matthew Morrison

First Grade once again fronted up to the Mint oval, keen to arrest our mid-season form slump. We had lost six games out of our last seven, but thanks to a sensational start to the season were still well-placed in second spot on the ladder. However, if we kept losing it wouldn't stay this way for long, and with the bottom-placed teams showing some form of late, there was every chance we could miss the finals altogether. In short, today we had to pull our collective fingers out.

I should probably qualify my opening statement and say that *most* of First Grade turned up. Looking around at about 12:15 we were still a few short, and even at 12:30 Jacko, who had been selected in First Grade but probably not told he was playing, was still absent and uncontactable. Given that the Lions won the toss and made us field first, this quickly became a problem. Thankfully the message had got to Thirds, who were playing nearby, and Herschelle kindly volunteered/was sent over to initially act as a fielding replacement.

As usual, Pipes took the new ball, but with Crazy on his way back from Bettsy's wedding in Victoria, it was Fred who opened up at the other end. Both openers started off well, and in the sixth over of the innings Fred managed to get Anu, who is one of their better batsmen, to sky a leading edge high in the air. Fred camped underneath the ball, lost it in the sun and finally caught the ball falling backwards after a ricochet off his body. The very next ball (bowled by Pipes), the other opener managed to hit a cut shot straight in the air to me at mid-off, which I almost didn't think was possible. I managed to grab it despite Pipes's best efforts to distract me by shouting "Thank you!" just as I was about to snaffle it, and we had quickly taken 2 wickets with only 12 runs on the board.

Although neither Pipes nor Fred took a wicket in the rest of their opening spells, they managed to keep the run-scoring down, and the Lions were still struggling at 2/27 off 12 overs. The Chad then replaced Pipes and Starky bowled from Fred's end, but by the time it seemed the batsmen had started to get their eyes in. Starky bowled a mixture of good balls and bad balls. The bad balls were punished while the good balls often resulted in dropped chances – Starky counted four off his bowling alone, but we fielders weren't just picking on him. There were at least six or seven dropped chances over the course of the day, and all were reasonably catchable.

Starky was eventually able to remove one of the smallest players in our comp by getting him to sky a chance that Dougie caught. The Chad was keeping things quite tight at the other end. He ended up with 0/31 off his 9 overs, but would have taken a wicket if some chump didn't drop a simple catch at mid-on. I still don't know how I missed it. Despite the missed chances, we were still fairly well placed, having the Lions at 3/80 at drinks.

At the drinks break it became apparent that Dougie was not well, so Hersch took over the gloves (and in the process was officially playing First Grade for the day), and for a while we had to field with 10 players. Thankfully we were able to get *another* player from a lower grade, Tom Novak, to be our emergency fielder for the rest of the innings. Hersch and Tom Novak were game-savers for us, and their willingness to sub in at a moment's notice was much appreciated.

There is not much to write about the post-drinks session that could be considered even remotely positive, so I will be brief. The bowling was quite reasonable, with Blake and Damo bowling tight lines when they were introduced and Damo taking two wickets. Blake also took a nice catch at backward square leg to remove Gilly, who had been dropped earlier and went on to make 44. Soon after, Damo hit the stumps with a full-toss, and at 5/113 it looked like we might get away with our fielding indiscretions.

Unfortunately, we didn't. Their number 5 and number 7 batsmen started hitting out with some success, and with each dropped catch and misfield, our shoulders kept sagging and things got worse. It got to the point where we were probably *expecting* to drop catches and make misfields, and not surprisingly, we did. Pipes and Fred both came back at the end but got hit hard. Pipes finished with 1/40 off 9 and Fred 1/47 off 9.

Once the half-time siren mercifully sounded we found out we were chasing 219 for victory. It should also be noted that although the field was reasonably quick, it was a large field and a target of nearly five an over was not going to be easy. In addition, we had a batting line-up full of question marks: Dougie was unable to bat, Damo had hurt himself during the game, I hadn't played a game in 9 weeks and Tex was desperately looking for a big score to get his confidence back. In truth, Josh Lumby was our only pure batsmen free of any concerns, though I knew most of our bowlers can definitely handle the bat (and get plenty of practice in the middle, it would seem).

One of the bonuses of chasing a big total is you really have the freedom to play your shots from the first ball. It's not going to work every time but at least if it doesn't, you went down having a go. I walked out with Josh Lumby and took a "see the ball, hit the ball" approach which is new for me this year. Thankfully I managed to get a few out of the middle of the bat, and the balls that I didn't get out of the middle were safely into the gaps. Josh played his role brilliantly at the other end, particularly since we had to run quite a lot of our runs due to the large boundaries. He had just started to get going himself when he nicked an attempted cut shot to the keeper. Still, we had the good start we needed at 1/57 after 8 overs.

Damo was next in, and given his injury he had made a good effort just to get out to the middle. Unfortunately he didn't last long, being given out leg before wicket for 2. Tex came to the crease and started off very carefully, leaving a lot of balls outside the off-stump. Given some encouragement, the shots slowly but surely started to come. The Lions were missing a couple of their better bowlers today, and interestingly they had opted to almost completely bowl out their top three bowlers before introducing any other change bowlers. We managed to get to drinks without losing another wicket, and given they used up almost all of their overs from their front-line bowlers, we were well-placed at 2/116, needing 103 off the final 22 overs for victory.

Tex and I continued chipping away at the total after drinks. Tex kept claiming between overs that "I don't think I can run twos any more," to which I would typically respond "OK, that's no worries" before calling him through for a couple of twos in the following over. To his credit he really dug deep physically and came through.

At drinks I had set myself to be there at the end, so I was disappointed with myself to get out (lbw, 86) when we were still nearly 70 runs short. I could only hope that Tex would be able to combine with whoever was left to polish off the runs required. Thankfully Blake, who has been in some great form with the bat lately, came in to replace me, and played some excellent shots. He and Tex really pushed the tempo and made sure that the run rate would not be an issue. In the meantime, Tex had made his first 50 in 1<sup>st</sup> Grade for the Wanderers, and was looking more and more like the Tex of old as the innings went on. By the time Blake nicked a cut shot through to the keeper, we only needed 14 off the last 7 overs. Pipey and Tex got the required runs without incident, and we were very happy to have chased down a fairly large target for once. Tex ended up with 80 not out, and really didn't give much in the way of chances apart from a nick to the keeper (who was standing up to the stumps, so he wasn't going to catch it anyway).

Hopefully this win turns our momentum around as we push through to the finals series. Clearly there is plenty of room for improvement in the field, though in truth it's just as much about keeping our spirits up when things don't go our way as it is the mechanics of catching, fielding and throwing. We will be looking to keep the caravan rolling (yes, we have a caravan) against Harman at the Mint next week.