



The Northern Knights Notice

Mark's Movember Update- \$3456 raised by Mark's Mo



It is not too late to support Mark in his quest to raise money for Men's health. It would be lovely to tip him over the \$ 4000.

Read his Mo Space & please also remember to support Mark in his quest to grow a full moustache & donate to his Movember Account. The link to his account is <http://au.movember.com/mospace/628016/> and donate online using your credit card or PayPal account or write a cheque payable to Movember Foundation, referencing my registration number 628016 and mailing it to: Movember Foundation, PO Box 292, Prahran, VIC, 3181

A Great Start To The Season For President Cup Teams & Two Shield Sides In The Finals- The 2011 Knights Are Looking To Best Yet

Under 10's Foster Shield **No Game**

Under 11's Creak Shield **No Game**

Under 11's President's Cup **Loss**

Northern Knights ALL OUT for 25 DEFEATED BY Sutherland 5/282

The Northern Knights lost the toss and were put into field by an exceptionally strong Sutherland team who had made the trek from The Shire to our home ground at Kenthurst.

The weather gods were not on our side, with intermittent showers throughout the 1st session of play. Our bowlers and fielders did their best under slippery wet conditions.

Bowling highlights include:

2/42 – Riz

1/25 – Pat

0/25 – Mackenzie

Some great fielding saw 2 runouts, 1st a direct by Patrick and 2nd an assisted runout by Lachlan.

Unfortunately, our batsmen were no match for a very drilled and skilled Sutherland team. All out for 25.

Under 12's Cawsey Shield **Loss**
Northern Knights 128 def by Sutherland 2/118 (rain adjusted)

Given this is our last news letter for the year, I am going to be a little indulgent with space! Suffice to say we didn't post a large enough total and Sutherland was able to reach the rain-adjusted target comfortably. That aside, the season brought the boys back under the tutelage of Marisa who volunteered her expertise to this group of boys for the third year, and they have improved in placings each year – with this being their most successful season. Some selection changes at the beginning of the year were made to bolster the batting and to add a strike bowler. These changes provided new personnel in Michael, Kristoff and Will who each made significant contributions in the area they were

selected. As I have been want to in the past I am going to harp on about teamwork. It is imperative that you learn at this age that you are going to win or lose based on the efforts of the whole group – one outstanding player is nice to have in any team, but it won't win you a Shield. When the chips are down you need to stand behind your team mate, when things are going well keep up the encouragement. This isn't the Australian team in which selection changes are going to be made after each game, learn quickly the strengths of your team mates and ensure they are utilised to benefit the team. That said, congratulations, and thankyou, for a most entertaining season.

The best bowler and best batsmen for the season was Travis Loxton, who attained 120 runs from his 5 innings as well as 6 wickets with a season best (Fairfield winning) 4/11.

Will after a little bit of juggling and trial was given the role of opener and performed this most admirably. Despite the step-up that opening at reps is from opening at Club he batted well with both him and Rahul seeing off the openers against Sutherland to set up a chance of victory in round 5. His fielding is always sharp and reliable and it will be great to see him grow in his role as opener next season.

Rahul finished his season on a high with a season best of 21 against the toughest competition we faced. This season saw Rahul having grown in confidence taking the singles and looking for the gaps. Any chance he may have had of moving into first drop he managed to quash through his succes so we'll hopefully see him back as solid opener next year.

Shubhang What a difference a week makes! He opened his season with his top score of 22 but copped some flack for the pace it was attained. A few quite words from Marisa (and no doubt his dad) saw a different boy over the next few weeks, evidenced by his run outs trying to sneak the quick ones in the next 2 games. His willingness to adapt and work as a team member was very evident. His bowling was excellent and a match saver in the game against Central Coast. His season figures were 4/77 off 26 overs with a match winning season best of 3/5.

Travis As noted above Travis had a great season accumulating runs and taking wickets. He has gradually moved up the order over the seasons with the No.4 position obviously being to his liking judging on his success. A personal reps high score of 42 and best figures of 4/11 were amongst the season highlights. His season bowling stats were 6/72 from 23 overs.

Anthony is another to have accumulated runs this season. Anthony also provides the on-field razz for the team. This season saw Anthony as the regular no.5 a position he relished with his 104 runs, including a 56*, a wonderful improvement on last season when he batted as a number 3 or opener. Anthony's inspired catches annoyed a few opposition batsmen, but provided Colin with great material on the camera!

Jack always hard to write objectively about your own son, but he had a good season with the bat attaining 99 runs for the season and a new high score of 31 along the way. This

was vastly better than last year where he scored 44 runs in total. In the field, he is reliable and he nabbed a couple of catches and a run out as well as scoring a couple of economical overs.

Michael was brought into the team to add some batting and some stability, but scored a rude welcome from North Shore on his first game and took a little time to find his feet. He finished very strongly featuring in a couple of 30+ partnerships which helped swing the Central Coast and Fairfield games. He played strongly as a team player and followed the coaches request to hit-out or to play conservatively depending on the circumstances. It was great to see Michael improve as he became more confident of his role in the team, (see earlier comments re teammates!).

Tom – Tireless Tom he should be called. Having bowled 46 overs in the season at less than 3 an over he ended the season with remarkable figures of 4/125 including 8 maidens. The final game was the only one in which he wasn't asked to do 10 overs, and that was only because it was finished early! His season best figures were 2/18. In the field, Tom is our most trusty catcher and safest hands and rarely was seen out of square or point. Because of his heavy bowling commitment, we didn't get to see Tom's batting ability on many occasions this season but I hope he returns to offer up his skills next year.

Eknoor provided very economical bowling all year finishing with 5/71 from 33. Having altered his technique in the off-season, Eknoor came in off a shorter run-up and fired the balls in with good speed. I know he felt let down by his batting, but as with some of the other lower order batters, Eknoor was often sent in with orders to chase runs and this makes it very difficult not having the luxury of getting set. The fastest around the ground, he is a very safe pair of hands and effected 2 great run outs on top of that.

Nick is our glove-man and from memory did every over for the season. His skill in keeping the batters on their toes to the spinners was rewarded with a stumping as well as his reliability in stopping the byes and nabbing the catches is a huge asset to the team. As well as wicket-keeper, Nick amassed 93 runs and having kept the batting alive in the qualifying final contributed wonderfully to the team again.

Kristoff with the pace he gets, glad I am not 12 and having to face him. He gets wonderful speed and swing and finished the season with 4/112 from 35. It was wonderful to see a kid who accepted that he was 12th man for batting and did it with a smile and a sense of urgency for the overs to be completed so he could get out and attack the opposition.

Peter provided great leadership to the team again this year and demonstrates a maturity beyond his years. He got 4/101 from 35 overs with his bowling and only saw the bat twice. He leads by example on the field with great fielding and sharp catches and a run out resulting.

Under 12's President's Cup

Loss

HK&HDCA 10/98 defeated by Sutherland 3/100

We were unlucky with the toss and were sent into bat, with consistent rain and drizzle for much of our innings. The boys battled well on a wet pitch and out-field, but runs were hard to come by in the conditions. Those batsmen reaching double digits were Oliver Urwin 18 no, Jack Leggott 13, Ben Parker 13, Liam McGuire 12 and Ryan Tullia 10. We managed to see out the full 50 over's.

The weather cleared for most of Sutherland's innings. Our wicket takers were Duranga Gnanawickrama 1/4 off 3 over's, Ben Parker 1/5 off 3 over's, and a Stumping by Adam Tan from Liam McGuire's bowling. Both Duranga Gnanawickrama and Adam Tan took catches.

We play Manly next Sunday, hopefully in better conditions.

Under 13's Gee Shield

No Game

Under 13's President's Cup

Win

U13 IDCA v Sutherland

Henry Ludlow won the toss and put Sutherland in to bat on a day that was forecast to rain from midday onwards. Our opening bowlers did a great job of restricting the run rate of our Southern guests to almost single figures – they were 1/12 after 9 overs. We kept the pressure on with some sharp fielding and although we were not taking many wickets we did manage to strangle the run rate with some accurate seam bowling by the change bowlers. At the end we restricted them to 6/133 off their 50 overs. Good bowling from all the pace bowlers with Connor Laidlow 2/14 off 8 being the pick of them.

With the ever present threat of rain hanging over us we needed to keep the run rate ticking from the start to ensure that we did not lose the game based on run rate should the rain force the game to be stopped at some stage during the afternoon. The opening pair of Daniel Heidegger and Dylan Mares put pressure on fielding side from the start with well hit boundaries and sharp singles to take the score to 0/42 off 15 at the first drinks break. This kept us just ahead of the required run rate should the game be called off due to the rain which was setting in. After the break we lost a few key wickets and the run rate slowed to below the run rate required. Enter Dean Piek who made sure that the required rate was not going to be a factor with a rapid 18 off 18 balls to keep Sutherland interested in fielding in the ever increasing downpour. With the run rate no longer in the red the experienced pair of Henry Ludlow and Dylan Schouten knocked off the required runs with an unbeaten 50 run partnership, which was characterised by well judged shots and excellent running between the wickets, to break the spirits of the Sutherland boys.

Runs were shared between the batsmen with Daniel Heidegger (29) and Henry Ludlow (24 no) the top scorers. Special mention must be made of Henry Ludlow, whose captaincy, cool head under pressure and solid batting ensured that we notched up our 4th win in as many games. This also earned him the coveted "Man of the Match" award.

Under 14's Moore Shield

Loss

: HKHD 9/171 (50 overs) defeated by Central Coast 6/173 (49.4 overs)

Another nail biter for the second week in a row with the match coming down to the final over but unfortunately this week the result was not in our favour.

The boys batted well to compile a respectable total that was very defendable on the slow ground. The openers as they have all season got us off to a solid start with the first wicket falling on 39 with Aaron Crofts (19) falling victim to a freakish runout from a deflection off the bowlers hands. Mansimar Singh followed him shortly after with a well compiled 28 and whilst the runs kept coming it was slow going with the lush outfield.

George Blackwood compiled a steady 26 and was well assisted by Nick Hey who made 25 in relatively quick time. From there we lost a few quick wickets and after being in a solid position there was now a chance we could be bowled out for a low score after reaching 7 for 126. At this point Nic Miller (22) and Jackson Preedy (11) came together for a quick fire 30 run partnership including 19 off one over. Aditya Ramakrishnan (10) and Nick Carter (4) ensured we batted out the final overs to post a respectable and defendable 171.

We knew we had to bowl and field well to protect this total and things did not start well with the Central Coast openers moving to 42 in 14 overs before the first wicket fell to George Blackwood assisted by a good Matt Corish catch. With the 1st change bowlers tightening things up George took a second wicket and then Nick Hey came on and contributed 2 more to put us back in a position of ascendancy. Just before tea the boys affected a vital run out to leave Central Coast at 5 for 78 after 28 overs.

After the tea break the game took another twist and the 6th wicket pairing put on 59 to once again put Central Coast back in the match. The partnership was ended by a good run out with the score on 137 and central coast still needed 34 off 5 overs to win.

Unfortunately we were unable to take any further wickets and the runs were picked off with two balls remaining in the final over.

As is historically the case, it was a great contest with Central Coast and our last 3 encounters with this team have come down to the last couple of balls. Unfortunately, this time it went their way which puts an end to our season in the qualifying final.

The match ball was awarded to George Blackwood for his 2/23 and 26. Well done George!

I would like to congratulate coach Mark Holden and the boys on their achievements this year for once again making the playoff rounds and competing each week with enthusiasm, passion and pride. This team are a bunch of great ambassadors for HK&HDCA and represent the region and the game with distinction week in, week out.

Thanks again to all the parents for your contribution throughout the season.

I wish everyone a great Christmas and I look forward to getting together again in January when we get together in Newcastle to defend the title we took in Ballina last year.

Under 14's President's Cup

Win

HK&H 134 (A. Richards 26, V. Suri 26) def Sutherland 7/78 (V. Suri 3/12, S. Torpy 3 catches) on run rate.

Under grey skies the team headed off for Jannali oval hopeful to post the win they knew they were capable of. Things didn't start well with the loss of the toss and subsequently being sent in to bat with the threat of rain hanging over our heads. Our situation worsened with the loss of a wicket in the first over to some accurate swing bowling from the Sutherland opener. From that point Andy and Vineet batted with determination and build a solid partnership of 49 runs before Andy was caught brilliantly by an airborne fielder. At 2/50 off the first 19 overs we felt we had a solid foundation to build on, but the wheels fell off our middle order and we slumped to 7/82 off 31 overs leaving the tail the job of batting out the remaining overs. Thankfully they were up to the task with Oscar, Tisveer, Ryan and Sam all contributing valuable runs and lifting the score to 134 from 48 overs.

After last week's dismal bowling effort our coach reminded the boys of the importance of line and length rather than speed. With only 134 runs to defend and the ever present risk of rain the odds were against us. Tisveer and Lachlan opened the bowling and did a great job of containing the Sutherland openers and in 4th over our first keeper Simon Torpy took a sharp catch off Lachlan. Tisveer was bowling beautifully and in the 7th over he got a well deserved wicket to a grab at point by Ryan. The Sutherland boys were being put under enormous pressure by accurate bowling and very tight fielding and by the 11th over they had only managed 19 runs. Our first change bowlers also started well with Savio bowling a maiden and Vineet taking 2 wickets in 2 balls in the 12th over, leaving Sutherland at 4/20 off 12 overs. From this point the batsmen steadied a bit and built a partnership of 18, which doesn't sound like a lot of runs, but in the context of this game it was very important. Vineet broke the partnership in the 16th over and then Savio dismissed the incoming batsman shortly after, both wickets fell to sharp catches by Simon behind the stumps. At 6/45 off 21 overs a result now seemed likely, but with a low total (and average) to defend the boys had to ensure that no bad balls were bowled. The introduction of spin saw the last wicket fall to a deceptive topspin ball by Ryan that was lofted by the number #3 and well caught by Sam at Mid Off. Rain started falling more heavily and we were all wondering at what point the stumps would be pulled up, but the game continued on until the 36th over with Sutherland 7/78 needing to lift their run rate quickly if they were to win. After a loss of 11 overs of play the game was finally called off and our boys could celebrate a well deserved win. The highlight of the game was the vastly improved bowling in very trying conditions.

Under 15's Weblin Shield

Draw

HK&HDCA Vs. South Eastern – Match Drawn.

South Eastern batted first scoring 236. In reply, Hornsby were 5/39 after 13 overs when the match was abandoned due to rain.

With Hornsby finishing 2nd, we advance to the semi against St George.

Under 15's Presidents Cup

Draw

Northern Knights 8/142(cc) (R.Narsai 60, D.Jugas 24*) drew with Sutherland 5/27 (16 overs) (D.Chamberlain 3/8)

The boys were on turf for the first time this year, and didn't have to travel out to Penrith. Instead we were at Kenthurst #1 and wasn't it a nice change. Jack won the toss and elected to bat on a reasonably green wicket. Hearts were in mouths, when we found ourselves 2/8 in the 7th over, Albert and Jack being dismissed by some very good Sutherland bowling. Will and Rusty looked to have steadied the ship, but Will's good luck ran out soon after drinks and found himself back in the sheds soon after drinks (3/23).

Andres picked up the run rate, before getting bowled through the gate (4/36). Mark turned from hero to zero this week, as he got cleaned up first ball by an absolute screamer leaving the team at 5/36. This meant Rory 'Theresa' Green was to face the hat-trick ball and did it quite calmly. Rory hit the first 4 of the morning on a pretty slow outfield with a good shot behind square off the spinner. Rory was then caught & bowled after looking pretty good for his 8. This brought Daniel 'Dingo' Chamberlain, last week's combined match winner to the crease. Dingo and Rusty hit some cracking strokes as they put on a much needed 27 for the 7th wicket. Another ball rattled the stumps and Dingo was on his way after a classy innings, meanwhile rusty was solid at the other end on 33*. Dylan 'Starman' Jugas rocked up to the crease and after a nervous start, he and Rusty preceded to dominate the attack for a fantastic partnership of 51 for the 8th wicket. Rushil brought up his 50 to a standing ovation and then was dismissed trying to chase extra runs in the last few overs after a brilliant 60. Cameron 'KVB' Mitrovich and Dylan 24* batted well in the last couple of overs, lifting the score to 142, with a classy outside edge for 4. Credit to the boys, getting 51 off the last 10 overs, after a shaky start.

We then had to bowl, and Sutherland, chasing 143, looked pretty confident. All that confidence disappeared in just the 2nd over when Dingo picked up an amazing double wicket maiden. The team kept up the pressure (especially Albert and Kurtis) before Andries was rewarded for a fine spell, with the wicket of the Sutherland number 4. In the same over, Mark swooped in the field running out the new batsmen with a slide and throw, neatly finished off by Andries at the bowlers end. The boys were fired up now, and the Sutherland supporters were looking worried.

Dingo once again rattled the stumps, next over contributing to the 3rd golden duck of the Sutherland Innings. Sutherland were now praying for rain in the stands and this was soon answered after Kartik and Dylan bowled 4 very tight, worrying overs between them unlucky not to get a wicket.

The boys played extremely well and deserved to take 6 points from this top of the table clash. Thank you to Rusty for his contributions this year and have a safe trip to South Africa, as we move on to the clash against manly next Sunday.

Under 16's Watson Shield

Win

Hornsby 124 (Daniel Anderson 40, James Madden 26) lost to Bankstown 1/125

Our Match report follows:

It was strange going into this game as we had never played Bankstown in any DCA game so both sides knew little about each other. After promising so much going into this game we came up against a gun team who were at the top of their game. Batting first in light rain we built a good early base - one wicket for 52 off 10 overs and Bankstown had sweepers on the boundary to cut off boundaries. They then began to control the game with tight bowling and good fielding – similar to our tactics in recent games. Batsman got out trying to force the pace and momentum shifted as steady wickets fell. We lasted 43 overs and 124 was never going to be enough. DA top scored with 40 (71 deliveries), James Madden 26 (64 deliveries). Next best was Darshan Pandya who scored 16 in 36 balls and saw off the new ball.

In the bowling we just didn't have enough runs to play with. Our only wicket taker was Marcus Creais with 1/30 who was out to a very good diving catch by Nathan Tanner. A couple of tough catches were put down but realistically it wouldn't have made much difference. They ended up getting the runs in 26 overs as there was race to get the total before rain came – they scored the runs as the rain came down.

Coming 4th we needed both Central Coast (1st) and Newcastle (2nd) to win and they both did us a favour. Central Coast getting up by just 7 runs defending 115. Both these sides are high quality sides but we know we can beat both of them having played them in previous seasons. We are now one win away from being in the Grand Final and while we are playing a quality side anything can happen in a Final.

Under 16's President's Cup.

Loss

Telegraph Shield (Under 23)

Martin Shield (Open)

With no injuries going in to this match, we had a strong team on the park. Our bowling line-up had 6 A Grade opening bowlers and we were confident that if we got any runs on the board we would canter to victory.

When we elected to bat and found ourselves wavering at 3-8, we were having flashbacks to our match against Manly. Their opening combination were bowling well and extracting enough movement on the wicket to trouble our bats. Our early jitters were somewhat alleviated though in the 6th over when Tim Love smashed 4 quality boundaries and started to loosen the shackles.

However, after a couple more wickets fell we were still far from out of trouble. With the match going along at a cracking pace (after just 14 overs the score was 5-85), we needed to settle down and look at batting out the innings.

I have been involved in Reps for a decade now and the innings that I saw next would have to rate in the top 2 (Derek Bridgman's 142* in a semi-final will most likely never be beaten).

Charles Ivey came out and proceeded to firstly re-build the innings and then take the bowling apart. His driving was excellent but he played shots all around the park. While Charles appeared to be hitting beach balls, everyone else seemed to be hitting hand grenades. Eventually, they parked players on the boundary in key positions to Charles and went about trying to dismantle the rest of the batting line-up.

Amir Marzouk was fantastic at number 10 coming in to provide some late hitting.

Amir went at 42 and Charles Ivey farmed the strike with the number 11, to build the total to 213. Unfortunately, Charles was eventually out for 91 falling short of what would have been a very well deserved century.

We then went out to bowl and there wasn't too much to report. Amir bowled superbly as always and had 3 wickets. All of their bats were the most unorthodox I have personally seen in Reps, with across the line swiping the order of the day. Their opening bat was 52* when rain called an end to play but looked like getting out every 2nd ball. With their opener out and a few more overs to bowl and we would have likely run through them, but it was not to be.