

# Wandering About

Issue 10, 2008/09

## Monners runs (his mouth)...

The last week of the home-and-away season is *finally* here. That means players in 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grades will be doing some fine-tuning in preparation for a tilt at the flag, while the 6<sup>th</sup> Graders get one more shot to hit that 50 (or 20, or 1, whatever your target) or take a bag of wickets before putting the whites and the bag of gear in a cool, dry place for a few months. It also means you might see a menacing group of loudmouths turn up in a bus at your game. Don't worry though, it's just the **Ladies Travelling Picnic** (aka "Lady to Ladette") and they're on our side!

Thanks to those who attended the umpiring course held at the Bowlo on Wednesday night. Hopefully you took something valuable out of the evening, and don't forget you'll need to get someone to do your checklist while you umpire in a game in the coming weeks. If you're in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, just get two umpiring stints in this weekend and you'll be fine. Also, don't be afraid to volunteer your newfound knowledge in the coming weeks to those who didn't attend the course. Knowledge is power, especially when you are umpiring your own games. For example, did you know that the "two legs" guard a batsman takes is generally understood to be half way between middle and leg stump? If someone asks you for that in a game you might want to confirm with them to see exactly what they are after.

There are couple of pictures from the Super Eights tournament on the weekend and a couple of match reports from last week's games, but this week's edition is much shorter than last week. If you normally use this as an aversion to work on Friday morning I apologise. You might have to read it twice, or go to news.com.au and read all 154 inane "comments" on the latest article on the Angelina Jolie-obsessed mum of octuplets.

Don't forget if you've got something to say, send it to [matthew.sk.morrison@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.sk.morrison@gmail.com) or [josh.crase@gmail.com](mailto:josh.crase@gmail.com).

You stay classy San Diego. I'm Ron Burgundy?

Crazy and Monners.

PS The "Ground Conditions" listed in the scorecards this week were "sparkling", "green", "nice" and "under construction". These were pretty good efforts, but I'm throwing out the challenge to see if we can top that this week.

## Training

With only a few weeks to go, you're probably either going to come down or not, but **Duffy Oval** (Dixon Drive) is the place to be on **Wednesdays at 5:00pm** if you want to hone your cricket skills. It's amazing what a difference a mid-week hitout makes on the weekend, even if you don't feel like you didn't actually bat that well during training.

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.



**Duffy nets – the place where champions are born**

## Selections

If you're likely to play in a 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade team in the coming weeks, make sure you have notified [selections@wodenwandererscc.com](mailto:selections@wodenwandererscc.com) of your availability. If circumstances change, please also contact this address as soon as possible. Don't forget that your availability affects not only your team, but teams in every grade below you, and the onus is on you to notify the right people. We're getting to the business end now so it's critical that all teams start their games with 11 players.

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. (We've been saying that for a while; I promise an update is coming soon.)

## Raffle

The raffle prize draw is on February 28<sup>th</sup> (one week away)! Please get your tickets to Rocket (Rod Chancellor) ASAP. 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.

## Super 8s

16 Wanderers backed up after their games on Saturday by travelling to Kaleen on Sunday to play in the Super Eights tournament in Kaleen. Neither of the two sides made the finals, but by all accounts a great time was had by all.



The two teams together...



... and what happens when you bowl short and at Jeremy Friend's body

## 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>
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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 you're scared**

### Match reports

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## 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, Round 17 vs Barton at O'Connor by Matthew Morrison

After winning our previous three games, First Grade headed to O'Connor to play Barton in a match that would have finals implications for both teams. The forecast was for a few showers, but it would be a much cooler day than last Saturday. Starky returned after being in-and-out with his groin injury, while Pete West got the opportunity to make his First Grade debut after JP pulled out late. Barton's captain, Jason Booth, organised for the teams to reflect for a moment on the events of the previous week in Victoria. It had the potential to be one of those awkward over-the-top BS moments but it wasn't overdone and put some perspective, if any was needed, into the silly game we play each weekend.

Sab won the toss and we batted, so once again I got to head out with Josh Lumby to start the game. Barton opened the bowling with a pace-and-rubbish combination: "Kochy" was bowling quite well at one end, bowling with decent pace and getting the ball to outswing, while a guy by the name of Merlyn at the other end was bowling at half the speed of smell. Somehow, this combination worked, as both Josh and I were back in the pavilion courtesy of Kochy by the end of the fifth over. Josh got a nice delivery that took the top of off stump, and I hooked one high off the bat which ballooned straight to short fine leg. This left us at 2/24.

Sab and Damo were the next pair in, and by the time I had taken the pads off Damo had smacked a couple of boundaries. I assume he smacked them anyway; I didn't see them, so for all I know they could have both been edged through the slips. Soon after that he played a beautiful leg glance, getting the ball so fine that it went straight to the keeper. For all of that mastery, he joined us in the sheds and we were looking a little shaky at 3/40.

Pete West joined Sab, and took a while to get going, starting off looking a little nervous. At the other end Sab was looking very solid. He built his innings by initially working the ball around for ones and twos before hitting the bad balls for four. It's all pretty commonsensical but it's not something seen frequently in this competition. Eventually Pete decided his eye was in and opened up, frustrating the opposition through his "slog" (which was just a good pull shot) and a couple of nice drives back over the bowler's head. Just as the partnership was looking good, Sab tried to run a ball outside off stump to third man, only to get an edge straight to the keeper. He made a very solid 42, but looked annoyed to get out just an over or two before drinks. Still, Sam and Pete survived until drinks and we were in position to post a solid total at 4/99.

Unfortunately for Westy, he didn't improve much on his total after drinks. Barton had brought on Mick Malthouse, or at least someone who looks just like him, to bowl his medium pacers and probably spit the dummy about how much the media blows everything out of proportion. He trapped Westy in front for 25, which was a nice dig on debut, and it was a shame to see him go just as he started looking comfortable.

Sam and Pipey then started knocking the ball around and pushing the runs hard for a few overs, but Sam's eyes lit up at one delivery which he tried to swing over the mid-on. The fact that the ball was on a good length on middle stump was a slight problem, but worst of all he missed it and was bowled for 10. Pipey also played some nice shots and got to 20 before getting a nice ball from Brad Morgan, which rearranged his stumps.

Although this left us at 7/136, we still had 13 overs left and had hope for a score of 180 or so if things went well. Blake has had a good run with the bat lately and our 9, 10 and 11 all take their batting very seriously and are keen to show they can bat. In truth, they can still make that argument as no bowlers took any wickets for the rest of the innings. Normally that would be considered good news, but on this occasion there were three run-outs, which wrapped up the innings quite nicely! Blake was the first of the run-out victims, dismissed attempting a third run after jogging the second and not realising until too late that Crazy was

coming back. The second casualty was Starky, who scampered down the pitch after Crazy hit a ball straight to point, and was probably unlucky in that the fielder actually hit the stumps directly which gave him no chance. Having had a good vantage point on a couple of these run-outs, Crazy thought he'd have a go at one himself. After flicking a ball (nicely) to fine leg for two, Crazy looked up and took a step down the pitch, thinking The Chad was coming back for a third. By the time Crazy realised that he wasn't, the bails had been flicked off and our innings was over with 154 on the board.

It wasn't a great total, particularly given the sensational surface on which we were playing and the smallish size of the ground. Still, we've defended less than that before, so the attitude heading out to the field was good. Le Chad opened the bowling with "Taser" (Pipey) and neither gave much away. Chadley got the first breakthrough in his second over, trapping one of their openers in front. In the next over, Pipey got their other opener to chop one onto the stumps and at 2/18 we had made a good start. Both bowlers looked chances to take more wickets, with their next two batsmen giving some half-chances that flew just wide or over fielders. Eventually, though, the batsmen dug in and started playing some good shots, particularly off the back foot through the off side.

The Chad and Pipey were replaced by Crazy and Starky respectively, and together they put the clamps on the developing partnership. Combined, they had figures of 0/9 off their first 5.3 overs, which became 1/9 off 5.4 as the pressure finally became too much. One of the batsmen hit a ball from Starky pretty hard straight to Westy, who was fielding at mid-off, and he casually snaffled it. Both bowlers attacked the stumps and got rewarded with a burst of wickets a few overs later. At one end, Crazy splattered the stumps before Starky took over, bowling one batsman and getting another to smack one to the left of Sab, who took a nice catch at "stupid" mid-off. Before you could say "Colliwobbles", Barton's middle order and come and gone, and at drinks they were 6/73.

A couple of overs after drinks, Starky got his fourth wicket, bowled. Crazy and Starky had both bowled their 9 overs straight and in partnership; Crazy finished with 1/25 while Starky took 4/32. Another way to look at that is they took 5/57 off 18 overs together. Nice. I'm sure Starky would rather look at his stats on their own though. With only three wickets to get, we were keen to run through the tail and send Barton back to wherever they come from. It didn't end up being that easy though, as their number 8 and 9 batsmen put on a partnership that turned the game. There were plenty of cuts and drives, and one six over fine leg off a full-toss. The effort was clearly there from the bowlers and the fielders, but some tough chances were put down that really hurt in the end. Pipey was re-introduced, but couldn't get the breakthrough, finishing with 1/35 off his 8.

Sam was brought on to bowl his medium pacers that are quicker than you think. He didn't give away too many runs, and in his fifth over got the wicket we needed via an lbw decision that almost nobody appealed for! Unfortunately by then, we were up against the odds, with only 13 runs required for victory. Blake replaced Pipey and bowled very tightly, which can be tough for a spinner to do in a pressure situation. He didn't get a wicket but didn't give up many runs either. With just one run to win the entire field was brought in and Sam got another wicket, clipping the top of middle with a ball the batsmen left for no apparent reason. Merlyn joined us at the crease and managed to fend off the last ball, and in the next over they got the run they were after to sneak home by one wicket. Sam ended up with 2/18 off 7 overs and Blake took 0/11 off 4.5. The Chad didn't get used after his opening spell and ended up with 1/20 off his 5 overs.

At the risk of sounding bitter, Barton are supposedly our arch-rivals, but in truth they are a shadow of their former selves. We have a lot of room to improve on this performance, and if we play Barton again I am confident we will beat them comfortably if we do things right. Next week we play Workers at the Mint. Barring a miracle we'll end up third regardless of the outcome of this game, but it would be good to win and send a message that we're not just going to make up the numbers in the finals.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Grade, Round 17 VS Cook XI at Hughes by Aaron Thorne.**

We rolled up to our home away from home (Hughes), knowing a win against Cook XI would sew up a guaranteed top two spot. The selection roundabout meant that Spencey and Cupcake were in 3's this week. We welcomed back Greg, Vijay and myself (yes Spencey, it had cooled down enough for me to play).

The team prepared to field, knowing Adz (Mr 3 – 12) had no chance of winning the toss. Sure enough, Mr 3 – 13 came back announcing he'd lost the toss and we were fielding. Zoom Zoom and Vijay opened the bowling and Vijay soon sent their dangerous opener back without scoring, caught at mid off by Phil. 2 overs later he repeated the dose, enticing an edge to 1st slip (Skipper's note: What a catch, what a catch...Az soared like an eagle). Sundar was bowling without luck at the other end, until he managed to take the 3rd wicket, caught behind.

The captain then called for a double change, with Scurge and Hilly coming on. Scurge was looking to repeat last week's heroics. However, although a number of balls were unplayable, he was unable to break through. At the other end, the batsmen decided Hilly was the bowler they were going to score their runs against. Unfortunately (for them), Hilly was bowling some nice outswingers, and proceeded to take the next 3 wickets. Meanwhile, Scurge finally managed to get one of his own and we went to drinks with the skipper happy, Cook XI, 7/53.

By this time I'd managed to convince Adz that I could clean up the tail. Unfortunately, the tail enjoyed the tripe I dished up and they threatened to get away from us, with 3 dropped catches in as many overs after drinks. Finally, Sundar took a good running catch to help me make the breakthrough. Hilly quickly got the other slogger out, taking his 4th wicket. The captain wisely dragged me and brought Vijay back on, who finished things off quickly. Cook XI all out for 93. Bowling figures were Hilly 4/43, Vijay 3/9, Sundar 1/12, Scurge 1/10 and I took 1/18. PM bagged 3 catches behind the stumps.

Adz and I went out to open in the absence of Spencey, and given his "I don't face the 1st ball" policy, I thought this was the perfect opportunity to convince the skipper to do the honours. I walked up to Adz, but was beaten to the punch. Given the last time I managed to convince someone to face first ball they got the ball of the season (sorry Rocket), I relented.

After a bit of a shaky start (I think both of us got off the mark with an edge through slips), Adz and I went along fairly smoothly, going at 5 to 6 runs an over. Adz hit a massive hook shot for six, and a couple of overs later I managed to slog one for six too. Sitting back at the non-strikers end admiring my handiwork, Scurge whispered as he was umpiring "Adam's went further". Thanks Scurge!

With his score on 28, Adz hit a cut shot straight to point and we'd lost our first wicket at 52. Greg came to the crease and together we managed to navigate our way through without losing another wicket. I was 50 not out, with Greg unbeaten on 10.

It was a great win to the good guys, especially chasing a score down so easily, given the skipper's record with the toss, and one that sees us assured of a top two spot.