

GRAFTON UNITED CRICKET CLUB

CLUB NEWSLETTER ~ FEBRUARY 2019 ~ ISSUE 5#



Premier and Reserve update

Premier

Our Premier team have endured a tough few weeks, having missed out on the playoffs in the Jeff Crowe competition following defeats at Parnell and Howick. Last weekend they took on Eden Roskill in a vital top of the table Two-Day clash. Taking advantage of good batting conditions on day 1, Roskill posted a commanding total of 330. In somewhat controversial circumstances, our boys had to chase this total down on a wet wicket on day 2, as the sprinklers were left on, affecting the block overnight. With a shortened day's play as a result, 330 was always going to be a huge ask. After losing a few early wickets, the boys dug deep to save the match in tense fashion, finishing the day 9 down with 220 on the board.

Reserves

The reserves unfortunately missed out on the One-Day final after a thrilling 1 wicket loss at home against rivals Kumeu. Last weekend they took on Takapuna at Victoria Park, with the team looking to return to form in the red ball format. Having lost 1st innings, an impressive turnaround on day 2 saw the reserves achieve a reverse outright, ensuring they took a number of points away from the fixture. Special mention to Nathan Harlow and Kyle Ruffell with 4 wickets apiece, as well as Dyl Taylor who hit an unbeaten 60 in the run chase.

J.T Sparling Super Series

The 2nd round of the J. T Sparling Super Series was played on 16th December against Parnell Cricket Club. 10 teams played across Year 3 to 8. A much more successful round for Grafton with Yr3A & B, Yr5B and Yr7B taking out the wins.

This side of Christmas sees us facing Howick Pakuranga and Cornwall. Good luck to everyone involved and thank you to all those involved in organising the comp.

Jane Gold - Grafton REP Co-ordinator

16 Clubs 16 Aces

A big thank you to Auckland Ace, Jamie Brown for joining us at our January Cricket Festival as part of the 16 Aces 16 Clubs initiative. Our juniors enjoyed a mix of skills, drills and some fun 'n' games in the glorious Auckland sunshine as well as coaching from some of our Premier squad.



Top senior perfornances

Mike Ruffell - 75 Prems v Eden Roskill 2nd & 3rd Feb

Mo Mulla - 5'fa Thirds v Ellerslie 2nd & 3rd Feb

Josh Gardner - 5'fa Fourths v Parnell 2nd & 3rd Feb



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Northshore Junior World Series

Every January the North Shore Cricket Club presents the Junior World Series of Cricket, an exciting opportunity for budding young cricket stars to play under the flag of a national team in three days of intense competition. There are three leagues -Junior (Yr3/4), Middle (Yr5/6) & Senior (Yr7/8).

This year the Grafton players were on fire. Congratulations to South Africa who won the Senior League (Year 7/8) incl. Jake and Toby, and West Indies who won the Middle League (Year 5/6) incl. Charlie, Ollie and Tom. Congratulations to Luis Kerrigan with a 50 and for being awarded MVP award for the Middle League. And finally congratulations to Charlie Dunn for Female MVP Hard Ball and also Best Bowler Middle League. A great three days of cricket!!

Jane Gold - Grafton Junior Co-ordiantor



Above: Our winning Y8 LO team

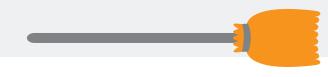
Please tidy up at Auckland Domain

A friendly reminder from the Council to please tidy up after your games. Ensure all rubbish is removed and disposed of in an appropriate manner without causing bins to overflow.

Users of the park must also only park in designated areas as failure to do so will result in a fine or vehicles being towed. Thank you for your co-operation.

Sprucing up at Grafton

A big thank you to the senior and youth players who gave up their time and donned some rubber gloves at our working bee! We a really appreciate your help in giving our clubroom and indoor school a good spring clean.



Y8 Pink Ball LO Storm the Competition

This season saw Y8 field two Limited Over teams with one in the U14 Club of Origin LO tournament and the one team competing in the Yr8 Pink Ball LO competition.

The Year 8 Pink LO team had a fantastic run to become overall winners of the league. They won 5 of their 6 pool games and then proceeded to beat Takapuna in the semi finals, and Howick Pakuranga in the final. This is an achievement to be proud off as the boys head off now to play school cricket. There have been many outstanding individual performances - but to single players out would be to miss the point of the boys really pulling together and playing as a team. Congratulations to the boys and to the coaching team of Lee Duff and Justin Edgar.

Jane Gold - Grafton Junior Co-ordiantor