



ROUND THE WICKET

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CRICKET EXPRESS



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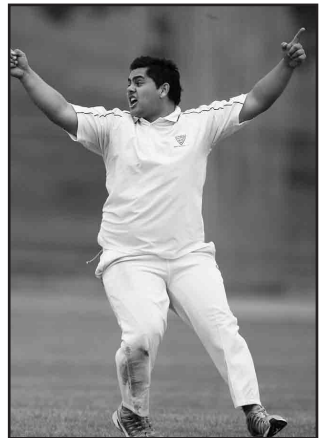
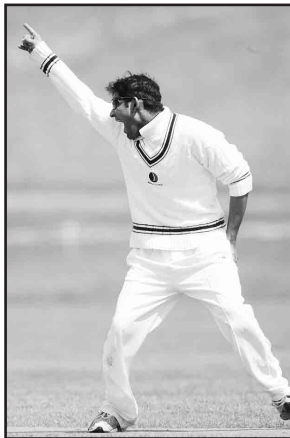
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Premier Cricket Round Up

It's been a cracking start to a revamped premier club cricket season with runs being scored left right and centre. The traditional Twenty20 tournament has been scrapped with the 20 over matches scheduled for January.

That means the Jeff Crowe Cup one-day competition is in full swing, with some huge scores already posted after just a handful of rounds.

Howick Pakuranga's Aces players impressed against Grafton United in the second round posting 371/6. Colin de Grandhomme was at his smashing best thumping 156, including 12 sixes while Andrew de

Boorder was unlucky to miss out on three figures, scoring 96.

De Grandhomme was following up from a first round century, so looks in great form heading into the domestic season. Grafton could only manage 205/7 in reply, which included 46 from returning player coach Guy Coleman.

Takapuna were another side to go crazy with the bat, this time against local rivals North Shore scoring 352/6 in just 42 overs in the first round. Craig Cachopa was the main destroyer for Takapuna, scoring more than half his side's run with 197, an agonising three runs short of 200. In fact Cachopa's individual score dwarfed North Shore's final total of 183.

After breaking ties with Ellerslie this season Auckland University will be hoping to give some of their young players experience in the premier competition. But they were taught a cricketing lesson in round one, being dismissed for just 68 after Cornwall notched up 285/5. Brent Findlay 85*, Aces spinner Ronnie Hira, 64*, and English import Daryl Mitchell, 54, were in the runs for Cornwall.

Birkenhead City have shown some good form so far this season, returning to the top level after four years in Premier Reserve cricket. They put up a competitive performance against reigning champions Parnell in round one, before claiming their first win



against fellow newcomers Ellerslie. Wicketkeeper Alan Plant's 76 helped Birkenhead to 234/8 before Ellerslie fell just 12 runs short, scoring 222/8, with Dean Bartlett putting together a great double of 86 and 3/28.

Eden Roskill's Vivek Trichy also deserves a mention, scoring an important 121 during their loss to Takapuna. On many occasions Eden Roskill's 247 would have been a defendable target but the Cachopa brothers, Brad and Craig, tore the heart out of Eden Roskill's total with 78 and 75 respectively before captain Ryan Scivier saw his side home with an unbeaten 45.

It's not just the men's competition where the runs have been plentiful either with Hearts player, and Cornwall captain, Katie Perkins cracking a massive unbeaten 141 in the first round of the Women's one day competition.



Four centuries in two rounds is a great start to the season and hopefully an indication that Premier batsmen are in for a bumper season, which should make for great watching from the sidelines.



Club Profile

Birkenhead City

It's all about new beginnings for the Birkenhead City Cricket Club.

After four years playing Premier Reserve cricket, the club has been promoted back to the top division. Premier coach Andrew Park says it's exciting to be back.

"It's great for the players and the club but we realise we've got a lot of work to do to meet expectations. We've worked really hard for four years to get the club back to Premier standard. The boys are really fired up for it."

While it wasn't an easy decision to drop down a division, Park says that was preferable to amalgamating with another club. "We're a very proud club with 110 years of history behind us."

And he says the players really have something to aim for this year following their Premier Reserve experience, with



between 25 and 30 players showing up to training.

Park admits it'll be a challenging year with many fresh faces in the side.

But with old heads like Terry Crabb and Darrin Crook returning to the club this year, there's some experienced guys to guide the younger players. He says the key to success will be to nurture young talent for the future.

"We're not from a strong cricketing area. We don't have the Westlakes, Rosminis and Rangitotos. We have Northcote College and Birkenhead College. Now we've got the opportunity to build the youth of the club and build them up towards premiers."

Park says those players new to Premier club cricket will soon notice the difference from lower grades.

"As a bowler they'll see they can't bowl one bad ball an over. As a batsman they don't get a second chance - they've got to get their execution perfect."

Birkenhead found out that out during their first game back against Jeff Crowe Cup one-day champions Parnell. They were competitive for much of the match, only losing by 43 runs.

"If we'd executed our plans properly, we would have run them close," Park says.

"To have our first game against the reigning champions was out of the frying pan and into the fire for us."

However that performance also proved

to Park that his side can be competitive with the best and a second up win over Ellerslie proved that they'll be no easybeats.

"It'll be worth keeping an eye on us, but our goals are set three or four years down the track. We're looking at developing that winning culture."

Park is supportive of changes made to the competition structure this year, including the development of a Major and Minor Championship in two-day cricket, with promotion-relegation matches at the end of the season. But it's mid-week Twenty20 that has him really excited.

"As a club it'll make those Wednesday nights a festival occasion. It gives the club the opportunity to present it's flagship team to the junior club."



Park is also pleased the Twenty20 and one-day competitions give his side more game time against top clubs like Cornwall and Takapuna.



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Aces Profile **Dusan Hakaraia**



For Dusan Hakaraia, years of solid form in premier club cricket and Auckland A sides has finally paid off.

This season the 27-year-old batsman was granted his first Auckland Cricket contract.

While his inclusion was no doubt helped by former Canterbury batsman Johann Myburgh's last minute withdrawal from the Aces squad that doesn't bother Hakaraia.

"It's awesome - it gives me the chance to focus on cricket. I don't have to worry about work and everything else. There's no more going to work, then to training and back to work."

And the Waitakere City player, who's played premier club cricket since 2001, says there hasn't been any problems slipping into the Auckland environment.

"I really enjoy training with the boys."

Hakaraia is one of several new faces in the Aces side, with former Otago player Greg Todd new to the squad and talented youngster Jimmy Neesham also receiving a contract.

"There's a few new faces - it's good to get to know them."

The prospect of stepping up a level from Premier club cricket doesn't phase Hakaraia too much after putting much more focus on improving his game in recent years.

"The last few years I've really just enjoyed playing cricket. I'm looking

forward to the challenge."

But stepping up for the Aces doesn't mean he'll forget about the Waitakere club he's played for since he was a kid.

"All the guys I went to school with at Kelston Boys play there - there's about six or seven of us. It's the same group of guys - that's what's kept me at the club. There's always a good bunch of supporters - it's fun playing for them."

He says longtime Waitakere coach Randall Todd has also had a huge influence on his career. "Randall's awesome and has looked after me well over the years."

Hakaraia's first goal is to cement a spot in the Aces this season. However beyond that he has higher goals in mind.

"I've always wanted to represent my country, but this season is about becoming a regular player for Auckland."

The recent selections of Shanan Stewart and Andy McKay show the New Zealand selectors pick on talent and performances, not age.

As for the form of cricket Hakaraia enjoys most, he says he takes something out of each version of the game.

"The shorter forms can be more exciting in a sense, but I really don't mind any of them."

Q and A: Barrington Rowland

This month Around The Wicket talks to new University coach Barrington Rowland about his move to the club from Suburbs New Lynn.

Why the move to University?

Obviously Suburbs New Lynn have been doing really well for the last two years and I was looking to take my coaching to the next level. Taking a young, inexperienced team [like University] is obviously the way to do it. Most of the guys played reserves last year.



What reception have you had from the players so far?

It's going to be a huge challenge for a club wanting to take good steps forward. They're a very well organised outfit and are putting in the hard yards. We started off literally in July just getting to know the guys. They're a bunch of really talented players at the club.

What are the goals for the season in terms of results?

Realistically I'd like the boys to grow as a team. We'd like to qualify for the top eight in the two day competition. But the key is constant improvement. By the end of the season if the guys have grown that's the big goal.

And what about your own form?

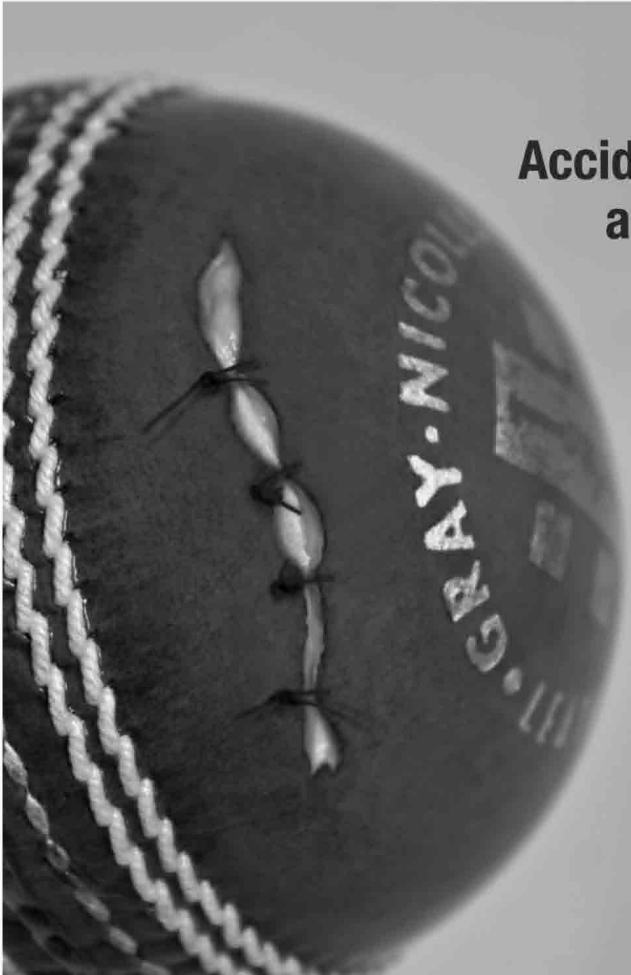
Definitely part of the move was to challenge myself, batting under pressure. I'm looking forward to it. At Suburbs you could get lulled into complacency. They're a talented team and I didn't do justice to my potential.

How's the team coping after dissolving the merger with Ellerslie?

"It's pretty obvious guys are fairly parochial about their own club. I'm sure the Ellerslie guys feel the same way - the boys have been training pretty hard in the off-season.

What are your views on the restructure of the Premier club competition this season?

It's quite sad for the University-Ellerslie team who did quite well last year [in the two-day competition]. We've got to get on with it now. It's great the Auckland selectors have said performances in the bottom six will be considered. Obviously with 14 teams that would have been huge.



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Womens Cricket

Cornwall's new generation

It's early days, but it's been a great start to the season for the Cornwall women's cricket team.

The young side, full of girls in their teens and early 20s, scored 321 in a Prichard Cup one-day match against North East.

Hearts batsman Katie Perkins smacked 141*, while Maddie Green just missed out on what would have been a well deserved ton, scoring 96. Passing 300 is very rare in women's one-day cricket, particularly at club level.

"To get to that total was pretty impressive," Cornwall coach Kyle Tocher says. "It was a good effort by the top order and we backed it up with a reasonable effort in the field."

Cornwall won the match with relative ease. But Tocher says Perkins and Green weren't slogging by any means.

"They were playing good cricket shots and hit the bad balls to the boundary. They were running good singles."

Coming from a background in coaching secondary school girls cricket, Tocher says he's been surprised at how much power the top level club players have.

"From my point of view the thing I can't get over is how hard they can hit the ball. The number of sixes hit is something I didn't expect. It's the senior players that are doing that. The skill level in senior women's cricket is very impressive."

Tocher says Perkins is a captain that leads from the front.

"The girls respect her in the field. She's got a really good cricket head on her. She's always at training an hour before we start, working on her game."

But Tocher says it's important the team don't get ahead of themselves.

"This year we are trying to be as professional as we can and setting team goals. We're trying to reach those goals and expectations."

After the Prichard Cup the women's club season continues with the premier Twenty20 competition and the Pearl Dawson one-day competition.



JEFF CROWE CUP MEN'S PREMIER GRADE LIMITED OVERS COMPETITION

Round 2 - 16-Oct-10

Auckland University v Parnell - Cornwall Park 3a

Parnell 205/6 (B Rae 54, C Rope 33*, B Cates 3-28) defeated Auckland University 129 (J Boyle 44, C Rope 3-12) by 76 runs.

ILG East Coast Bays v Papatoetoe - Freyberg Park 1a

Papatoetoe 186 (Sarvajith DR 51, S Singe 36, G Shaw 42, S Lipshaw 3-38, R Bezuidenhout 3-43) lost to ILG East Coast Bays 187/7 (B Schmulian 39, M Mimmack 33, B Stevens 3-38) by three wickets.

Howick Pakuranga v Grafton United - Lloyd Elsmore Park 7a

Howick Pakuranga 371/6 (C de Grandhomme 156, A de Boorder 96, D Luck 41, J Roberts 4-89) defeated Grafton United 205/7 (C Fletcher 60*, G Coleman 46, G Thorpe 39*, T Manning 36) by 166 runs.

Suburbs New Lynn v Waitakere City - Eastdale Road 4a

Suburbs New Lynn 262/9 (M Bates 65*, J Raval 59, V Davies 53) defeated Waitakere City 152 (C Fenner 37, J Raval 3-26) by 110 runs.

Birkenhead City v Ellerslie - Onepoto Domain 1a

Birkenhead City 234/8 (A Plant 76, P Treanor 56, K Baker 4-40, D Bartlett 3-28) defeated Ellerslie 222/8 (D Bartlett 86, S Venville 59, D Crook 3-32) by 12 runs.

North Shore v Cornwall - Cornwall Park 1a

North Shore 154/10 (B Stewart 43, A MacDuff 31, C Pryor 3-23) lost to Cornwall 158/2 (D Mitchell 85*, M Guptill-Bunce 51*) by eight wickets.

Eden Roskill v Takapuna - Keith Hay Park 3a

Eden Roskill 247 (V Trichy 121, I Smallburn 3-31) lost to Takapuna 248/4 (B Cachopa 78, C Cachopa 75, R Scivier 45*) by six wickets.

Round 1 - 09-Oct-10 Waitakere City v Takapuna - Te Atatu Park 1

Papatoetoe v Eden Roskill - Keith Hay Park 3a (45 over match)

Papatoetoe 229/6 (S Singe 81, G Shaw 37) defeated Eden Roskill 206/9 (C Dittmer 70*, V Trichy 47, D Stevens 3-38) by 23 runs.

Cornwall v Auckland University - Cornwall Park 1a (45 over match)

Cornwall 285/5 (B Findlay 85*, R Hira 64*, D Mitchell 54) defeated Auckland University 68 (L Ferguson 4-15, T Hewitt 3-11) by 217 runs.

Parnell v Birkenhead City - Cornwall Park 2a (43 over match)

Parnell 201/7 (B Rae 71, R Turner 39*, M Van Dalen 3-41) defeated Birkenhead City 158 (D Crook 62, C Frankson 33, C Keogh 3-48) by 43 runs.

Waitakere City v Howick Pakuranga - Te Atatu Park 5a (48 over match)

Waitakere City 203/7 (D Morton 98*) lost to Howick Pakuranga 204/2 (C de Grandhomme 102, C Munro 51*) by eight wickets.

Takapuna v North Shore - Onewa Domain 2a (42 over match)

Takapuna 352/6 (C Cachopa 197, B Douglas 46) defeated North Shore 183 (B Stewart 38, H Baker 35, J Cowell 4-29) by 169 runs.

Ellerslie v Suburbs New Lynn - Michaels Ave Res 2a (47 over match)

Ellerslie 129/9 (K Baker 55, V Davies 5-22) lost to Suburbs New Lynn 130/1 (M Barry 46*, J Raval 43) by nine wickets.

Grafton United v ILG East Coast Bays - Cox's Bay 2a

Grafton United 131/9 (R Lane 4-13) lost to East Coast Bays 132/3 (T Briggs 52) by seven wickets.

POINTS TABLE AFTER ROUND 2

White Section

Cornwall	6
Takapuna	6
Parnell	6
Papatoetoe	3
Grafton United	0
Waitakere City	0
Ellerslie	0

Blue Section

Suburbs New Lynn	6
Howick Pakuranga	6
ILG East Coast Bays	6
Birkenhead City	3
Eden Roskill	0
North Shore	0
Auckland University	0

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STATISTICS

Top five batsmen	Club	Runs	Average
Colin de Grandhomme	Howick Pakuranga	258	129.00
Andrew de Boorder	Howick Pakuranga	120	120.00
Daniel Morton	Waitakere City	98	98.00
Ben Stewart	North Shore	81	40.50
Allan Plant	Birkenhead City	76	76.00

Top five bowlers	Club	Wickets	Average
Victor Davies	Suburbs New Lynn	5	4.40
Richard Lane	East Coast Bays	5	6.20
Jonathan Roberts	Grafton United	5	24.80
Rowan Bezuidenhout	East Coast Bays	4	16.75
Brad Cates	Auckland University	4	14.50
Stu Lipshaw	East Coast Bays	4	19.25

Club Cricketer of the Year Top Ten						
	Club	Points	Runs	Average	Wickets	Average
Colin de Grandhomme	Howick Pakuranga	368	258	129.00	-	-
Victor Davies	Suburbs New Lynn	150	-	-	5	4.40
Andrew de Boorder	Howick Pakuranga	140	120	120.00	1	45.00
Colin Munro	Howick Pakuranga	124	64	64.00	2	35.50
Ben Stewart	North Shore	121	81	40.50	2	43.50
Allan Plant	Birkenhead City	111	76	76.00	-	-
Rowan Bezuidenhout	East Coast Bays	110	-	-	4	16.75
Brad Schmulian	East Coast Bays	109	59	29.50	1	36.00
Richard Lane	East Coast Bays	103	3	3.00	5	6.20
Jonathan Roberts	Grafton United	101	1	-	5	24.80

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