



SOUTH CROYDON CRICKET CLUB

The Bulldogs est. 1952



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SOUTH CROYDON
CRICKET CLUB NEWS

Newsletter

GRAND FINAL EDITION 25 March '21



2020/21

RDCA PREMIERS





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BILLY'S BRIEFS

I admit it, I FEEL LIKE A KING!!! Well, I've always felt a bit like one, with Dags being a queen....but after Saturday, I was KING OF THE WORLD What an amazing day. To be the Trollope Premiers is not just a wonderful victory for every single member of the Doggies Community. From the Committee, and our Twelfth Man Members, our sponsors, Past Players, every single current player, from our Woolworths Blasters right up to our Coaches of all teams, our Juniors Team Managers, all of our supporters, and especially to the partners and families of those who have had to commit to weekly training and weekend matches and functions. We all know and appreciate that the partners and families are supportive, patient, and often 'left at home' and/or give up their weekends to come along and be wonderful supporters.

Thank you so much.

South Croydon Cricket Club is the Family Club, and this was so evident at Montrose on Saturday...there were grandkids and grandparents and babies and adults, players from our juniors and from our senior teams, members of the Footy club...everyone who is so important to us, and I know that the noise and constant encouragement meant a great deal to our players.

To the 1st X1 team...

Zippy has led from the front as usual, and Coach Craig has helped mould this side into a team that will work for each other and make the sacrifices necessary to reach the top.

Coming from 3rd spot, we did it the hard way. A comprehensive victory in the semi-final over Ainslie Park, a hard fought win over North Ringwood after the disappointment of not getting a chance to beat them in the grand final last year. We then moved on to the highly fancied Montrose, who had an amazing season only losing 1 game up until the grand final.

The belief the boys have in each other was evident. With Frosty, Sameet and Benny Willis all out with the score only 37 it would have been easy to throw in the towel. However, a dominate 30 from Zippy followed by a brilliant innings from Joel, Scotty and Rory took the score to an impressive 8/191.

Heading out into the field, an early wicket from Tyson got us off to a good start but Montrose showed their talent and worked their way to 3/114, but once again we showed fight, a brilliant run out by Zippy, then followed up by what can only be described as an unbelievable spell of bowling from Rory Tattersall netting him 5/2 off 4 overs, took the score from 3/115 to 9/128 and the game was done. Rory Tattersall BOG! Fantastic effort lads.



The entire club is moving in the right direction, we are showing improvement in all grades with the younger guys starting to make their mark, the Junior programme is in great shape with 3 Junior sides playing finals this year.

I will have more to say at our Presentation Night and then in our final Newsletter...but thank you to everyone who has been a part of the 20/21 season.
I'M KING OF THE WORLD!



**GO DOGGIES,
TROLLOPE SHIELD 20/21 PREMIERS**



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WHAT THE COACH AND PLAYERS SAY:

Craig: Saturday saw the culmination of 2 years hard work from the club to deliver a great win and fitting end to the season. To see the player and crowd reaction when the final wicket fell was an amazing sight and a memory forever. The passion in singing the club song by all is a testament to the love and respect people have for the club. Saturday was proof that a positive mindset in anything you do in life will carry you along way.

Zippy; So proud of the boys. To play the cricket we have for two years is unbelievable

Coges: I just want everybody to know how happy I am that I came back home to the Doggies. This is by far the greatest cricketing highlight of my career. I just hope the young guys fully understand what they have achieved. But this wasn't just a win for the 1s, it's the club's to share. To see the supporters on the ground after the game was just as special. I love this club

Tommy Wynne; We've had 7 players put in a best on ground performance this year. I think this shows how even our team is and the main reason for winning the GF

Tyson Lacey; Finally getting a chance to play in one after last year and winning it! Doesn't get much better than that 🐶

Frosty: How good's winning flags! Good to see the boys stand up on the big stage and get it done 🐶 🏆

Mitch; We worked hard through the season with a few close wins and a few close losses. We knew that when we finally got our chance that it wouldn't be easy. It was good to see that when it came to crunch time that we didn't rely on the regular performers, and well, when I thought it was time to end the game, I did.

Joel: unreal effort from the boys, to fight our way back and get over the line was an unbelievable effort, winning a flag with some of my closest mates just topped it off.

Braddles; Even though I was 12th man it was one of the best days of my life, just so proud of all the boys, couldn't have happened to a better bunch of blokes.

Rory; What a way to finish off the season, we knew we would be there abouts regarding finals but to win it like that is special. A great group of blokes to play cricket with and when you all play for each other it makes it a lot easier. We don't just play for the 11 on the field, being a different season with the restrictions for training early days I'm sure it was a nightmare for those behind the scenes so to do it for the supporters felt amazing.

Ben; It was an awesome achievement and shows how deep our team really goes, not just relying on our big-name players.

Glynn; What a game, great to have every single player contribute their little bit to the win.

Sameet: MIA





GRAND FINAL BEST ON GROUND: RORY TATTERSALL, 26no, 8 overs, 5/25

In the afterglow of the victory...what are you feeling?

Still feels a bit surreal but extremely elated with the result and how we've gone about the win. Against a side who lost 1 game all year, to get the win is amazing.

How does this rank as a sporting moment for you?

It would probably be number one, this is my first ever cricket grand final win and the emotion of everyone on and off the field made it very special. I was riding the emotions all day and once we got that final wicket, you cannot beat that feeling.

What were your thoughts at the change of innings?

It is a bit of a blur I'll be honest, but to get to 191 after being in the position we were in early I was very happy to get to that stage.

Largely thanks to Truck and Coges doing their thing and getting us out of what could have been a much lower score. There was a big sense we were in with a chance.

When Montrose were 3/114..what were your thoughts?

I knew that all year they'd had 2 or 3 blokes get them over the line consistently, and the guys they had in could have easily taken it away from us. I was a little worried, but once Zippy did his thing and we got the 4th it felt like it was going to be our day.

You had 0/17 from 4 overs....5/21 off 7 overs. What's your mindset and approach during this?

I actually thought I was 0/23 off 4 so I'll take that! But after I didn't start that well I knew the calibre of line-up we had so wasn't too worried because any of our bowlers could come on and tie them down again. As for my second spell, a lot of credit has to go to the bowlers through the middle, Tys, Mitch and Glyn especially as they took their key wickets at big moments in the game. The job seemed a bit too big for a side who hadn't been put under much pressure all year – and their shot selection showed this.

Did you have a 'favourite' dismissal?

Being a spinner there is nothing better than a stumping, but the wicket of their captain was my favourite as it showed their panic and it was very sweet to get him.

What are some factors that make this a successful team?

Friendship and mateship. Everyone you play with in that side you want to do well for and that encourages everyone to step up. We're very lucky to be led by Zip who knows the game inside out and having his backing helps enormously.

What are some factors that led to your own success?

Enjoy the game as much as possible! Cricket is a game of ups and downs so I just try to maintain the fact it's not always going to go your way, but to stick at it.

What will be the approach of you and the team for the next pre-season?

Get back to red ball cricket which will be exciting! I think it will be about keeping it simple and we now have the believe we are a side who can win another flag.

You contributed so valuably with the bat and the ball. Are you definitely an allrounder now?

Never thought I'd see the day where I'm called an all-rounder, I think I need to make a few more runs to be in that category

What advice would you give our upcoming players?

Enjoy your cricket, there aren't many sports you get to hang out with your mates for 5 hours a day playing sport so cherish that. Plus don't be afraid to ask for help, there are numerous people around the club that would love to give young blokes advice!

What does the off season look like for you?

Hopefully rest a little bit as it's been quite busy, then straight in Football (soccer) season! Might need to have a hit here and there to make sure I don't forget how to bat.





FROM THE MAROONDAH LEADER, by Daniel Cenci

RDCA 2020-21: South Croydon wins Trollope Shield grand final

A stunning recovery at the crease followed by a spin masterclass landed South Croydon an upset premiership victory over Montrose in the RDCA's Trollope Shield on Saturday.

A stunning recovery at the crease followed by a spin masterclass landed South Croydon an upset 26-run premiership victory over Montrose in the RDCA's Trollope Shield on Saturday.

The Bulldogs looked in trouble early, losing their top-order and falling to 3-37 in the 10th over after Montrose's Cheyne van Koll bowled Ryan Smith for 21 and Ben Willis (7), to go with opener Sameet Brar (1) after he was claimed by Matt McKane. But a revival led by captain Michael King (29), keeper Joel Merrett (47) and Scott Cogan (41) steadied the Bulldogs on the way to 8-191.

In reply, minor premier Montrose looked the more composed of the two despite the early loss of Jake Crowe for two, in control at 4-115 on the back of solid showings from top-scorer Reece Schelfhout (36), Kieran Perkins (34) and Michael Edwards (28). Enter South Croydon's Rory Tattersall with the ball. The Bulldogs' spinner turned the match on its head in his second stint in the 23rd over, dismissing Justin Perkins (2) followed by Liam Storm (11) in the 25th.

But it was the 27th over that produced a remarkable hat-trick claiming the scalps of McKane for three, captain-coach Matt Whittaker for a duck and Josh McCallum (3) to send the Wolves to 9-128, chasing 192.

The curtain fell on Montrose's charge in the 34th over as Mitch Crozier claimed his second wicket to dismiss retiring great Dan Dimitriou for 16, knocking the Wolves over for 165.

Tattersall finished with 5-25 off eight overs to go with 26 runs, claiming the honours for best afield, while it was an even bowling performance for the Wolves led by van Koll (2-19 off six), McKane (2-32 off seven) and Crowe (2-31 off eight).

South Croydon captain Michael King credited his side's batting depth in its recovery, and said he had Tattersall earmarked for a landmark performance all week.

"We always know we've got blokes that can come in late and do a good job – to post such a score in a grand final without some of the blokes who make the runs most weeks, it was huge," King said.

"They (Montrose) batted beautifully early – to their credit they came out really aggressively.

"Before Christmas (Tattersall) had the most wickets at the club and didn't have it all his own way since.

"Not often does he come back for a second spell, but I backed him in – I knew that spin would catch a weakness for them. It was extraordinary."

The premiership victory holds extra significance for King and the Bulldogs, who last year made the decider but didn't get a chance to play due to the hit of COVID-19 sidelining all local sport.

It 'lost' last season's grand final after North Ringwood was subsequently ruled the winner. "Last year to make a grand final and then COVID hit, then you get told you lose a grand final without even playing the game, it was devastating," King said.

"It was good to come back and I think the RDCA did a good job and made the right call to make it a one-day season and made the correct decisions all year and they deserve credit for that."

King said South Croydon's "9 to 10 players" to play most matches this season proved a key in the club's flag hunt, as it finished third and had to front for three finals.

Meanwhile, coach Craig Staggard believes a change of tact during the finals series was one of the winning moves, coming up against a Montrose outfit which had only dropped one match all season and won its way straight through to the decider.

"I felt we just had to have a change of mindset in the finals – instead of trying to combat the opposition, make them chase us, and I think the boys all bought into that," Staggard said.

Staggard said the win was a testament to the work of the club over a number of years through its junior program, and a credit to its handling of the COVID-19 conditions all season.

"The whole club stood up, it was excellent, and people went over and above," he said.

For King, who's no stranger to premiership success with dual flags at Premier level with Ringwood, Saturday's triumph ranks high on his list. But he believes it also puts the club in rare air with its second crown in six years – the last coming in 2014-15. "It's right up there, it really is," King said.

"Five grand finals in eight or nine years is a tremendous effort and puts us up there with the 'Wanny Souths' and 'North Ringwoods' of the last decade, that's for sure."



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