



Sydney Shires Cricket Umpires Association

9th Annual Report

Season 2009 – 10



HONOUR ROLL 2009 – 2010 SEASON

**1st Grade Grand Final – Tantallon Oval
South Sydney 134 & 2-77 bt Strathfield 126 & 4 dec 113**

Umpires – Peter Mooney / Chris Taylor

**2nd Grade Grand Final – Alan Davidson Oval
Auburn 8-176 drew with Burwood 8 dec 292
(Auburn Premiers)**

Umpires – Stephen Blomfield / Brett Tribolet

**3rd Grade Grand Final – Blacktown Olympic Park 2
Auburn 286 bt Nth West Sydney 135**

Umpires – Brian Breakspear / Geoff Wheeler

**4th Grade Grand Final – Mona Park # 1 (George Parry Oval)
Nth West Sydney 9-223 bt Macquarie Uni 174**

Umpires – Jim Shellens / Mike Wheeler

**Frank Gray Grand Final – Alan Davidson Oval
Strathfield 5-157 bt Macquarie Uni 154**

Umpires – Peter Friend / Chris Taylor

OFFICE BEARERS OF THE SSCUA

As at June 2010

PRESIDENT

July 2001 – July 2003	Peter Turner
July 2003 – July 2004	Bruce Parfett
July 2004 - July 2005	John Moore
July 2005 - July 2008	George Richards
July 2008 -	Peter Friend

SECRETARY

July 2001 -	Stephen Blomfield
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TREASURER

July 2001 -	Gordon Smith
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2009- 2010 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



From Left To Right – Stephen Blomfield , Mark Hughes , Gordon Smith ,
Peter Friend , Jim Shellens , Trevor Schokman , (Absent) John Moore

THE HISTORY OF OUR ASSOCIATION

Each person's name who has joined this Association and their respective membership number appears in the below table. Any name displaying an asterix are persons who have allowed their membership to lapse , have resigned or are deceased

Member	Name	Member	Name	Member	Name
1	Turner , Peter *	51	Green , Alan *	101	Smellie , Patrick
2	Beesley , Graham *	52	Harrison, Spencer	102	Moody, Andrew *
3	Blomfield , Stephen	53	Knowles , Warren *	103	Tunks, Greg
4	Carroll , Phil	54	McKinnon , Jeff	104	Parker, Trevor
5	Donnellan , Tom *	55	Mulligan , Luke *	105	Hood, Philip *
6	Friend , Peter	56	Murphy , Steve	106	Jason Dowling *
7	Guha , Ronnie *	57	Osseweyer , Brett *	107	John Harvey
8	Hanshaw , Glen	58	Ridge , Owen *	108	Apter, Jamie *
9	Haviland , Chris *	59	Schokman , Trevor	109	Alliston, Bill
10	Hickey , Dave *	60	Scott , Wesley *	110	Ward, Malcom
11	Holland , Ivan	61	Tasker , Peter	111	Clift, Paul
12	Jayaweera , Jay *	62	Taylor , Chris	112	Rowsell , Adam
13	Jegathesan, Jeriam *	63	Bird , Tony *	113	Yousef, Salman
14	Kearney , Chris *	64	Bowman , Ian	114	McLean, Scott
15	Keierleber , David *	65	Brady , Steve *	115	Wheeler, Geoff
16	Luckman , Terry *	66	Hammond , Brett *	116	Wheeler, Mike
17	MacGillivray , Bruce	67	Hinks , Andrew *	117	Williams, Chris
18	Owen , Alan *	68	Roche , Glenn *	118	Breakspear, Brian
19	Parfett , Bruce	69	Thomson , Ian	119	Khale, Shailesh
20	Pepper , Glenn *	70	Tribolet , Brett	120	Whyte, Craig *
21	Quaken , Keith *	71	Bharadwaj , Vijay *	121	Deacon, Lachlan
22	Rajogopalan,Ragoo *	72	Cocks , Graeme *	122	Campbell, Malcolm
23	Ralston , Tim *	73	Dobbin , Patrick	123	Smith, Cameron *
24	Roberts , Michael	74	Hasty , Jon *	124	Calvert, Scott
25	Sammy , Rajan *	75	Luke , William *	125	Arora, Sunil
26	Shiner , Tom *	76	Maloney , Rob	126	Robertson, Bob
27	Smith , Gordon	77	Marquet, John *	127	Raghavendra, Venkat
28	Starks , Steve	78	Narayanan , Vishy *	128	Lardner, Craig
29	Taylor , Geoff	79	Pardy , Bill *	129	Madan, Ajit
30	Thorpe , Ken *	80	Ponsford , Derek	130	Cordner, Geoff
31	Wentzel , Karl *	81	Street , Gary *	131	Shield, Bob
32	Yeend , Stuart *	82	Hughes , Mark	132	Wood, Stuart
33	Buckland , Ken	83	Mathews , Rupert	133	Ramakrishnan, Keeran
34	DeSilva , Kapila *	84	Ritchie , Matt	134	Napper, Peter *
35	Dhandapani,Khadhir *	85	Jones , Colin *	135	Rees, Martin *
36	Gale , Andrew *	86	Romeo , Joe *	136	Paxton, Homer
37	Gandevia , Robin	87	Superina , Dean *	137	Davies, Adam
38	Goodman , David	88	Parker , Graham *	138	Davies, Reece
39	Iyer , Malli	89	Mooney , Peter	139	Hamilton, Ian
40	Johnston , Patrick *	90	Chambiras , Paul *	140	McAndrew, Bob
41	Moore , John	91	Coleman , Paul *	141	George, Cherian
42	Richards , George	92	Treloar , Ben *	142	Baxter, Brett
43	Rush , Gary *	93	Gupte , Vinayak	143	Conway, Michael
44	Rutherford , Neil *	94	Kingsford-Smith, Tony	144	Singham, Mano
45	Shellens , Jim	95	Nyers , Peter *	145	Clements, Stephen
46	Whitehouse , Bruce	96	Charlesworth, Adrian		
47	Younan , Daniel *	97	Goodger , Darren		
48	Byrne , Laurie	98	Watson, Arthur		
49	Christen , Richard	99	Campbell, Neil		
50	Garlick , Peter	100	Stiller , Wesley		

The Peter Turner Umpire of the Year Award

2001 – 2002	Bruce Parfett
2002 – 2003	Bruce Parfett
2003 – 2004	John Moore
2004 – 2005	Stephen Blomfield
2005 – 2006	Chris Taylor
2006 – 2007	Chris Taylor
2007 – 2008	Bruce Whitehouse
2008 – 2009	Chris Taylor
2009 – 2010	Peter Mooney

Peter Mooney is the winner of the 2009/10 season Shires Umpire of the Year. Peter participating in his fourth season as a member of the SSCUA had an excellent season which culminated in his first ever appointment to the First Grade Grand Final where he stood with Chris Taylor who was last season's winner of this award (see below picture). After umpiring 321 matches to date in Sydney Cricket Association fixtures, both the appointment to the First Grade Grand Final and being the winner of this award are considered due reward for Peter's long and outstanding contribution not only to our Association, but also our parent body NSWCU&SA



**Chris Taylor (Left) receives the Peter Turner Umpire of the Year Award
for the previous season - 2008/09**

Presented by Shires Competition Sub Committee Chairman, Stirling Hamman

This report is produced & printed prior to the annual general meeting where the umpire of the year award is presented.
This report each year therefore displays the picture of the winner from the previous season rather than the season just completed

Most Improved Umpire Of The Year Award

2004 – 2005	Geoff Taylor
2005 – 2006	Chris Kearney
2006 – 2007	Trevor Schokman
2007 – 2008	Richard Christen
2008 – 2009	David Goodman
2009 – 2010	Greg Tunks

Greg Tunks is the winner of the of the 2009/10 season Most Improved Umpire of the Year Award. Greg participating in his third season as a member of the SSCUA (but only his second full season as a member) had a very solid season attracting a number of positive feedback comments from captains in matches he umpired. Greg was one of the more reliable members of the Association in regards to his availability seeing him stand in every single preliminary round during the season. His “happy to help out wherever I’m needed” attitude was appreciated by the Appointments Officer and although only relatively new to umpiring with a total of 33 career matches, he was also very happy to help out standing with umpires with less experience than he. Greg’s continued improvement was rewarded with appointments to First Grade matches on two occasions during the season. Well done to Greg on being a worthy winner of the Most Improved Umpire Award for season 2009/10



David Goodman (Left) receives the Most Improved Umpire of the Year Award for season 2008/09 from President Peter Friend

This report is produced & printed prior to the annual general meeting where the most improved umpire of the year award is presented. This report each year therefore displays the picture of the winner from the previous season rather than the season just completed

Rookie Umpire Of The Year Award

In March 2010 our Vice President, Jim Shellens, floated the idea with others on the committee regarding a “rookie of the year” award. The idea was to acknowledge the best performed first year member during each season in a similar fashion to that currently in place for the Umpire of the Year award, as well as the Most Improved Umpire of the Year award.

Shortly after this, the executive committee discussed the idea at its end of season wrap up meeting. The committee felt it was an excellent idea, that had a lot of merit, and as a result, voted to immediately implement this award into each season’s activities.

The committee also felt that this was an award that we could begin from the season just completed.

The committee also discussed a number of potential problems that could exist particularly in relation to first year members who joined our Association in the middle of the playing season. As a result a criteria for this award was drafted, the main points of the criteria being –

1. The Rookie of the Year is awarded to the best performed first year member, in his first full season. The definition of a full season is defined further in item 3 below. The Executive Committee may at its absolute discretion choose to rule any first year member who has previous umpiring experience in any other Sydney Cricket Association or Local District Association Competition ineligible to win this award

2. The winner must have umpired a minimum of 8 matches during the season

*3. Any first year member who joins the Association after December 1 of the playing season is unlikely to be appointed to sufficient matches to be eligible for this award. In this case the Executive Committee of the Association may at its absolute discretion allow any such first year member to be considered for this award in the following season, which would represent that members first **full** season as a member of the Association.*

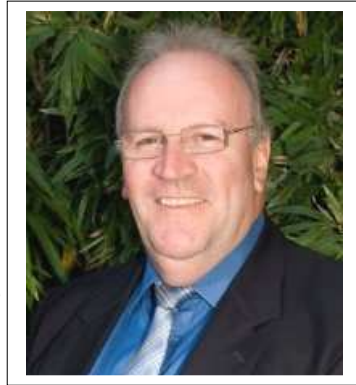
This Years Winner

Scott Calvert is the winner of the inaugural 2009/10 season Rookie Umpire of the Year.

Scott umpired a total of 13 matches during the season, ten Saturday Shires and three in the Frank Gray Shield. After the completion of his first six matches in Second & Third Grades he received a promotion to First Grade where he umpired three matches in that grade as well as further match in Second Grade before a broken toe put an end to his season after the completion of Round 10. Scott an ex First Grade player in the 1990’s with Mosman Cricket Club in Sydney Grade Cricket showed an excellent understanding of umpiring and impressed his peers as well as the players and captains. We look forward to seeing Scott spend a whole season in Shires First Grade during 2010/11.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER **NSW CRICKET UMPIRES & SCORERS ASSOCIATION**

By Darrell Hair
Executive Officer, NSWCU&SA
(2008 – Current)



Season 2009/10 was yet another season of progressive change for umpiring. Our membership numbers over the past two years have now increased by 8.8% and 5.9% respectively. Availability for the SCA Grade Panels was high and enabled us to provide a full appointment sheet for each and every match of the 15 rounds of grade cricket. In addition, we had full availability for Green Shield, Poidevin Gray Shield and the First Grade Limited overs and Twenty20 competitions.

We were able, at regular intervals provide an overflow of umpires for appointment to the Sydney Shires Competition. Most umpires took up the opportunities but unfortunately some did not which is puzzling given that the chance to umpire on wonderful grounds with good facilities is a godsend from an officiating point of view.

However, on the strong platform of recruitment and development provided by Education and Development Manager Darren Goodger, I am able to look forward with confidence that our Association will continue to grow and that our service to Affiliated bodies can grow proportionately.

The continuing evolution of Twenty/20 cricket has brought home the fact that the game is not only moving fast but there is a vital need for us as umpires to keep pace. The success of the SCA Twenty/20 competition that saw the finals all played at the new Blacktown Olympic Park facility on Australia Day with the exciting final under lights was another reminder that we are in an ever changing world.

The Sydney Shires Cricket Umpires Association continues to recruit and provide umpires appointed into grade 4 matches – the goal of a “full book” of every match being covered is not far off.

We are harnessing the enormous expertise within our Associations – training, recruitment, development, retention, mentoring and coaching being at the forefront of our priorities. Every umpire has something to contribute in mentoring and coaching whether it is during or after matches or at other social gatherings. We very much value our members who whilst they may not be as swift of foot or keen of ear anymore, they have a vital role to play - a resource we cannot afford to lose.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

NSW CRICKET UMPIRES & SCORERS ASSOCIATION

On the training and education front, we are once again gratified by the record numbers of people interested in undertaking the Laws Education Courses.

We continue to witness the interchange of umpires across from Shire to Grade and from Grade to Shires. We encourage Shires umpires who may wish to test themselves under more challenging match conditions to make themselves available for appointment to SCA Grade matches throughout the coming season.

Changes have been made to the administration of the NSWCUSA this year. Royce McCormack has finished up with us in July 2009 and Troy Penman began in the role as Administration Officer in September 2009. Troy has streamlined a lot of our processes regarding umpire payments, captains reports on performances and other general day to day operations of the Association.

Darren Goodger has excelled on his work from last year and put 217 potential umpires through courses. A pass rate of 71% has seen 154 of those attempting the course achieve a pass. Of those passing the examination 141 took the next step and joined our Association. My gratitude and thanks to Darren for his non stop efforts on behalf of our Association.

We, as an Association have a commitment to ensure all of our affiliates receive the benefits of our progress and we look forward to supporting the Sydney Shires Cricket Umpires Association in celebrating their 10th anniversary in season 2010.

With best wishes

Darrell Hair, Executive Officer

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

SYDNEY SHIRES COMPETITION SUB COMMITTEE

By Stirling Hamman
Sub Committee Chairman
(2003 – Current)



It has certainly been a memorable season in the history of your Association. For the first time since its inception your Association regularly provided umpires into 4th grade. This was an enormous breakthrough in the presentation & effectiveness of Shires Cricket and it was very much appreciated by everyone in the Shires community. All that remains is the permanent coverage of your members umpiring 4th grade next season and then we can truly say Shires is a complete cricket competition.

I appreciate all of the hard work over recent years by your members and especially by your executive which has culminated in this achievement. It has not been easy. There have been considerable difficulties by way of lack of finance and recruitment results along this long road and at times it seemed that this aim would not eventuate. However the persistence of your committee and the support from Darrell Hair and his team at Cricket NSW has accomplished this result which is vital to our cricketing success. I congratulate all those concerned in achieving this target.

However as with all aspects of our great Shire's Cricket competition there remain significant challenges ahead for your Association. We do not wish these new umpire numbers to be unduly cyclical. Now that you have the requisite numbers, the trick is to retain them as well as increasing their skill levels in game management and technical proficiency. All of this set in the context of enjoying themselves every weekend. These issues have their own difficulties especially due to the increased personnel and varying cricket experience within your ranks. Leadership is the key and in this regard I am confident your executive will have the suitable planning and execution in place.

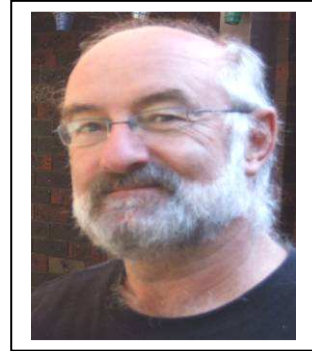
I am still concerned about player behaviour in Shires cricket. One of your members recently stated that the player behaviour was worse in Shires than in Grade. Poor player behaviour will drive your new and existing members away from the game and we will regress to the bad old days of player umpires. If that be true the Clubs and their players have a lot of work to do in changing their attitude and thereby the culture towards their fellow cricketer and particularly the umpires. This process will take time and the strong resolve of Club Officials. On the initiative front I would still like to see the introduction of a yellow card system even if it was for a trial period to gauge its effectiveness. The Sub committee would welcome your other ideas in combating this problem.

In conclusion I thank all of your umpires in officiating every weekend throughout the cricket season, rain hail or shine. We know that sometimes it can be a very difficult task especially on long hot and/or boring days. Nevertheless your members stuck to the task and performed to a very high standard. I commend all of your award winners and those who were awarded a finals berth. I look forward to seeing you all on the field in 2010/11

Stirling Hamman
Chairman , Sydney Shires Cricket Competition Sub Committee.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2009 – 2010

**By Peter Friend,
Association President
(July 2008 – Current)**



I want to start this report by expressing my most sincere thanks to all of the members who worked so hard on and off the field to make this our ninth season, another highly successful one of Shires Cricket Umpiring

The success of our recruiting enabled us to continue to add to our strength and cover more matches than ever before as you will see in more detail in the Secretary's report.

This growth is greatly appreciated by all of the players, some of whom have never seen official umpires at their grade before. Much of the thanks for this go to Stephen Blomfield, and especially to Darren Goodger and the NSW Cricket Umpires and Scorers Association who provided high quality training courses throughout the year. Extra special thanks to Darren who also put on an additional course in November that was aimed solely at gaining new members for this Association. This course ended up yielding an additional 6 members for us who all took to the field from either the first or second game after the Christmas break.

From early indications we can look forward to further success in recruitment of umpires for our tenth anniversary season in 2010/11.

Many thanks must also to the members of the Executive Committee of Trevor Schokman, Jim Shellens, John Moore and Mark Hughes for their work this year.

We overcame last year's issues with Captain's reports by designing a more effective on-line report sheet that did the job we needed it to do, that is to give us a better understanding of each of our members skills and any shortcomings so that we could work with them to help improve the standard of umpiring.

Our Secretary, Stephen is worthy of much gratitude and admiration, his workload increases with every new member and yet the quality and quantity of his communication never flags.

Our Treasurer, Gordon Smith deserves great thanks for keeping control of the finances so that we are in a strong position to be able to finance continual improvements for the benefit of our members. Due to his skills we are able to make a significant number of decisions regarding rewards for members in our 10th year. Gordon has decided not to continue in this role for the future and we all thank him for his wise guidance and stewardship from day one of the Association.

This year also saw the final involvement with us of George Richards in an on field capacity. George had helped up out as a mentor and assessor this year but his knees finally gave up the ghost. Many thanks for your years of leadership and guidance, George especially in securing the government grants that enabled us to have test match quality light meters at many of the games.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2009 – 2010

We also were most grateful for the hospitality shown by Shailesh Khale when he hosted our December meeting at his restaurant in Rockdale. Many of our members re-visited Shailesh and returned the favour by putting some of our own money into his bank account with a delightful social dinner. We can only recommend this as a great place to enjoy good Northern Indian food.

Thanks also go to the members of the Shires Competition Sub-Committee of the Sydney Cricket Association for their ongoing support and to the staff at Cricket NSW for their assistance during the season.

Congratulations to all of our members who have been recognised for outstanding performances; to Peter Mooney as Umpire of the Year, breaking Chris Taylor's stranglehold on the title, and to Greg Tunks as the Most Improved Umpire.

A special mention too must go to Peter Turner who was the first President of this Association. Peter after a long playing career with the Roseville and then Lindfield Shire Cricket Clubs, came into umpiring and was one of the driving forces behind the setting up of this Association. At the Shires Premiers dinner on May 14, 2010 Peter was inducted into the "Legends Of Shires Cricket". A great reward for his service to the game both as a player but also the part he played for this Association

This year's Umpires convention will be held at the new Blacktown complex on the last weekend of August. I feel it is very important that in our 10th anniversary we show a message of support for NSWCU&SA with as many active members attending the convention this year since it's in a central Sydney location rather than in the country. Please mark the date in your diaries and plan to start the season with a strong commitment to our parent body that has shown us so much assistance especially with recruitment over the past years. As a group we may plan a night out somewhere in Blacktown on the Saturday night

This year also saw our loss of our old meeting place at the Redfern RSL; we are still investigating potential locations for our 'next home' but the Technology Hotel at Redfern was a pretty good start.

In closing I wish you all an enjoyable off-season and strongly encourage you all to attend our Annual General Meeting on July 14. I look forward to everybody's involvement next season to celebrate a highly successful 10 years of service to the Shires Competition. There will be plenty of new and exciting things to do during season 2010/11. I hope you all want to get involved just that little bit more.

Peter Friend

Association President

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS IN PICTURES

**Right
9 December 2009**

**The December meeting
at Mandap Restaurant
was a huge success.**

**Left Side
(top to bottom) –
Patrick Smellie , Sunny
Arora and Bob Shield**

**Right Side
(top to bottom) –
Geoff Wheeler,
Mike Wheeler and
Ajit Madan**



Left

**Our Host for the
evening was
SSCUA member,
Shailesh Khale**

**Left Side
(top to bottom) –
Peter Mooney,
Spencer Harrison &
Mark Hughes**

**Right Side
(top to bottom) –
Ivan Holland,
Chris Taylor &
Arthur Watson**



SEASON HIGHLIGHTS IN PICTURES

**Right
9 December 2009**

George Richards (Left) accepts a special presentation from Shires competition sub committee chairman, Stirling Hamman at the members meeting on 9 December.

The award was in recognition of George's final match before retiring from on field umpiring



Left - 15 May 2009

Peter Friend (Left) & Stephen Blomfield accept the umpire of the year award on behalf of Chris Taylor at the annual SCA Shires Premiers dinner

Left -

On 9 January 2010 Bruce MacGillivray (Left) was paired with his son Alan who normally umpires in grade cricket.

Here they walk onto Pennant Hills Oval for the start of play



SEASON HIGHLIGHTS IN PICTURES

**Right
23 January 2010**

**Spencer Harrison (L) and
Neil Campbell (R) umpired the 3rd
Grade match at Mike Pawley Oval
Warringah v Southern Districts**



Left - 16 January 2010

**Jeff McKinnon (L)
and Brett Baxter (R) were
two new members that
joined us from Round 8.
Here Jeff & Brett are at
North Epping Oval for the
3rd Grade Match
Epping v Nth West Sydney**

**Right
23 January 2010
Pennant Hills Oval**

**Jim Shellens waving to
somebody in the crowd**

**First Grade
Pennant Hills v Lindfield**



SECRETARY'S REPORT 2009 – 2010

By Stephen Blomfield,
Honorary Secretary
(July 2001 – Current)



It is with a great deal of pleasure I present this my Ninth Secretary's Report for this, the Sydney Shires Cricket Umpires Association – Season 2009/2010.

If you base the success of a season purely on the number of matches we were able to allocate umpires to, then season 2009/10 has to be rated as our best ever season to date. This time last season, in my previous report, I mentioned how delighted I was to see us in a position to allocate umpires to some Third Grade fixtures. To be honest, I thought we had reached a point where we had done our best, leaving little to no further room for improvement this season. I spoke last season about the fact that we had managed to supply umpires to 68.35% of all days of play in all grades played in the competition. My thoughts going into 2009/10 was that a modest improvement to break the 70% barrier would be a good achievement. What we ACTUALLY achieved in 2009/10 was something truly outstanding managing to supply umpires to a massive **85.2%** of all days of play in all grades. And in the end, from the clubs' point of view, how many matches we put umpires into the Shires competition is how we are viewed. I shall talk more about this achievement later in this report.

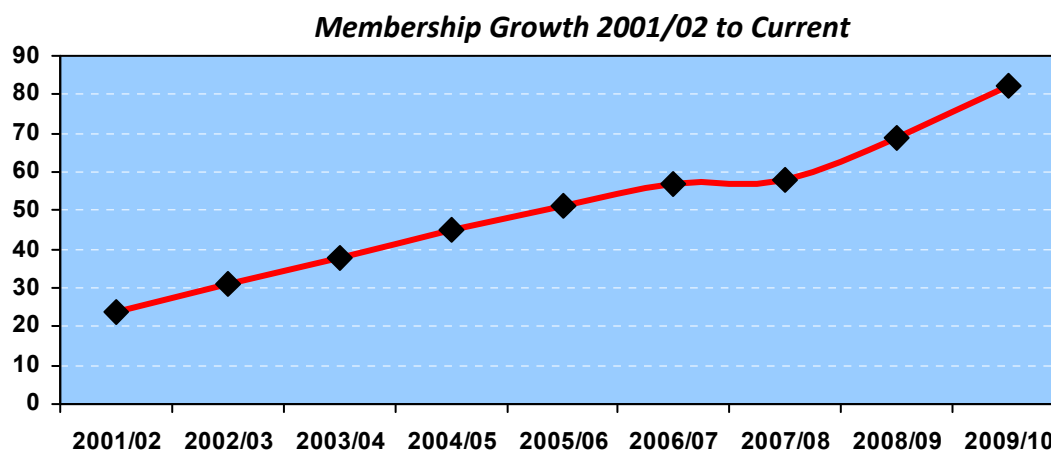
The season started way back in July 2009 with the holding of the 8th Annual General Meeting at Redfern RSL. A total of 37 (of 76) members attended the evening. Guests on the night were Graham Chudleigh representing the board of NSWCU&SA and Royce McCormack Administration Officer for the same body. This was to be Royce's last interaction with the Association as shortly after our AGM he tendered his resignation from the position. Important issues arising from the AGM were –

- Congratulations extended to member Gordon Smith on being awarded principal membership of NSWCU&SA
- Congratulations extended to member Darren Goodger on being awarded life membership of NSWCU&SA
- Election of Office Bearers (Refer to Office Bearers Section on Page 2)
- Notification of Eight New members joining the Association
- Advice that mail out communications from NSWCU&SA will now be cut back with as many as possible communications (eg, appointments) being done by email and access to NSWCU&SA and SSCUA websites
- Match payments to remain at \$105 per day
- Advice of a revision to the umpire assessment form completed by the captains at the end of the match
- Advice re the implementation of a blue field shirt for all members in limited overs fixtures for the upcoming season
- The voting in by the membership of a number of changes to the Association's constitution which clarified and tidied up out of date processes.

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2009 – 2010

MEMBERSHIP

As at 4 April which represents the last playing date of the 2009/10 cricket season, we had taken on board a total of 24 new members. The total membership count at this time registered 82, an increase of 13 from the same time twelve months earlier. Of these 24 new members, 22 of them were new applications and a further 2 were re-joins. In the losses column a total of 11 members left us with of these 7 allowing their memberships to lapse, and another 4 choosing to resign. Of those 11 that left us, 3 were members who decided that cricket umpiring wasn't for them before they even gave themselves the chance to umpire their first game. As case of cold feet maybe ?



Of our current 82 members as at 4 April 2010, a total of 34 members managed to umpire in 10 matches or more in the main Saturday competition. This compared to a figure of 30 last season. One of the pleasing aspects of the season was that 15 members showed 100% commitment to the competition by being available for an appointment for every single Saturday preliminary round. Last season only one member could make that claim. It would be marvellous if more members could be able to umpire every round next season to celebrate our big 10th Anniversary Year

Of our current 82 members, 11 were inactive from umpiring in SCA controlled matches this season - a decrease of one from last season's tally of 12. Of the remaining 71 members who did partake in SCA officiated matches, 62 umpired in Shires and 9 in Grade Cricket. Of those 9 that umpired in Grade cricket, 7 made themselves available in Shires Cricket at some point during the season (mainly for Frank Gray Shield matches). The total number of members who therefore partook in at least one Shires match during the season of 2009/10 was 69 out of our total membership of 82 – This represents a percentage figure of 84%.

This season we introduce to this Annual report a new section penned by our Vice President, Jim Shellens. Jim in recent seasons has taken on the role of mentor for First Season umpires and I felt it would be appropriate to give Jim a segment in the Annual Report to talk about our new members, summarise their achievements in their first season and to communicate to the membership what activities the Association conducted to assist these members get through their debut season. I thank Jim for all his help this season looking after our new members.

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2009 – 2010

CONGRATULATIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Congratulations are extended to the premierships sides this season as well as the members appointed to officiate in these games, as follows –

	Premiers	Umpires
First Grade	South Sydney	Peter Mooney / Chris Taylor
Second Grade	Auburn	Stephen Blomfield / Brett Tribolet
Third Grade	Auburn	Geoff Wheeler / Brian Breakspear
Fourth Grade	Nth West Sydney	Mike Wheeler / Jim Shellens
Frank Gray Shield	Strathfield	Peter Friend / Chris Taylor

For the third successive season the Auburn Cricket Club took home the Dave Tribolet Club Championship Trophy. After a season long struggle with neighbouring club North West Sydney, Auburn ran away with the trophy winning by a very comprehensive 193 points after the completion of the 13 preliminary rounds

Appointments to the finals series was quite a challenge this season. The committee met on 10 March to assess the season performances of our members. Thrown in the mix were a group of newer members in their 2nd and 3rd seasons with the SSCUA, some of whom provided very strong claims for a gig on the last weekend of the season. On grand final weekend, four out of the eight members doing the 1st to 4th grades were umpiring their first grand final for this Association. This is a positive sign for the future that these four members all yet to reach 50 career games are now stepping up and becoming trusted and reliable members of the SSCUA within the Shires community. In this respect I wish to congratulate and acknowledge members Brett Tribolet (39 games) , Brian Breakspear (29 games) , Geoff Wheeler (38 games) and twin brother Mike Wheeler (41 games) who all performed so admirably this season that they ended up with Grand Final appointments. Well done guys.

Further congratulations are extended to SSCUA member Geoff Taylor who was appointed to the annual Shires v Grade match. Unfortunately this season the game which is traditionally at the SCG was transferred to the new Blacktown Olympic Park complex. Geoff performed admirably in this match partnered by SCA First panel umpire Bill Hendricks. A full account of Geoff's match which was won comfortably by the Grade XI appears elsewhere in this report.

The other traditional representative fixture for the season (Shires v Churches) was not held in season 2009/10. Originally scheduled also at Blacktown Olympic Park the game was postponed but never had the chance to be rescheduled. Unfortunately Ian Bowman missed out on completing this appointment however if the match gets off the ground next season then I'm sure Ian will get another opportunity.

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2009 – 2010

AWARDS & MILESTONES

The winner of the 2009/10 Umpire of the Year Award was **Peter Mooney**. This is Peter's first time at winning this award and it was a very popular win with the members. Peter had an outstanding season regularly polling excellent captain's assessment marks and often in high pressure First Grade matches between teams that were in the top portion of the competition table. The award was a fitting tribute to a member who has umpired over 300+ SCA Career matches and who is also fast approaching the 100 Shires matches milestone. Congratulations Peter, well done.

The winner of the other major award being the Most Improved Umpire of the Year this season goes to SSCUA Member **Greg Tunks**. Greg in his third season as a member umpired every preliminary round match and received a consistently good level of report from team captains. He was also more than willing to help out changing venue at the last minute and stood on his own in one match when his partner for a game failed to show up. Greg also received a couple of appointments to First Grade fixtures and should next season look forward to increasing that tally. A more detailed summary of this award appears elsewhere in this report.

During the course of the season a number of members passed significant milestones which were acknowledged with the awarding of each members respective career games polo shirt. Congratulations are extended to the all of the below listed members on reaching these achievements –

Member	Number of Shires Games	Polo Shirt Awarded
Stephen Blomfield	200	Red
Ivan Holland	150	Navy Blue
Peter Friend	150	Navy Blue
Spencer Harrison	150	Navy Blue
Chris Taylor	100	Royal Blue
Trevor Schokman	100	Royal Blue
Tony Kingsford-Smith	100	Royal Blue
Ian Bowman	50	Sky Blue
Derek Ponsford	50	Sky Blue

Special mention in season 2009/10 is made of past SSCUA President, George Richards, who wanted to "retire" from active umpiring after 2007/08, however seeing that the Association had a real need for experienced members elected to stay on for another season and a half to assist, standing in third grade matches with new umpires. George's support in mentoring these new umpires has been a huge help in assisting the growth of this Association. Despite this fact, George finally succumbed to an ongoing knee injury which will require surgery in the winter of 2010. He officially retired & hung up his boots in early December where he was given a guard of honour at the end of his match by the Epping & Lindfield Third Grade players at Acron Oval. George was presented with a special plaque commemorating his umpiring career at the December 2009 Members Meeting. (See picture elsewhere in this report)

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2009 – 2010

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

On the Social front the season started in August with the NSWCU&SA Annual convention which this year was held in Tamworth. A total of 10 SSCUA members made the trip and all seemed to have had an excellent time. Particularly enjoyable was our get together at one of the local Chinese Restaurants where all 10 of us got to know each other better. It was also great to see some of our first year members attend the convention. The August 2010 convention will be held in Sydney at the Blacktown Olympic park complex. With 2010/11 being our 10th Anniversary I would think it be appropriate for the SSCUA to have a strong showing at this event. I urge all members wishing to be active on field umpires next season to please enrol and attend the August 2010 convention.

In December we had a general meeting at an Indian Restaurant owned by one of our members, Shailesh Khale. A total of 31 members attended this meeting which was followed by a fully catered Indian feast at no cost, that was Shailesh's gift to the membership. I know many of us were very grateful for this gesture and we hope to hold future Christmas events at this establishment in the future. On Saturday January 2 about ten members got together at the same restaurant and paid their own way as a thank you to Shailesh.

On Friday 14 May the annual Shires presentation dinner was held at Dockside at Darling Harbour. A total of only 7 out of 82 members attended a great evening at an equally great venue. Peter Mooney, the Shires Umpire of the Year was presented with an award from the SCA as were all of the SCA player and club award winners. I was particularly disappointed at the low number of members who attended this event, it reflects poorly on us as Association with the Shires Clubs and the SCA when we can't show sufficient numbers to attend this event. This is an event I encourage all members to attend at least once. Let's get a larger group together next season for our 10th Anniversary. We will be aiming for at least two tables of 10.

MEETINGS

The Association conducted its usual four members meetings during the season. These consisted of the Annual General Meeting in July 2009 held at Redfern RSL (49% of members attended), the pre season meeting in September at Redfern RSL (59% of members attended), the December meeting and Christmas function at Mandap Restaurant in Rockdale (41% of members attended), and the pre finals meeting in March at the Technology Park Hotel in Alexandria (40% of members attended). The September meeting was notable in that it was our last ever gathering at Redfern RSL, a venue that served us well for about 7-8 seasons. Our growing membership and the closure of Redfern RSL to be redeveloped into apartment blocks now sees us "floating" as we search for a permanent place to call home next season. Attendance at meetings was slightly better than in past seasons however it would be good to see more members make the effort to attend the Annual General Meeting. Just a reminder to all that this years Annual General Meeting is to be held on Wednesday 14 July 2010 at the Technology Park Hotel in Alexandria.

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2009 – 2010

SYDNEY CRICKET ASSOCIATION

In SCA matters, besides the premiership and club championship winners mentioned earlier, we offer congratulations to the following award winners all of whom were presented their respective awards by the SCA at the end of season Shires dinner which was held on May 14, 2010

- Shires First Grade Captain of the Year – Scott Ryan – Warringah CC
- Shires Second Grade Captain of the Year – Raoul Barbon – Auburn CC
- Shires Third Grade Captain of the Year – Geoff Sunstrom – Lane Cove CC
- Shires Fourth Grade Captain of the Year – Andrew Nicoletti – Epping CC
- Shires First Grade Player of the Year - Garry Sheen – Strathfield CC
- Frank Gray Shield Player of the Year – Ben Rogers – Nth West Sydney CC
- Spirit Of Cricket Award – Overall Winner – Lane Cove CC
- Ground Of The Year – Tantallon Oval , Lane Cove CC

Congratulations are offered to the Lane Cove Cricket Club who won the overall Spirit of Cricket Award for the season. This reflects positively on a club who from an umpiring administration point of view was always easy to deal with and whom rarely I ever heard anything negative spoken about by any of our members.

To cap off the above achievement, Lane Cove had the honour of also winning the Shires ground of the year award. This season Tantallon Oval took out the best ranked ground for the third consecutive season narrowly pipping Auburn's George Parry Oval for the award. The reliability of this venue to always get on even after days of rain speaks volumes for the commitment of the ground staff and the Lane Cove Cricket Club. Whilst there are other venues in the Shires competition that look prettier and present better than Tantallon Oval, the fact is that when others don't play, Tantallon does. The other aspect to the venue is that it always presents a good cricket wicket that gives both batters and bowlers equal opportunity. You never get boring bat-a-thons at Tantallon Oval that sap the confidence of bowlers like you tend to do get at some other venues. Put simply the pitch gives something to all the disciplines of the game which encourages an even contest between bat and ball.

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2009 – 2010

SEASON ANALYSIS

Following on from the opening comments in this report I wish to advise that in season 2009-10 the following umpire allocations were achieved –

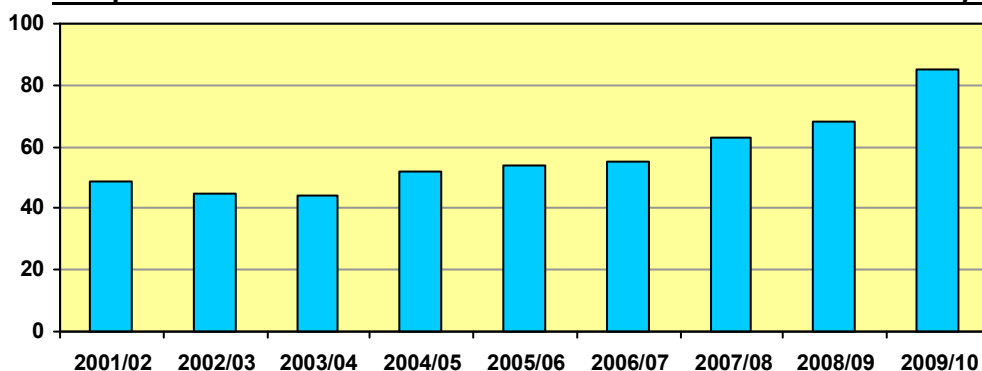
- * **100%** umpire coverage of all days play in First Grade Shires
- * **100%** umpire coverage of all days play in Frank Gray Shield Matches
- * **99%** umpire coverage of all days play in Second Grade Shires
- * **94%** umpire coverage of all days play in Third Grade Shires
- * **44%** umpire coverage of all days play in Fourth Grade Shires

There were 682 days of cricket played during the season

581 of these days of play received umpire allocations

Total Completion Rate 85.19%

Completion Rates Since the Foundation of the SSCUA in Season 2001/02



The large numbers with the SSCUA ranks, as well a record number of umpires standing in Grade cricket this season, has also seen a healthy number of these grade umpires overflowing to provide support to gaps that we had in Shires Cricket. Thanks are extended to Darrell Hair, Darren Goodger and Troy Penman in the Umpires Department at Cricket NSW for their assistance and contributions towards the success of the season. The below chart shows a record number of surplus umpires were allocated into Shires Cricket during season 2009/10. The statistics in the below table are derived as follows - *For each single day of cricket that one Grade Umpire officiates in a Shires match then that shall be counted as one "appointment". If that umpire officiates on day 1 AND day 2 of a single match then that is counted as TWO appointments. Two grade umpires doing both days of the same game shall be counted as FOUR appointments. The below statistics only apply to Saturday Shires cricket and not to lower grade fixtures re-scheduled to Sunday play due to lack of a suitable venue on Saturday*

Surplus Grade Umpire Appointments Allocated to Shires Preliminary Round Matches Each Season		
2001/02	57	2004/05 101
2002/03	28	2005/06 46
2003/04	35	2006/07 5
		2007/08 45
		2008/09 11
		2009/10 134

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2009 – 2010

SEASON ANALYSIS

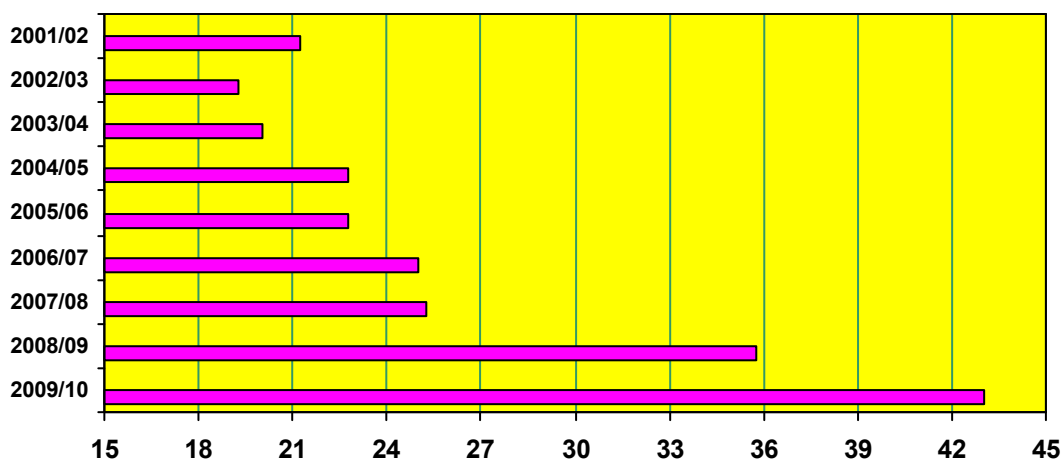
When we look at umpire availability either on a round by round basis or on a season by season basis, we have always been looking at 42 being our “Magic Number”. Now whilst people familiar with the 2005 movie “Hitchhikers Guide To The Galaxy” would agree with the notion that 42 is a number of importance (42 was in the movie the comical answer to the ultimate question regarding “*Life, the Universe and Everything*”), 42 is in fact for our Association the number of umpires we need to stand on any given day of the Saturday competition to fully subscribe the first three grades of the competition

Number of Umpires (including grade overflow)
Supplied to each Round of Shires Cricket



The above graph highlights what a great season it was for us being able to equal or break the magic number of 42 in every round. This compares very favourably with previous seasons of our history (see below)

Average number of Umpires supplied to each Round of
Shires Cricket on a season by season basis



SECRETARY'S REPORT 2009 – 2010

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

A Change of Uniform: The introduction of the blue field shirts for our members in Frank Gray Shield and Saturday Limited Over games was received with a great deal of positive comment. Not only did our members like the introduction of this item, but the players and clubs all expressed their support of this initiative. At a meeting of the clubs held in December the question was put by our Association if any club had objection to the blue shirt going full time in season 2010/11. The clubs fully supported this proposal and it seems likely that this will now occur in all Shires Cricket in our 10th anniversary season.

Umpire Development Matches: During January in consultation with NSWCU&SA Executive Officer, Darrell Hair, a total of five members were given the opportunity to experience a game in Sydney Grade Cricket with an SSCUA member who regularly umpires Grade Cricket coming back to umpire a game in Shires in return. Members Chris Taylor and Stephen Blomfield stood in a First Grade match with Rupert Mathews, Mike and Geoff Wheeler all standing in a Grade seconds fixture. I am hopeful to continue this tradition next season as I believe it gives members an excellent opportunity to umpire a good quality match at a venue you may have never been to, with an umpiring partner that you may never have met involving participants not before experienced. Basically a development match can often avoid the potential for members to get into a “rut” umpiring Shires matches season after season. If you are interested in an experience of this nature in the coming season then please feel free to let the appointments officer know of your intentions.

Shires Members In Grade Cricket: We acknowledge members of our own Association who chose to umpire in Sydney Grade Cricket during season 2009/10. Congratulations are extended to the following members –

Darren Goodger - First Grade Panel and joint Panel winner, First Grade Grand Final , Green Shield Grand Final & winner of the Borwick Award for the Season

Ken Buckland – Second Grade Panel – Other highlights included Ken’s debut match in First Grade in the second half of the season and his appointment to a 4th Grade Qualifying Final.

Mark Hughes - Second Grade Panel – Plus appointed to a 5th Grade Qualifying Final.

Peter Garlick – Second Grade Panel

Robin Gandevia – Second Grade Panel

Bruce Whitehouse – Winner of the Third Grade Panel for the season

Adrian Charlesworth – Third Grade Panel

Arthur Watson – Fourth Grade Panel – Completed his 650th SCA match in 2009/10

Peter Tasker – Fourth Grade Panel

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2009 – 2010

CONCLUSION & THANK YOU'S

To conclude, I'd like to take the time to thank a number of people who have assisted the Association in a wide range of capacities. Without all of these people our Association would have difficulty in functioning, so everybody's contribution is not one that goes unnoticed.

Thank you to **Peter Friend** our President for his strong leadership and guidance during the season. Our Association is certainly in good hands with Peter leading our meetings. We've built up a very good working relationship these last two seasons and I hope we can continue in this way for many seasons to come.

A huge thank you, and a very sad goodbye is offered to **Gordon Smith** our Treasurer who has decided to dip out of the role after serving the Association for nine years. When Gordon and I first met in 2001 we had no idea of the trip we would undergo together over those nine years. The amount of time and work Gordon has put in behind the scenes has been above and beyond that of a normal volunteer. To be totally honest, many of the things that happen for this Association are due to the hard work that Gordon has performed behind the scenes. He has assisted our Association in no small way in growing from a very small group of random and inexperienced umpires who all had a common interest regarding Shires Cricket, into a fully fledged Association that now sees us so close to fully subscribing the competition. Thank you so much Gordon for your commitment to the role of Treasurer. It's going to be a huge pair of shoes to fill in the seasons to come, and I have no hesitation in saying how much I personally will miss you in the Treasurer's role. I hope you enjoy the extra spare time that will come your way, and I wish you and your wife Lee all the best for the future.



To **Trevor Schokman, Jim Shellens, George Richards & John Moore** who make up the rest of the management team my thanks for your contribution, your wisdom, your feedback and comments. We continue to have a very harmonious vibe within the group and have a genuine friendship with each other. As long as this feeling is maintained into the future I am sure we will continue to do excellent things not just for our own members, but the whole of the Shires Cricket community in general.

Thanks are extended to member **George Richards** for taking on the unofficial role of Association photographer. The bulk of the pictures that appear in this report are from George's handiwork, and without the addition of pictures in this report it would make for a very dry read. You only have to look back to the early annual reports from our first four or five years to understand that. Whilst George has hung up his boots and retired from on field umpiring, I am very keen to keep him engaged taking pictures of our members in action wherever and whenever possible.

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2009 – 2010

CONCLUSION & MORE THANK YOU'S

Thank you again to **Steve Murphy** who hosted this Association's website and updated the more complex parts of the site when required. In season 2009/10 our website became an even more critical component of our Association with the abolishment of mail outs for the appointments. The site therefore is a vital reference tool for our members and without it we wouldn't be where we are now. Steve's hosting of this site on his personal time is a contribution that should not be overlooked by any member. Now if I can only get him to umpire next season !

A huge thank you is extended to the staff at Cricket NSW in charge of running the umpires department lead by Executive Officer **Darrell Hair** as well as **Darren Goodger**, and **Troy Penman**. The support shown for our Association by these gentlemen is enormous. This was clearly demonstrated with the record number of overflow umpires offered to our competition this season, as well as the extra training course that Darren put on in November specifically aimed at boosting umpire numbers in Shires Cricket. Without the support of these gents working tirelessly for our parent body, NSW Cricket Umpires & Scorers Association, we would have a difficult time existing as an affiliated Association. We should all be very proud of our association with our parent body which sets the standards for Cricket Umpiring Associations across the country. Thanks Darrell & team, your contributions are very much appreciated by the members of the SSCUA

Thanks are also extended to the staff at the Sydney Cricket Association, **Ian Field & Roy Formica** as well as **Stirling Hamman** and the members of his sub-committee. All of these people work long and hard to allow us to have such a wonderful cricket competition to be able to umpire in. We thank you all for your efforts in 2009/10

The approaching 2010/11 cricket season will be one to celebrate with the arrival of our 10th Anniversary since forming in the winter of 2001. Ten years ago many people would suggest that Shires Cricket was in disarray with the bulk of First Grade matches not receiving any umpires, let alone umpires in Second Grade and lower. What we have done as a collective group over the last nine seasons to see us in the position we are in today is one to be extremely proud of. We intend to celebrate these achievements next season with a variety of ideas many of which will be advised to all members as the new season draws nearer. As well as this we have the challenge of the 4th Edition of the 2000 Laws of Cricket being implemented from October 1. Some significant changes to the laws are on the way – The 2010 NSWCU&SA Convention at Blacktown Olympic Park is the perfect place for all active members to get a heads up regarding these changes. I hope you can all come along and join me, I'd be very disappointed if you didn't.

In closing, could I ask that everyone please make an extra special effort to be involved next season. Let's aim to have umpires on the field to hopefully cover every single match in one or more rounds of the competition. See you all in September.

Stephen Blomfield
Honorary Secretary

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS IN PICTURES

**Right
27 March 2010**

**Bob Shield (left) and
Rob Maloney (2nd from right)
with the two captains at the
Tim Creer Cup Final at
Hutchinson Oval.**

**Tim Creer, who the Cup is
named after is on the far right**



**Left
28 March 2010**

**Ian Bowman and Spencer
Harrison during a drinks
break at the 4th Grade
Semi Final
Macquarie Uni v Warringah
Played at Killara Oval**

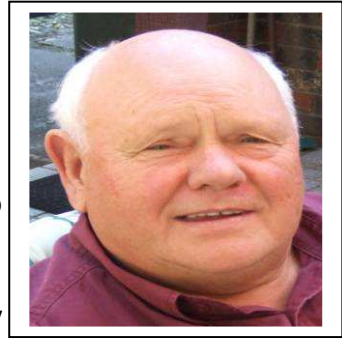
**Right
21 November 2010**

**Brett Tribolet watches on at
Tantallon Oval during the
Round 5 First Grade
match played between
Lane Cove and Warringah**



TREASURER'S REPORT 2009 – 2010

**By Gordon Smith,
Honorary Treasurer
(July 2001 – Current)**



Whilst we appear to be in a healthy financial position, it needs to be taken into account that the Committee will be looking to use the majority of our funds during the 2010/2011 cricket season. These funds to be used as part of our upcoming 10th anniversary celebrations. The committee has a number of ideas for the season that will give further benefit to our members. More details regarding how we intend to spend our surplus funds will be communicated to the members at the Annual General Meeting on 14 July.

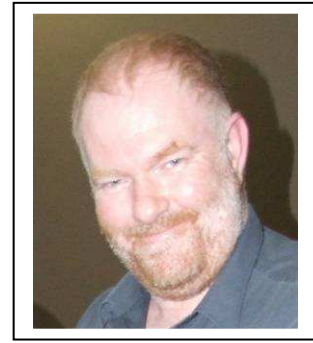
Members nominating to be sent a hard copy of this annual report will receive a copy of the financial statement and balance sheet as an insert to this report. Members reading a soft copy of this report wishing to view the financial statement and balance sheet need to specifically ask for one to be provided to them. Issues and comments relating to our financial statement and balance sheet for season 2009/2010 are:

- * The end date of the 2009/10 financial year (30.4.10) is one month earlier than usual, this is to accommodate a change to the constitution last season that allows us to rule off our accounts at the same time as the annual report is ready to go to the printers.
- * Membership fees for the season were increased to \$40 for active umpires to allow us to supply each active member with a blue field shirt to wear in all limited overs matches played on Saturdays as well as all Frank Gray Shield matches played on Sundays.
- * Our bank account balance was boosted with another healthy increase in membership numbers. This allowed us to collect more revenue from the raffle books that were distributed to most members. 'Thank You' to all members who assisted with this revenue raising activity which we hope to repeat in 2010/2011.
- * The Sydney Cricket Association (SCA) once again gave us a grant which was unchanged from the previous season, and we thank them for their ongoing support of the SSCUA. However, for the second season in a row the grant, which is to cover our administration costs, fell short of the amount we had to outlay. This once again saw us having to dip into our own revenue to cover the cost of running the administration of this Association on behalf of the Shires Competition and the SCA. These costs continue to grow.
- * An honorarium was again granted to our Secretary, Stephen Blomfield, at the AGM in July 2009 for the work he completed in the 2008/09 season. The honorarium is merely a token of our appreciation for the work he does and can in no real way compensate him for his workload.
- * In Summary, our financial position is very good, but after we spend our surplus funds in the 10th anniversary season on our members, we will need to work to budget to ensure that we have enough funds to cover any unforeseen circumstances during the following season/s. I have enjoyed my nine years as treasurer of this Association and wish my successor the best of luck when I hand over the reins to him in July 2010

Gordon Smith - Honorary Treasurer

MENTORING PROGRAMME REPORT

By Jim Shellens
Association Vice President
(July 2007 – Current)



The 2009/10 cricket season saw our Association yet again take on board a large number of new members. Some of these were ex players who fitted into umpiring quite easily, For others it was a new and challenging experience and it will take them a little longer to develop the appropriate skills to become an umpire who will have the complete confidence of the captains , the players and the clubs. The whole purpose of our mentoring programme is to give these members the guidance, the help and the support they will need to get through their initial season or two.

During Season 2009/10 we received a total of 24 new members. Ten of these joined from the July 2009 Course run by NSWCU&SA and another 4 joined from the special course run in the Bankstown area in September 2009. All of these were umpiring within a few games of the beginning of the season.

Many of them took part in the mentoring programme that I have been conducting now for the last two seasons. As part of that, for the second year in a row we conducted a skills training session over the Christmas break at Gore Hill Oval with the priceless help once again of Tony Kingsford Smith and Trevor Schokman whose combined cricket games and years were invaluable in bringing real experience to the occasion. This session covered a wide variety of subjects: both standard topics, and burning issues raised by the attendees. These included:

- Stance and (not) moving your head
 - Concentration and conserving energy
 - Teamwork and signals to / from square leg
 - Movement for run outs at the bowler's end
 - Left / right combinations
 - What can you ask your mate?
 - Close decisions
 - Wet pitches
 - Bad light and rain
 - What's special about umpiring 1 day games
- And the big one ...
- LBWs

Everyone learned something, and some used this session as a springboard to significantly improved performances in the second half of the season. For this first group, the mentoring continued at a lower level in the second half of the season, while the graduates from another course run in November 2009 started out.

MENTORING PROGRAMME REPORT

An innovation this year was *You are the Umpire* based on the English book by the same name. This consisted of a monthly series of quizzes - some of the questions were from the book while others were from real situations that have occurred in Shires cricket. Unlike the book, all the situations had a decent chance of really happening. Early questions simply on areas of the law quickly graduated to grey areas and judgement calls. This proved to be very popular, with some questions leading to lively debates, and all of them providing valuable learning opportunities to think through tricky situations before they actually happen.

The following new members joined our Association in the season of 2009/10;

Adam Davies – Brothers Adam and Reece Davies joined at the same time. At 19, Adam is our youngest member. He joined us after having already umpired a season in the Bankstown District Competition. He did 12 games with us mostly in 3rd Grade with one game in 2^{nds} while he became comfortable with his role with the players.

Ajit Madan – Ajit joined us after passing the July 2009 course. Starting in Round 4 Ajit stood in 7 matches mostly in third grade. He attended the Christmas break training session at Gore Hill. Hopefully next season he can build on his good start.

Bob McAndrew – Bob joined us after completing the course run in the Bankstown area. He was only able to complete 3 games in Shires despite hoping to do more. With a bit of luck we will see more of Bob next season.

Bob Robertson – Spencer Harrison managed to tempt his friend Bob to join us, which he did after passing the July 2009 course. He completed 6 rounds mostly in third grade, finishing on a high in Round 11 with top marks from both captains.

Bob Shield – Bob had been umpiring in Sydney Grade for a couple of years in panels 3 and 4, but had to take a year off in season 2008/09. Inspired by Peter Friend, he joined the SSCUA. He umpired all the preliminary rounds plus three Frank Gray matches, before topping off an excellent season umpiring the Tim Creer Cup Final

Brett Baxter – Brett completed 6 matches with us in the second half of the season after completing the November 2009 course. After a cricket career as a fast bowler he is now experiencing those loud shouts and close decisions from the other side. He finished his season with a match in the metropolitan cup finals series. Brett looks to be a very promising recruit and with some encouragement should be looking for higher honours in season 2010/11

Cherian George – Cherian joined us after completing the November 2009 course, but unfortunately he only managed two matches before domestic duties took him away. He is keen to take up his umpiring again and we hope to see him back in Shires soon.

MENTORING PROGRAMME REPORT

Homer Paxton – Homer is a keen enthusiast of the game, coaching schools cricket in the Eastwood-Epping District. Having passed the July 2009 course, these other cricket commitments restricted when and where he was available, so he was only able to umpire 8 of our matches, mostly in 3rd grade, with one game in 2nd Grade.

Ian Hamilton – Ian joined us after completing the course run in the Bankstown area. He is a highly experienced umpire having spent a number of years officiating in the local Bankstown District competitions. This season however he was only able to complete 5 matches in Shires due to other commitments. We trust Ian enjoyed his time in Shires and will be back next season hoping to umpire a bit more

Jeff McKinnon – Jeff returned to umpiring after a long time away from the game, last having umpired in Shires in season 2003/04. He already brought with him almost 50 games experience in Sydney Grade and Shires before his previous stint with us. This time around he generously volunteered to help with up and coming umpires and so stood in our lower grades, but finished with a Semi Final in the Metropolitan Cup.

Keeran Ramarkrishnan – Keeran came to Shires after a two year holiday away from umpiring. Previously he had completed 72 matches in Sydney Grade up to 2nd Panel. Before that he had helped develop the game of cricket in Botswana by umpiring there for a number of years. He had already done a few games in Shires as part of the overflow system and he obviously liked what he saw. He had a very successful year with us umpiring mostly in First Grade.

Mano Singham – Mano completed the November 2009 course and started with us in the second half of the season. He completed 5 games mostly in third and fourth grades. A keen member who was always asking questions we hope he can back up next season to improve his game

Matt Richie – Matt rejoined us after a couple of years absence, but unfortunately he was only able to stay for the first half of the season before armed service duties with the Navy called again. Hopefully Matt can return for next season

Michael Conway - Michael was one of the graduates from the November 2009 course. He completed 6 games in the second half of the season mostly in third and fourth grades. Another keen member who with his first season under his belt should be looking to improve in his first full season during 2010/11

Reece Davies - Brothers Adam and Reece Davies joined at the same time. Reece had umpired for a while in the Bankstown District competition, but was only able to complete 2 matches with us due to his ongoing work commitments. Again, we hope that the upcoming season will see Reece in a better position to umpire some more cricket during the summer of 2010/11.

MENTORING PROGRAMME REPORT

Scott Calvert - Scott joined after passing the 2009 winter training course. An ex 1st grade player from Mosman CC in the 1990's Scott impressed in his debut season umpiring a total of 10 Shires and 3 Frank Gray matches. He was rewarded for a good opening half of the season making his Shires First Grade debut after the completion of only 6 Second Grade matches. A broken toe after round 10 disappointingly saw Scott's season get cut short with a finals series appointment being a strong possibility. Potentially, a full season in Shires First Grade awaits Scott next season

Stephen Clements – Stephen was one of the graduates of the November 2009 course. He made a promising start with three games in Third Grade and one in Second Grade. Hopefully a full season in 2010/11 will add to this start and see Stephen umpiring at a higher level next summer.

Stuart Wood – Stuart passed the July 2009 course after umpiring for many years in the Hornsby District competition. He umpired most rounds in Second Grade including three in First Grade and finished his season umpiring a Metro Cup Semi Final. The Experience Stuart brought to the new member panel was greatly appreciated and I'm sure higher honours awaits Stuart in the upcoming season

Sunny Arora – Sunny joined us after passing the 2009 winter training course. He umpired 17 games mostly in second and third grade along with two Frank Gray matches. He attended the Christmas break training session at Gore Hill which he was able to leverage into top marks from several captains and a Metro Cup Semi-final. A keen new member who will only get better after his debut season in Shires

Venkat Raghavendra – Venkat joined us after passing the 2009 winter training course. He only stood in two games before family commitments drew him away to India, for an extended period after which he was only able to commit to one further game in the final preliminary round. Hopefully next season will be better for him.

Craig Lardner and **Geoff Cordner** both joined up with us and were looking to umpire but for various reasons were not able to do so. We hope to see them make their on field debut during our upcoming Tenth Anniversary Season

Peter Napper and **Martin Rees** passed the examination and joined our Association, but decided to back out before umpiring their first game.

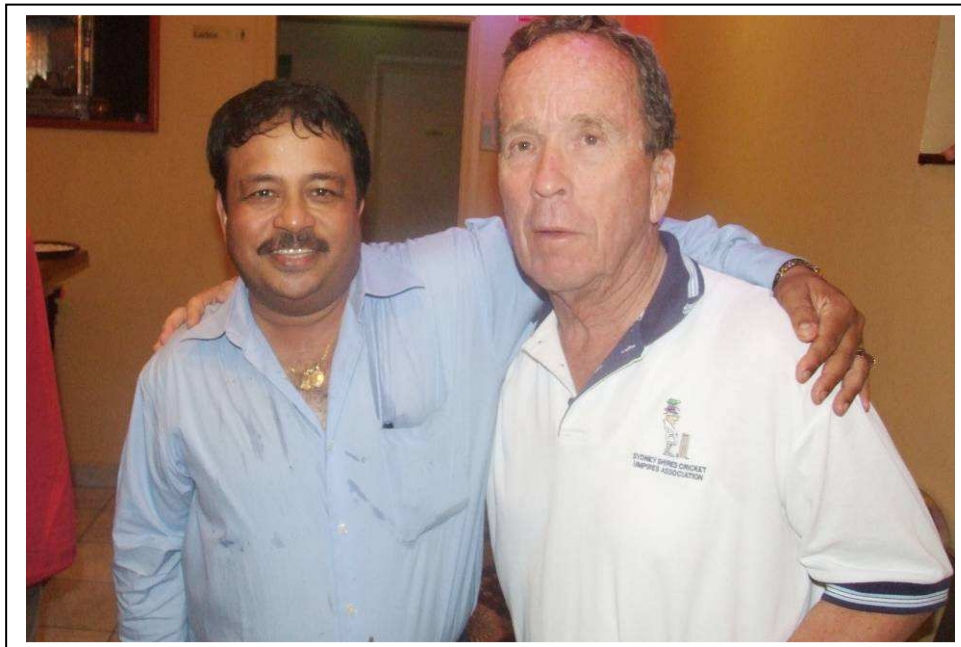
We look forward to seeing everyone again for season 2010/11 to build on the great starts from this year. I would like to thank all those many experienced umpires who put in so much work to help the new umpires get started. Particular thanks to Richard Christen, Gordon Smith, Jeff McKinnon, Michael Roberts and George Richards. We expect to repeat the mentoring programme again next season, hopefully this time with assistance from returning graduates from past seasons.

Jim Shellens
Association Vice President

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS IN PICTURES



9 December 2009 – Chris Taylor (Left) & Ivan Holland (Right) are both presented with their Royal Blue (100 Games) & Navy Blue (150 Games) Association Polo Shirt by competition sub committee chairman, Stirling Hamman at the December Christmas Meeting



**9 December 2009
Our Host for the Christmas Meeting / Function,
Shailesh Khale (Left) greets
Tony Kingsford-Smith on arrival at his restaurant**

Appointed Umpires Report – Rep Fixtures 2009-2010 season

Combined Shires XI vs. SCA Grade XI at Blacktown Olympic Park # 1 Sunday 15 November 2009 – Umpire Geoff Taylor

SCA Grade XI – 235 (48 overs) bt SCA Shires XI 139 (49 overs)

Sydney Grade won the toss and elected to bat. Sydney Grade all out 235 off 48 overs bowled in 215 minutes. Tim Sparks top scored with 95 and B Larkin contributed a handy 57 later in the innings

Highlight of the Sydney Grade innings was the powerful hitting of Tim Sparks which included one massive six over long on. Fielder at long on looked like he had the catch covered, then seemed to lose it in the blue sky and then turned around and saw it land on the hill some 25 metres further on. Daniel Johnson the bowler following the hit asked the captain for a field change, two on the hill and two in front of the fence.

Sydney Grade raced to approximately 150 off 15 overs with Shires fighting back and restricting the run flow in the second half of the innings. A number of good deep outfield catches were taken, two good catches by Daniel Johnson (deep square leg and long off) were the stand outs. Best of the Shires bowling was Ewan Rankin from Lindfield (3/28) and Daniel Johnson from Auburn (2/37)

A great lunch was provided by cricket NSW which was enjoyed by all and right up there with the lunches provided at Auburn's George Parry Oval

In reply Shires never got going and were all out 139 off 49 overs in 178 minutes.

Ian Ebbick (South Sydney) top scored with 46 and Andrew Donovan (Strathfield) compiled a steady 36.

Wickets fell regularly and at no time did Shires look to be in any contention to win the game. At 6/50 after about 20 overs things did not look good but the boys knuckled down to grind out a hard got 139. At no time did the Shires team give up, though they were not in the same class as the Grade team.

Funny incident of the day - On arriving at the ground the umpires meet the scorers and Roy Formica from the SCA. We were all given walkie talkies to communicate and the scorers asked if we could tell them who was batting, who was bowling, which ends etc at the fall of a wicket or change of bowler.

During the Shires innings – A wicket goes down, Geoff Taylor moves in and collects the ball, fixes the stumps, new batsman coming in, radios the scorers with the name, sees he is a lefty so darts over the other side of the wicket, updates his score card and then looks up. Everyone is in position and they are all looking at me. Then Geoff realises the ball is still in his pocket. Geoff slowly take it out and throws it over to the closest fieldsman. At that point one of the players makes a comment, come on umpire stop playing silly buggers !! Oops !

The match was followed by a few drinks with Richard Cook (Chairman, SCA Committee of Management) making the presentation to the winning captain.

GEORGE RICHARDS RETIREMENT MATCH

ACRON OVAL , 12 & 19 DECEMBER 2009

Right

12 December 2009

**Lindfield & Epping 3rd
Grade players line up
and hear a speech from
Competition Sub
Committee Chairman,
Stirling Hamman prior
to the start of George
Richards' last game
before retiring from
active umpiring**



Left

12 December 2009

**Both teams give George
Richards a guard of
honour as he takes the
field for the start of his
final match**

Right

19 December 2009

**A final guard of
honour from both
teams as George
Richards pulls
stumps for the final
time in a Shires
Cricket match**



SEASON HIGHLIGHTS IN PICTURES



18 March 2010 – Trevor Schokman (Left) & Ian Bowman (Right) are both presented with their Royal Blue (100 Games) & Sky Blue (50 Games) Association Polo Shirt by Chairman Peter Friend at the March members meeting



**23 January 2010
Derek Ponsford & Trevor Schokman await the next incoming victim
Warringah v Southern Districts 1st Grade at Frank Gray Oval**

FIRST GRADE GRAND FINAL – MATCH REPORT

**Strathfield v South Sydney at Tantallon Oval , Lane Cove
3rd and 4th April 2010**

South Sydney 134 & 2-77 def Strathfield 126 & 4 dec 113

Man of the Match – David Gibbons (South Sydney)

Umpires – Peter Mooney & Chris Taylor



Early in the week leading up to the final, Sydney had experienced some good rainfall, however, good management skills of the Lane Cove Club ground staff ensured that the pitch area was fully covered during this period and that ground conditions were very good. On day 1 of the match, the weather forecast was mostly optimistic although there appeared to be a threat of some rain with variable cloud overhead.

The toss took place on time at 10.00 am. South Sydney won the toss and asked Strathfield to have the first bat. The pitch had an average covering of grass appeared to be reasonably hard, considering the amount of rain during the week.

Strathfield lost an early wicket with Ryanhart out LBW to an excellent delivery from Pargeter. A short time later, rain moved in and at 10.57 am play was suspended for 28 minutes. On resumption the pitch was playing just a tad slow and, with a little bit of cut in the wicket, the batsmen were struggling to get on top of the bowling. The weather conditions were changing quickly between moving cloud, at times, and full sunshine, at others. Periodically wickets started to fall and only Sylvester (25), Chappelow (23) and a late burst from Owens (27) made significant contributions to Strathfield's first innings score of 126. Best bowling performances for South Sydney came from Pargeter 4/37, Gibbons 3/8 and Preece 2/26.

FIRST GRADE GRAND FINAL – MATCH REPORT

South Sydney started their innings at mid-afternoon of day 1 and lost the early wickets of Pargeter and Gaggin. Their assignment was then steadied with some watchful, and at times, forceful batting by Gibbons and Chee Quee (Richard) until a further rain disruption halted play at 4.33 pm for a period of 21 minutes.

At stumps (6.10 pm) on day 1, South Sydney had lost 9 wickets and had just acquired a 1st innings lead.

Start of play on day 2 was delayed until 11.00 am, due to a number of showers and plenty of water on the covers. This also resulted in the loss of the lunch interval. When play resumed, Sheen quickly took the final wicket and finished with 6/42. He was well supported by Chappelow with 2/32. Best of the Souths batsmen were Richard Chee Quee (32), Gibbons (32) and Ebbink (28*). With only a slender 8 run first innings lead the final was far from over.

Strathfield's 2nd innings began unspectacularly but quickly gathered momentum when Sheen and Janda came together. After facing just 24 overs, Strathfield declared at 4/113, leaving Souths a target of 106 for outright victory off about 45 overs. Sheen remained not out on 46 and Janda not out 31. Pargeter continued his fine bowling performance taking 2/20 and Robin Younan contributed with a similar 2/20

South Sydney batsmen were quite cautious in their attempt to seal victory by either scoring the runs (106) or ensuring they were not bowled out beforehand. Sheen continued to bowl magnificently from the northern end and was unlucky not to pick up more wickets. However, Gibbons (24*) and Pargeter (31) batted sensibly and guided Souths to a first innings victory with a final score of 2/77 when time and overs ran out at 5.13 pm on day 2.

During the match a number of players suffered injuries, including Sean Day & Ben Ridgeway (Strathfield) and Dave Gibbons & Tom Dilnot-Smith (South Sydney). I am sure that some of these would have been seeking medical attention at the conclusion of the match. Particular mention is made of Sean Day who broke down whilst bowling in the 1st innings and then came back in a gallant effort to open the bowling in the 2nd innings but had to succumb to injury after just one over.

Several players were considered for Man of the Match however the chosen recipient for the Peter Toohey medal was David Gibbons (South Sydney) who scored a most valuable 32 in 1st innings, backed up by 24no in the 2nd innings plus a bowling performance of 3/8 in the 1st innings

Congratulations to South Sydney on being premiers. Well played by Strathfield, the minor premiers. Congratulations to the Lane Cove Club for hosting the final in excellent fashion with final thanks being offered to Stirling Hammam and John Lloyd from the sub committee in acting as Match Referees and organising all hands on deck during the number of rain delays experienced on both days of the match

SECOND GRADE GRAND FINAL – MATCH REPORT

**Auburn v Burwood Briars at Alan Davidson Oval, St Peters
3rd & 4th April 2010**

Auburn 8 – 176 drew with Burwood Briars 8 dec 292

Auburn are Premiers being the higher placed side in the final

Man of the Match – Kevin Wicks (Auburn)

Umpires – Stephen Blomfield & Brett Tribolet



Alan Davidson Oval was the venue for the 2009/10 Shires Second Grade Final to be played between Auburn and Burwood. This match was a replay of the previous season's Grand Final where weather had played havoc with no play at all on the Saturday and only 91 overs on the Sunday. Burwood taking the premiership via a no result draw being the higher placed side going into the game.

This year the roles were reversed with Auburn taking the title after the match again finished in a draw. Auburn had finished this season minor premiers and Burwood had finished third. Both teams had won their respective Qualifying and Semi Finals. On paper this match could have gone either way with both sides equally matched.

Burwood captain Jason Harris won the toss and elected to bat first thinking that runs on the board would cause enough pressure for the Auburn boys to fold on the second day.

A slow and steady start from Burwood saw them gain the ascendancy at the lunch break without a wicket falling going into the break at 0 for 74. Even at this early stage the Auburn boys showed they were vulnerable with some sloppy fielding and a number of catches going down. It was not a good sign of things to come

SECOND GRADE GRAND FINAL – MATCH REPORT

The post lunch session saw Auburn claw themselves back into the game with 4 early wickets to see the game ledger balance itself out again, the score now being 4 for 103. This brought Burwood's "big gun" to the wicket, ex Western Suburb's first grade batsman Peter Burkhart. With scores of 77, 64, 90, 85, 6, and 83 behind him during the season this was the key wicket for Auburn to take. Unfortunately for Auburn, Burkhart showed his class and quickly went about putting together a score of 70 only losing opening batsman Jeremy Haikin for a dogged 53 at 5/153 before losing his own wicket at 6/236. By now the innings was into the third session and the Auburn boys were looking ragged with more dropped catches being a feature of the day. As the day reached its climax Burwood's Paul Simpson played some aggressive cricket in scoring a quick fire 66 to see the Burwood side to 8 for 292 off 96 overs at stumps with the best of the Auburn bowlers being Ijaz Khan with 4-64 off 21 overs.

Day 2 dawned to the realisation that Sydney's coastline had copped a lot of rain overnight and our venue had been in the thick of it. Significant mopping up and drying out of surrounds saw play delayed until 11.30am. With a net loss of 13 overs for the day after forgoing the luncheon break. Burwood declared overnight and it was up to Auburn to therefore chase the target or block out a minimum of 83 overs up to 5pm to take the title.

Auburn's innings started disastrously losing 3 wickets to Gerard Price inside the first half hour of play and a fourth wicket with the score on 44. An attacking innings of 52 by Dave Wood was cut short moments before the tea break to see Burwood right on top at 5-98. With 40 overs to go it was a tough ask for Auburn to hold out in the last session as the win was now clearly out of the equation.

Enter Kevin Wicks and Mohammed Emram. A vital dropped catch off Emran shortly after tea would in the final analysis prove costly as both dug into the trenches with Wicks playing a few more shots than his partner. The overs kept ticking by and although the scoreboard was very slow in moving the Burwood lads frustration grew and grew as they found both batters immovable on what was now a very dead plumb pitch to bat on. At drinks in the final session they were still together and the minimum number of overs left in the day was now down to about 20. The game was slowly swinging back to Auburn.

With 5 overs to go of the regulation 83 a spectacular diving catch finally made the breakthrough removing Wicks for 47. Keeper Mark Ryan came & went for a quick 22 and when Shan Rana was dismissed not long after following the taking of the new ball the game had again swung back to Burwood. By now the minimum number of overs (83) had been exhausted and due to Burwood's excellent over rate we were now playing to the clock with a 5pm finish. With only 15 minutes to go at 8 down, Auburn's Raoul Barbon came to the crease. In a tense finish he & Emran managed to block out the last 15 minutes with Emran finishing 22 not out from 150 balls faced thru a 53 over period. Auburn finishing at 8 for 176 off 91 hard fought overs.

Best of the Burwood bowlers was Peter Catalovski with 4-52 off 26 overs and Gerard Price who amazingly only leaked 18 runs from 25 tightly bowled overs including 15 maidens for his 3 wickets early in the day. Player of the match was awarded to Kevin Wicks for his batting on day 2 and tight bowling on day 1

THIRD GRADE GRAND FINAL – MATCH REPORT

**Auburn v North West Sydney at Blacktown Olympic Park 2
4th & 5th April , 2009**

Auburn 286 def North West Sydney 135

Man of the Match – Shane Cook (Auburn)

Umpires – Brian Breakspear & Geoff Wheeler



The preceding week brought drought breaking thunder storms, which of course made the lower ranked team apprehensive. However, the weather forecast was wrong and a beautiful Blacktown day greeted us all. The Blacktown Olympic Park Number two ground is an excellent facility. Before play we were guided around by Doug Williams the Cricket NSW representative who showed us all the facilities and welcomed us to the ground. The facility has excellent changing rooms for all parties and very good social areas as well. The umpires and the captains were very happy with the wicket and the outfield for which the groundsman must take credit.

The toss was made and upon North West Sydney winning, asked Auburn to bat. We were set for the big game. North West Sydney made the most of their decision snaring three early wickets. Through this, Sanketh Gitte (52) remained calm and helped establish a fine fourth wicket partnership to steady the innings. The fifth wicket partnership was equally crucial to the rescue with Mark Freeburn (60) and Gordon Starkey (52) piling on the runs. These partnerships were achieved when the pressure was not only on but applied with vigour. From there, steady sound batting helped by a lightning fast outfield took the total to a daunting 286 off 87.1 overs. North West Sydney made bowling changes and mixed the field placements but were unable to take quick wickets in succession to stop the big total.

THIRD GRADE GRAND FINAL – MATCH REPORT

Late in the day North West Sydney had to bat for 6 overs and in this short time Auburn made the most of the opportunity grabbing two wickets to put the batting side on the back foot at the end of the first day. While Auburn had amassed an imposing total, the wicket was flat; the outfield was fast, so by no means was North West Sydney out of the game at this stage. It set up a very interesting second day.

Like the first day, rain and thunder was predicted and as before never looked like interfering with play. In fact the covers were only put on for a five minute loss as the players came out after lunch with a light shower circling the ground for those five minutes. The day started with good bowling and combined with some excellent fielding Auburn were able to control the innings for the most part. Despite the best efforts of the North West Sydney boys wickets in the first session fell at regular intervals with nobody able to tough it out against the Auburn attack. At 6 for 60 after only an hour of the first session on day 2 the result was quickly heading the way of the minor premiers. A rear guard action partnership between Ashley Moeller and Joel Ambrey then put on a valuable 47 runs before Moeller fell at the score of 7 for 106. Shortly after this wicket the luncheon interval was taken.

After an enjoyable lunch play resumed. Sadly though for the batting side the end came pretty quickly with North West Sydney finally succumbing to Auburn for a total of just 135 after only 45.5 overs. Joel Ambrey was the best for the Hurricanes eventually running out of partners just 2 runs short of a half century.

For Auburn, Shane Cook was the standout taking 5 for 34 of 16 hostile overs including three top order batsmen. Dimitri Papanis and Tom Wood both chipped in with 2 wickets a piece in an innings that only required the use of 4 bowlers.

Despite there still being over 60 overs of available cricket left in the match the North West Sydney skipper Daniel Wynn conceded that the match was too far gone and shook hands with the Dan Burton the winning skipper.

The Trophy was awarded to Auburn at the after match ceremony, the first time the Auburn club had held aloft the Third Grade competition trophy since 2001/02. The man of the match medal was awarded to Shane Cook from Auburn for his outstanding bowling figures of 5 for 34.

Special thanks must also go to all the backroom helpers, the support teams, the caterers [who all did a terrific job] and the team managers and club supporters who all provided a great atmosphere for the game. Again we must mention Doug Williams who co-ordinated the final with professional qualities as well as the Blacktown City ground staff who gave us a first class facility. I'd recommend any member grab the chance to umpire at this venue if they get the chance in the future.

FOURTH GRADE GRAND FINAL – MATCH REPORT

**Macquarie Uni v Nth West Sydney at George Parry Oval , Auburn
3rd and 4th April 2010**

Nth West Sydney 9 – 223 bt Macquarie Uni 174

Man of the Match – Sharad Patel (Nth West Sydney)

Umpires – Mike Wheeler & Jim Shellens



A Grand Final involving teams 1 and 5 from the completed round robin season certainly lived up to all expectations with regards to intensity and quality, complete with curious ebbs and flows as the match regularly swung in favour of one team only to be wrestled back by the other.

Greg Brown, captain of Macquarie University won the toss and elected to bat

Early Grand Final nerves were evident in the first two sessions which saw Macquarie University confidently find their way to 3/93 featuring 31 runs apiece from David Gracie and Sabash Shanther.

From this point North West Sydney clawed their way back into the match by way of some steady falls of wickets. Some astute field settings, and discreet bowling changes from Captain, Charma Pathirinagesome, subsequently helped North West Sydney back into the match by restricting partnerships, steadily increasing the pressure on the Macquarie University players.

FOURTH GRADE GRAND FINAL – MATCH REPORT

Indeed Charma (Affectionately known to his team mates as “Snake”) took 4/43 with his stump to stump medium pace and his fine effort was backed up by Adam Macic and Brad Seath who took 5 wickets between them. Ameesh Kaul chipped in with 1/6.

Eventually Macquarie were bowled out for an eminently defensible 174 runs off 76.5 overs in 277 minutes.

North West Sydney were steady in their response. At stumps on day 1 they found themselves with a slight advantage, being 1/63 after 25 overs.

On day 2, with rain clouds lurking ominously all around, play got away on time, despite an horrendous down pour a couple of hours before the scheduled start.

Some fine early morning bowling coupled with excellent field placement via Greg Brown’s captaincy, saw Macquarie University take a slightly firmer grip on the trophy than North West Sydney would have expected at the start of the day’s play.

However, some resolute batting saw North West Sydney home in a match that could have gone either way at any time. North West Sydney were 9/223 when Macquarie University conceded defeat, Jason Fineberg courageously returning to the crease after previously retiring hurt to remain 50 not out at the finish. Greg Brown and David Budge both bowled excellently for Macquarie University with a yield of 5 wickets between them.

Special mention must go to Sharad Patel of North West Sydney for his man of the match performance whilst scoring 42 runs in what was a truly competitively hostile environment. Sharad started the match as an under age player but, to all present, finished it as an accomplished cricketer.

No match of this quality is possible without a pitch, square and outfield being prepared to the highest standards. This is exactly what we got. Congratulations to all the ground staff who work at George Parry Oval.

Worthy congratulations also to Auburn Cricket Club for their tremendous facilities and hospitality afforded to all present.

FRANK GRAY SHIELD GRAND FINAL – MATCH REPORT

**Strathfield vs Macquarie Uni at Alan Davidson Oval
(Limited Overs Fixture) - Sunday 7 March 2010**

Strathfield 5 / 157 (37.4 overs) def Macquarie Uni 154 (49.3 overs)

Man of the Match – Sean Walsh (Strathfield)

Umpires – Chris Taylor & Peter Friend



Strathfield Cricket Club are the 2009-2010 Frank Gray Shield Champions after beating Macquarie University at Alan Davidson Oval on Sunday March 7

The day started against all predictions with blue sky and a strong Sea Breeze promising a full day's play. This was a great relief after the previous week's semi finals were both rain affected and ultimately decided on run rate – some suggesting that both teams who were playing in the final today were rather fortunate to have made the main game of the season. This was further accentuated in the days leading into the final when the Shires Sub Committee decided to alter the playing conditions for today's final and introduce the Duckworth Lewis method for the first time in a Shires competition match. In the end however a bright sunny day didn't require Messrs Duckworth or Lewis to do any work on this particular occasion.

Macquarie University captain, Charlie Carter, won the toss and elected to bat first. Strathfield opened with a solid pace attack from Mark Cleary and tempting off spinners into the wind from Sam Wotton.

FRANK GRAY SHIELD GRAND FINAL – MATCH REPORT

The first wicket fell as Ford missed a straight one from Wotton and saw his middle stump on the ground. Tosolini followed nicking Wotton through to the keeper Ian Janda and the score was then 2-30. McPherson followed almost straight after and had the Macquarie Uni lads in trouble at 3-32. Scoring was slow and it looked an outside chance for the Uni to post a challenging score. Next wicket to fall was Shyam when the score had reached 61 and at the same score Gray followed as well - both wickets to the bowling of Strathfield Captain Aaron Sylvester. The Rai twins threatened for a while but as soon as they got settled in a serious mix up and communication breakdown between them happened, seeing a direct hit run out dismiss Pranish with him at least 3 to 4 meters out of his crease. To add to that error his brother Prashant followed in the next over leaving the team in a lot of trouble at 7-89. Macquarie Captain Carter top scored with a mature innings of 46 and together with Yeomans and Denlow, added 65 runs for the last two wickets to bring some respectability to student's total of 154 and give us a 50/50 match at the half way mark. Wotton, Sylvester, Walsh and Watkins each took two wickets.

A lunch catered superbly by the South Sydney Club was then enjoyed by all players and officials as the defending premiers geared themselves up in the pursuit of 155 off 50 overs to take home the shield yet again.

Despite losing Waide in the first over of the innings, Strathfield took a positive approach to the run chase. Early on this attitude gave the Uni boys a sniff of a win with wickets falling at regular intervals during the first 15-20 overs. Initially it was Ian Janda who hit a quick-fire 36 who looked the best for the Gorilla's – his score taking Strathfield to 4-75. All four of these wickets fell to Prashant Rai who bowled with good pace and bounce for his 10 straight overs. Sam Wotton scored a brisk 22 including a six with the wind over the sight screen before his loose shot against the wind saw him caught at mid-off; one of two bats to fall that way. This then brought Macquarie University back into the match at 5-99 and all of a sudden it was game on.

However, the hopes of the Macquarie Uni lads were slowly whittled down as Hayto with 28no and Walsh 30no combined in a calm partnership to reach the target in 37.4 overs with no further loss of wickets

Sean Walsh was presented the David Gilbert Medal as the Player of the Match for his all-round effort of 30no and 2/24 from 10 overs

A game played in terrific spirit with all players from both teams getting along really well and mixing socially after the game was over.

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS IN PICTURES



**Left -
6 December 2009
Bexley Oval**

**Stephen Blomfield
shows everyone how
big the fish was he
caught the day before**

**Frank Gray Shield
Georges River v
Macquarie Uni**

**Right
17 January 2010
Frank Gray Oval**

**Paul Clift attempts
to show off his stump
setting ability just
prior to the Warringah
versus Nth West Sydney
Frank Gray Shield Match**



**Left
17 October 2009
Mike Pawley Oval**

**Chris Williams signals
six during the 3rd Grade Fixture
Warringah v Macquarie Uni**

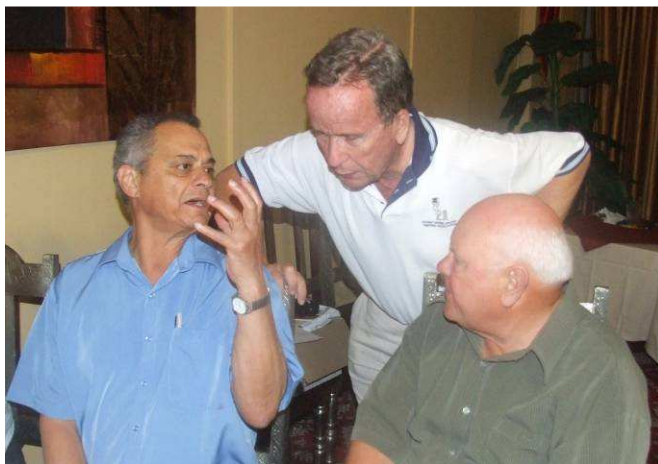


SEASON HIGHLIGHTS IN PICTURES

**Right
Members Meeting
9 December 2009**

**The Shires Competition Sub
Committee Chairman, Stirling
Hamman (Right) presents
Stephen Blomfield with his red
200 Game Association Shirt.**

**Stephen was the first member
in the history of the SSCUA to
reach the 200 game mark**



**Left & Below
Members Meeting
9 December 2009**

**Left – Trevor Schokman, Tony
Kingsford-Smith & Gordon Smith
in deep discussion**

**Below – (L to R) Stephen
Blomfield, Peter Friend, Scott
Calvert, Tony Kingsford-Smith &
Stirling Hamman post meeting
wait for dinner to be served**



SEASON HIGHLIGHTS IN PICTURES

**Right
19 January 2010**

SSCUA Members Robin Gandevia (Left) & Bruce Parfett (Right) pose outside the SCG Members Pavilion with Ritchie Benaud just before umpiring a Primary Club Match



**Left
24 January 2010**

Scott Calvert & Stephen Blomfield take an interest in the match ball during a rain delay at the Strathfield vs Warringah Frank Gray Shield Match at Airey Park



**Right
First year SSCUA member Scott Calvert sends the Warringah opening batsman on his way LBW**

**Strathfield vs Warringah
Frank Gray Shield
24 January 2010
Airey Park**



GOODBYE REDFERN RSL



The SSCUA's meeting venue for over seven years, Redfern RSL closed its doors to the public in early December 2009. In January 2010 demolition of the site began with the property to be redeveloped into apartment blocks.

The Above picture shows what remains of the site as at 10 April 2010 while the below picture was taken on 15 March 2010

We continue to look for an ideal venue for our meetings and hope to find a new home in season 2010/11





SYDNEY SHIRES CRICKET UMPIRES ASSOCIATION
ACTIVE UMPIRES LIST – GAMES DONE – 2009/10

MEMBERS NAME	SHIRES GAMES	FRANK GRAY GAMES	GRADE GAMES	SEASON TOTAL
ALLISTON, Bill	2	0	0	2
ARORA, Sunil	15	2	0	17
BAXTER, Brett	7	0	0	7
BLOMFIELD, Stephen	18	9	1	28
BOWMAN , Ian	12	2	0	14
BREAKSPEAR, Brian	14	0	0	14
BUCKLAND , Kenneth	2	2	15	19
BYRNE , Laurie	6	0	0	6
CALVERT, Scott	10	3	0	13
CAMPBELL, Malcolm	4	0	0	4
CAMPBELL , Neil	7	0	0	7
CHARLESWORTH, Adrian	0	0	13	13
CHRISTEN , Richard	15	0	0	15
CLEMENTS, Stephen	4	0	0	4
CLIFT, Paul	3	3	0	6
CONWAY, Michael	6	0	0	6
DAVIES, Adam	12	0	1	13
DAVIES, Reece	2	0	0	2
DEACON, Lachlan	13	6	0	19
FRIEND , Peter	16	8	0	24
GANDEVIA , Robin	0	2	16	18
GARLICK , Peter	1	0	7	8
GEORGE, Cherian	2	0	0	2
GOODGER , Darren	0	1	24	25
GOODMAN , David	4	0	0	4
HAMILTON, Ian	5	0	0	5
HANSHAW , Glen	3	0	0	3
HARRISON , Spencer	17	3	0	20
HARVEY, John	12	0	0	12
HOLLAND , Ivan	13	5	0	18

SYDNEY SHIRES CRICKET UMPIRES ASSOCIATION
ACTIVE UMPIRES LIST – GAMES DONE – 2009/10

Page 2

MEMBERS NAME	SHIRES GAMES	FRANK GRAY GAMES	GRADE GAMES	SEASON TOTAL
HUGHES , Mark	1	2	14	17
KHALE, Shailesh	13	1	0	14
KINGSFORD-SMITH, Tony	14	6	0	20
MacGILLIVRAY, Bruce	11	0	0	11
MADAN, Ajit	7	1	0	8
MALONEY, Rob	15	0	0	15
MATHEWS, Rupert	14	5	1	20
McANDREW, Bob	3	0	0	3
McKINNON, Jeff	8	0	0	8
MOONEY, Peter	15	3	0	18
MOORE , John	7	0	0	7
PARFETT, Bruce	1	0	0	1
PARKER , Trevor	15	4	0	19
PAXTON , Homer	8	0	0	8
PONSFORD , Derek	10	0	0	10
RAGHAVENDRA, Venkat	3	0	0	3
RAMAKRISHNAN, Keeran	12	2	0	14
RICHARDS , George	7	0	0	7
RITCHIE, Matt	7	1	0	8
ROBERTS, Michael	7	0	0	7
ROBERTSON, Bob	6	0	0	6
SCHOKMAN , Trevor	13	0	0	13
SHELLENS , Jim	17	8	0	25
SHIELD , Bob	15	4	0	19
SINGHAM, Mano	5	0	0	5
SMELLIE , Patrick	13	0	0	13
SMITH , Gordon	17	5	0	22
STARKS , Steve	5	0	0	5
TASKER , Peter	0	0	8	8

SYDNEY SHIRES CRICKET UMPIRES ASSOCIATION
ACTIVE UMPIRES LIST – GAMES DONE – 2009/10

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MEMBERS NAME	SHIRES GAMES	FRANK GRAY GAMES	GRADE GAMES	SEASON TOTAL
TAYLOR , Chris	14	8	1	23
TAYLOR , Geoff	12	0	0	12
TRIBOLET , Brett	14	0	0	14
TUNKS , Greg	13	0	0	13
WARD, Malcolm	11	2	0	13
WATSON , Arthur	3	0	14	17
WHEELER , Geoff	16	6	1	23
WHEELER , Mike	17	5	1	23
WHITEHOUSE , Bruce	1	1	11	13
WILLIAMS , Chris	7	0	0	7
WOOD , Stuart	14	0	0	14
YOUSAF , Salman	3	0	0	3

SYDNEY SHIRES CRICKET UMPIRES ASSOCIATION
ACTIVE UMPIRES LIST – CAREER GAMES DONE

MEMBERS NAME	SHIRES GAMES	FRANK GRAY GAMES	GRADE GAMES	CAREER GAMES
ALLISTON, Bill	13	0	0	13
ARORA, Sunil	15	2	0	17
BAXTER, Brett	7	0	0	7
BLOMFIELD, Stephen	163	60	9	232
BOWMAN , Ian	45	9	0	54
BREAKSPEAR, Brian	29	0	13	42
BUCKLAND , Kenneth	65	32	76	173
BYRNE , Laurie	11	0	1	12
CALVERT, Scott	10	3	0	13
CAMPBELL, Malcolm	14	0	1	15
CAMPBELL , Neil	7	0	0	7
CHARLESWORTH, Adrian	15	4	26	45
CHRISTEN , Richard	61	14	59	134
CLEMENTS, Stephen	4	0	0	4
CLIFT, Paul	3	6	0	9
CONWAY, Michael	6	0	0	6
DAVIES, Adam	12	0	1	13
DAVIES, Reece	2	0	0	2
DEACON, Lachlan	24	8	0	32
FRIEND , Peter	131	24	1	156
GANDEVIA , Robin	45	42	70	157
GARLICK , Peter	26	0	57	83
GEORGE, Cherian	2	0	0	2
GOODGER , Darren	0	2	172	174
GOODMAN , David	57	15	0	72
HAMILTON, Ian	5	0	0	5
HANSHAW , Glen	45	11	0	56
HARRISON , Spencer	114	36	2	152
HARVEY, John	25	0	0	25
HOLLAND , Ivan	123	36	1	160

SYDNEY SHIRES CRICKET UMPIRES ASSOCIATION
ACTIVE UMPIRES LIST – CAREER GAMES DONE

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MEMBERS NAME	SHIRES GAMES	FRANK GRAY GAMES	GRADE GAMES	CAREER GAMES
HUGHES , Mark	39	10	16	65
KHALE, Shailesh	22	1	0	23
KINGSFORD-SMITH, Tony	75	33	328	436
MacGILLIVRAY, Bruce	23	0	0	23
MADAN, Ajit	7	1	0	8
MALONEY, Rob	33	0	5	38
MATHEWS, Rupert	52	22	2	76
McANDREW, Bob	3	0	0	3
McKINNON, Jeff	32	0	24	56
MOONEY, Peter	72	6	243	321
MOORE , John	63	14	54	131
PARFETT, Bruce	58	24	75	157
PARKER , Trevor	30	9	0	39
PAXTON , Homer	8	0	0	8
PONSFORD , Derek	55	0	0	55
RAGHAVENDRA, Venkat	3	0	0	3
RAMAKRISHNAN, Keeran	14	2	70	84
RICHARDS , George	107	25	148	280
RITCHIE, Matt	8	5	0	13
ROBERTS, Michael	36	8	76	120
ROBERTSON, Bob	6	0	0	6
SCHOKMAN , Trevor	94	6	2	102
SHELLENS , Jim	137	54	6	197
SHIELD, Bob	15	4	17	36
SINGHAM, Mano	5	0	0	5
SMELLIE , Patrick	38	0	1	39
SMITH , Gordon	131	42	3	176
STARKS , Steve	25	2	101	128
TASKER , Peter	37	11	106	154

SYDNEY SHIRES CRICKET UMPIRES ASSOCIATION
ACTIVE UMPIRES LIST – CAREER GAMES DONE

Page 3

MEMBERS NAME	SHIRES GAMES	FRANK GRAY GAMES	GRADE GAMES	CAREER GAMES
TAYLOR , Chris	93	25	4	122
TAYLOR , Geoff	89	26	1	116
TRIBOLET , Brett	36	3	0	39
TUNKS , Greg	32	1	0	33
WARD, Malcolm	22	3	0	25
WATSON , Arthur	17	2	636	655
WHEELER , Geoff	28	10	1	39
WHEELER , Mike	32	9	1	42
WHITEHOUSE , Bruce	48	24	26	98
WILLIAMS , Chris	18	0	1	19
WOOD , Stuart	14	0	0	14
YOUSAF , Salman	11	0	1	12

CAREER MATCHES (SHIRES CRICKET ONLY)

50 Career Games or More

As at the end of the 2009/10 Season

All Current and Past Members

MEMBERS NAME	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Metro	Sub Total	Frank Gray	Career Games
BLOMFIELD, Stephen	115	27	11	10	0	163	60	223
SHELLENS, Jim	82	27	10	13	5	137	54	191
SMITH, Gordon	24	68	20	14	5	131	42	173
HOLLAND, Ivan	77	31	9	5	1	123	36	159
FRIEND, Peter	114	10	7	0	0	131	24	155
HARRISON, Spencer	58	25	13	16	2	114	36	150
RICHARDS, George	43	38	18	7	1	107	25	132
TAYLOR , Chris	84	6	2	1	0	93	25	118
TAYLOR, Geoff	48	28	8	3	2	89	26	115
SHINER, Tom	50	39	2	3	0	94	19	113
KINGSFORD-SMITH, Tony	41	18	7	7	2	75	33	108
GREEN, Alan	79	13	6	1	0	99	1	100
QUAKEN, Keith	71	25	4	0	0	100	0	100
SCHOKMAN, Trevor	40	39	9	4	2	94	6	100
BUCKLAND, Ken	25	10	11	16	3	65	32	97
GANDEVIA, Robin	30	6	3	1	5	45	42	87
PARFETT, Bruce	50	2	2	4	0	58	24	82
MOONEY, Peter	55	11	6	0	0	72	6	78
MOORE, John	49	12	0	2	0	63	14	77
CHRISTEN, Richard	3	31	18	7	2	61	14	75
MATHEWS, Rupert	23	17	5	6	1	52	22	74
GOODMAN, David	14	36	3	2	2	57	15	72
WHITEHOUSE, Bruce	18	16	4	6	4	48	24	72
RALSTON, Tim	53	11	3	1	0	68	0	68
DONNELLAN, Tom	36	26	1	0	0	63	2	65
OSSEWEYER, Brett	33	7	2	2	1	45	20	65
KEARNEY, Chris	30	16	1	2	1	50	12	62
THORPE, Ken	40	13	0	0	0	53	5	58
HANSHAW, Glen	31	9	5	0	0	45	11	56
PONSFORD, Derek	27	22	5	1	0	55	0	55
BOWMAN, Ian	9	25	5	4	2	45	9	54
ROCHE, Glenn	14	6	5	4	1	30	21	51

CAREER TALLY - SHIRES FINALS SERIES MATCHES

(Does not include Shires Finals Matches prior the SSCUA formation in 2001/02)

All Current and Past Members
Qualification: 10 Finals Series Matches or More

As at end of season 2009/10

	Saturday Shires	Saturday Shires	Frank Gray	Frank Gray	
Members Name	Q/F & Semi/F's	Grand Finals	Q/F & Semi/F's	Grand Finals	Career Finals Series Games
BLOMFIELD, Stephen	18	9	14	1	42
SHELLENS, Jim	15	4	10	1	30
FRIEND, Peter	15	7	2	1	25
SMITH, Gordon	15	2	5	1	23
TAYLOR, Chris	12	6	3	2	23
HOLLAND, Ivan	16	0	4	0	20
PARFETT, Bruce	8	3	3	3	17
HARRISON, Spencer	10	3	4	0	17
TAYLOR, Geoff	12	1	3	0	16
GANDEVIA, Robin	6	2	4	2	14
KINGSFORD-SMITH, Tony	9	2	2	1	14
GREEN, Alan	10	4	0	0	14
MOORE, John	9	4	1	0	14
OSSEWEYER, Brett	6	2	3	2	13
RICHARDS, George	11	0	1	1	13
WHITEHOUSE, Bruce	5	2	6	0	13
BUCKLAND, Ken	8	1	2	1	12
MOONEY, Peter	9	2	0	0	11

ALL CURRENT MEMBERS - MEETING ATTENDANCES RECORD

Note – A number of general members meetings (approximately 3 or 4 in total) held in seasons 2002/03 & 2003/04 have not been included in these statistics due to the minutes of these meetings being lost

Members Name	Meetings Attended In 2009/10 (Maximum = 4)	Career Meetings Attended	Total Meetings Held During Career	Percentage of Meetings Attended During Career
ALLISTON, Bill	2	5	8	62.5%
ARORA, Sunil	3	3	4	75.0%
BAXTER, Brett	1	1	1	100.0%
BLOMFIELD, Stephen	4	24	25	96.0%
BOWMAN , Ian	3	9	20	45.0%
BREAKSPEAR, Brian	3	6	7	85.7%
BUCKLAND , Kenneth	3	14	23	60.8%
BYRNE , Laurie	1	4	22	18.1%
CALVERT, Scott	3	3	4	75.0%
CAMPBELL, Malcolm	1	1	7	14.2%
CAMPBELL , Neil	2	5	11	45.4%
CARROLL, Phil	0	2	10	20.0%
CHARLESWORTH, Adrian	0	3	11	27.2%
CHRISTEN , Richard	4	18	22	81.8%
CLEMENTS, Stephen	0	0	1	Zero
CLIFT, Paul	2	3	7	42.8%
CONWAY, Michael	0	0	1	Zero
CORDNER, Geoff	0	0	4	Zero
DAVIES, Adam	0	0	2	Zero
DAVIES, Reece	0	0	2	Zero
DEACON, Lachlan	4	5	6	83.3%
DOBBIN, Patrick	0	0	17	Zero
FRIEND , Peter	4	23	25	92.0%
GANDEVIA , Robin	0	11	23	47.8%
GARLICK , Peter	0	7	22	31.8%
GEORGE, Cherian	0	0	1	Zero
GOODGER , Darren	1	2	11	18.1%
GOODMAN , David	1	10	23	43.4%
GUPTA , Vinayak	0	0	13	Zero
HAMILTON, Ian	1	1	2	50.0%
HANSHAW , Glen	1	13	25	52.0%
HARRISON , Spencer	3	19	22	86.3%
HARVEY, John	2	5	7	71.4%
HOLLAND , Ivan	4	23	25	92.0%
HUGHES , Mark	4	14	14	100.0%
IYER , Malli	0	2	23	8.6%
KHALE, Shailesh	4	6	7	85.7%
KINGSFORD-SMITH, Tony	4	12	13	92.3%
LARDNER, Craig	0	0	4	Zero
MacGILLIVRAY, Bruce	0	0	8	Zero
MADAN, Ajit	3	3	4	75.0%
MALONEY, Rob	2	3	14	21.4%
MATHEWS , Rupert	4	13	14	92.8%

ALL CURRENT MEMBERS - MEETING ATTENDANCES RECORD

Page 2

Note – A number of general members meetings (approximately 3 or 4 in total) held in seasons 2002/03 & 2003/04 have not been included in these statistics due to the minutes of these meetings being lost

Members Name	Meetings Attended In 2009/10 (Maximum = 4)	Career Meetings Attended	Total Meetings Held During Career	Percentage of Meetings Attended During Career
MCANDREW, Bob	0	0	2	Zero
MCKINNON, Jeff	1	1	2	50.0%
MCLEAN, Scott	0	3	7	42.8%
MOONEY , Peter	3	12	14	85.7%
MOORE , John	2	10	23	43.4%
MURPHY , Stephen	0	2	22	9.1%
PARFETT , Bruce	0	6	25	24.0%
PARKER, Trevor	4	8	8	100.0%
PAXTON, Homer	1	1	3	33.3%
PONSFORD , Derek	1	7	17	41.1%
RAGHAVENDRA, Venkat	1	1	4	25.0%
RAMARKRISHNAN, Keeran	2	2	3	66.6%
RICHARDS , George	4	22	24	91.6%
RITCHIE , Matt	2	3	5	60.0%
ROBERTS , Michael	4	16	25	64.0%
ROBERTSON, Bob	2	2	4	50.0%
ROWSELL, Adam	0	1	7	14.2%
SCHOKMAN , Trevor	4	21	22	95.4%
SHELLENS , Jim	3	20	23	86.9%
SHIELD, Bob	3	3	4	75.0%
SINGHAM, Mano	0	0	1	Zero
SMELLIE , Patrick	3	9	11	81.8%
SMITH , Gordon	4	22	25	88.0%
STARKS , Steve	3	10	25	40.0%
STILLER , Wesley	0	0	11	Zero
TASKER , Peter	0	0	22	Zero
TAYLOR , Chris	2	8	24	33.3%
TAYLOR , Geoff	4	16	25	64.0%
THOMSON , Ian	0	5	22	22.7%
TRIBOLET , Brett	3	5	22	22.7%
TUNKS , Greg	2	6	10	60.0%
WARD, Malcolm	2	4	7	57.1%
WATSON , Arthur	3	5	11	45.4%
WHEELER, Geoff	4	5	7	71.4%
WHEELER, Mike	4	6	7	85.7%
WHITEHOUSE , Bruce	0	4	21	19.0%
WILLIAMS, Chris	1	3	7	42.8%
WOOD, Stuart	1	1	3	33.3%
YOUSAF, Salman	1	2	7	28.5%

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS IN PICTURES

Right

Mike Wheeler, David Goodman and Nth West Sydney 1st Grade captain, Paul Greentree watching the wicket dry under heavy skies at Tantallon Oval

**Shires Round 2
10 October 2009**



Left

1 November 2009

Chris Taylor & Stephen Blomfield share a red cordial during the Auburn versus Strathfield Frank Gray Shield Match at George Parry Oval

On this day Chris celebrated his 100th career shires game, while Stephen passed 200 Shires games as an umpire the day before



Right

15 November 2009

Grade Panel Umpire Bill Hendricks (Left) and SSCUA Member Geoff Taylor (Right) pose before the start of play at Blacktown Olympic Park for the annual Grade vs Shires match



SEASON HIGHLIGHTS IN PICTURES

**Right
18 March 2010**

**President Peter Friend (Left)
presents Spencer Harrison with
his 150 game polo shirt at the
March 2010 members meeting**



Left - 27 March 2010

**Gordon Smith (Left) and
Jim Shellens (Right)
smile for the camera
during the 3rd Grade
Semi Final (Auburn vs
Georges River) played
at Dave Tribolet Oval**

**Left
1 November 2009**

**Mike Wheeler (Left) and
Mark Hughes (Right)
enjoy a red poweraid
together at Frank Gray
Oval during the Round 1
Frank Gray Shield match
played between
Warringah and Epping**

