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THE GROWL

THE OFFICIAL NIGHTCLIFF CRICKET CLUB NEWSLETTER

2nd edition (2009) – 14 May 2009



“STILL CHASING THE PRIZE!”

SOME EARLY TESTIMONIALS

“Stimulating!”

K.Rudd

“Untouchable!”

G.Ablett Jr

“If you don’t read this, you are just cheating yourself!”

D.Truemmer

“Amazing. It’s just so amazing!”

Leon De Marinis

THE PREZ SAYS...

The dragonflies are starting to really come out now (along with a few doonas and jumpers) as the Dry Season descends upon us again. With the Season well underway, the big on-field story thus far has been **Sean Kenny's Nightcliff B-Grade outfit**, which is now equal in first place on the B-Grade Ladder after another impressive victory over the **TV Dinners** last weekend.

Once the A-Grade sorts out their batting they will revisit the winner's list again, and the C-Grade have won a few games to stay well in the Helen Hunt. E-Grade kicked off their season with a victory and the Ds won for the first time on the weekend, slashing up a hapless Southern & Dry to kick start some momentum in 2009. However I have no idea of exact ladder positions as most NT Clubs are not updating **Mycricket** so it is all a bit of a Qantas mystery flight at the minute.

In2Cricket on **Friday nights** at Nightcliff Oval from 5.30pm has been a huge success thus far. Great work by all who assist on these nights to make them run so well. Coordinator **Hugh Auckram** and **Sonia Piccoli** are doing a tremendous job as are wacky side-kick **Jake Collins** with valuable on-field assistance from "*the Incredible Calk*" **Marc Calkin**, **Robbie Shaw**, **James de Terte** and **Aaron Smith**. We have even had the odd resident Nightcliff player chip in like **Tiger Woods**, which is nice. I strongly encourage you all to come down, enjoy having fun with the kids in the field as the kids love this as well. Thanks to **Aaron Griffin** last week for helping out.

We are hoping that by the time you read this those funsters from PNG **Jacob Mado** and **Vani Vagi Morea** will be on their way to Tigerland. If not, they will be here the following week, so please make them feel very welcome around the joint when they arrive.

Remember the **2009 Player Auction** is **Saturday, 16 May 2009** at **7.30pm** at the Sports Club! Plus book your tickets early for the **Doug Walters "One for the Road"** show (with dinner) with singer/comedian **David Prior** on **Friday, 29 May 2009** at **7.30pm** at the **Nightcliff Sports Club**.

If you are going to do it at all, then do it like a Tiger!

Alex Krepapas
NCC President



In2cricket at **Nightcliff Oval** has been very well-attended by parents + kids alike **each Friday night** as ably coordinated **Hugh Auckram** pictured (right pic) on Anzac Day...don't panic, he's the one on the right!

SO KREPAPAS, REMIND US WHERE THE HAWKS ARE ON THE AFL LADDER RIGHT NOW?



LEFT ABOVE: Nightcliff CC President **Alex Krepapas** is slowly processing a 2009 reality where his beloved but embattled Hawkies do not win the flag, save the day or get the girl(s)...

RIGHT ABOVE: A recent “straw poll” taken amongst Hawks fans at the MCG, when they were asked to put their hands up if they were *extremely* confident that the Hawks would easily account for the young and depleted **Essendon** side in Round 7 *and* make the finals in 2009!

LEFT BELOW: – The Hawks Bandwagon after the 2008 Grand Final...

...and then **RIGHT BELOW:**...the Hawks Bandwagon after Round 7 in 2009!



UPCOMING DRAW & DATES –MAY/JUNE 2009

A GRADE:

Saturday, 16 May 2009: vs **SOUTHERN & DRY** at the **MCG!**
 Saturday, 23 May 2009: vs **PINTS OF BEER** at the **LITTLE MUMBAI (HOME)**
 Saturday, 30 May 2009: **BYE BYE BABY, BABY, BYE, BYE!**
 Saturday 6 & 13 June 09: vs **PALMERSTON CHEESE** at **MCG (FROM 11.30AM)**
Sunday, 14 June 2009: T-20 vs SOUTHERN COMFORTS at FRED'S PASSAGE

B GRADE:

Saturday, 16 May 2009: vs **SOUTHERN & DRY** at **LITTLE MUMBAI (HOME)**
 Saturday, 23 May 2009: vs **PINTS OF BEER** at **M2**
 Saturday, 30 May 2009: **BYE BYE BLACKBIRD**
 Saturday 6 & 13 June 09: vs **PALMERSTON CHEESE** at **(I GOT THE) POWER PARK**

C GRADE:

Saturday, 16 May 2009: vs **SOUTHERN & DRY** at **HOWARD (STERN) PARK**
 Saturday, 23 May 2009: vs **PINTS OF BEER** at **BENNY MITCHELL OVAL (KORMILDA)**
 Saturday, 30 May 2009: vs **UNIVERSITY** at **LITTLE MUMBAI (HOME)**
 Saturday 6 & 13 June 09: vs **PALMERSTON CHEESE** at **LITTLE MUMBAI (HOME)**

D GRADE:

Sunday, 17 May 2009: vs **PINTS OF LEMONADE** at **M2**
 Sunday, 24 May 2009: vs **SOUTHERN & DRY** at **LITTLE MUMBAI (HOME)**
 Sunday, 31 May 2009: vs **JABIRU** at **KREPAPADOME! WOO-HOO, BUS TRIP!!**
 Sunday, 7 June 2009: **NO GAME – QUEEN CONCERT**
 Sunday 14 June 2009 vs **PINTS DRAVIDIANS** at the **MCG!**

E GRADE:

Sunday, 17 May 2009: vs **UNICYCLES** at **LITTLE MUMBAI (HOME)**
 Sunday, 24 May 2009: vs **TV DINNERS** at **THE DEATH STAR, TAMBLING TERRACE**
 Sunday, 31 May 2009: vs **PINTS CRUSTY DEMONS** at **LITTLE MUMBAI (HOME)**
 Sunday, 7 June 2009: **NO GAME – QUEEN CONCERT**
 Sunday 14 June 2009 vs **PINTS OF BEER** at **LITTLE MUMBAI (HOME)**



1. **Saturday, 16 May 2009 from 7.30pm – The 2009 NIGHTCLIFF CRICKET CLUB PLAYER AUCTION!**
 A Gala Event at the **Nightcliff Sports Club**, with entertainment, drinks, food, dancing, singing and bidding, with **real cash** to be won if your player makes it onto the Podium in the 2009 Player of the Year.
2. **FRIDAY, 29 MAY 2009 – “ONE FOR THE ROAD” SHOW** at the **NIGHTCLIFF SPORTS CLUB AT 7.30pm** starring **DOUG WALTERS & DAVID PRIOR**. \$50 a ticket including Dinner!

MATCH REPORTS

A-GRADE

Well the story for our heroes in 2009 has mainly about batsmen not applying quite enough sustained pressure for the full 50 overs of an innings for much of the one-dayers – but when they did, against Darwin, the Tigers won.

Tiger recruits Marc *“the Incredible Calkin”* Calkin and spin wizard Robbie *“to be”* Schaw have started off 2009 well and will ensure there will be much looting and selling off of assets to attempt to fund purchases of them at Saturday night’s player auction, with Calkin getting amongst the runs (88 against the Charles Darwin and 49 last game against the Evildoers), whilst Schaw already has a bag of wickets and runs to his name. Skipper Marky-Mark Hatton has also started to fill his swag full of wickets as well and will be again right in the thick of things again in 2009.

B-GRADE

The B-52s are perched in equal first place on the ladder at 3-1 after a majestic if not somewhat controversial win over the TV Dinners at the Death Star. Superbly led by skipper Sean *“Are you talkin’ to me?”* Kenny’s magnificent unbeaten century (112no) the Tigers mowed down the Evildoers’ total like a runaway tractor through a flowerbed, after the Evil Angels had posted a reasonable total of 180. According to the *NT News*. *Conditions apply!* Kenny was ably assisted by child prodigy Zac Metcalfe, who batted at #3 and featured in a partnership of 67 with Kenny (Rogers) to get the victory ball rolling after Kim Wyles had tarred and feathered the Evildoers batting line-up with a fearsome spell that netted him 3-23. Great work lads, and if you are still reading this Mr T (*“shut up, fool!”*) have yourself a merry little salad and a nice refreshing tall glass of sportsmanship and good grace.

C-GRADE

Close again but no cigar for the C-Sections last game against the TV Dinners at Benny Mitch Oval (*“Mitchy Dome”*) going down by 37 runs, with John Tate (49 no) and Bob Lavender (23) being the only real contributors to the Tigers innings. Wickets were shared around by the Tigers’ attack with Territory Junior Fast bowling development squad member James Dix being the pick with 2-9 off 4 overs and that man John Tate providing a single-serve of cricketing excitement with 1-8 off a single over. At 1-3 the C-Minors are slightly off the (hale &) pace, but will be looking to bank more match points over the coming fortnight, particularly with the injection of senior players into the higher grades.

D-GRADE

The D-Generation recorded a victory as emphatic as it was much-needed against Southern & Dry on Sunday, slashing them up for 72 and then passing that total with 8 wickets in hand after 13 overs, with Kyle *“the Don”* McKenzie (30 no) escorting the Tigers away from trouble like a Mitchell Street Bouncer. Incidentally McKenzie started his weekend off with a majestic 72 no against the Mini Evildoers, so all in all had a pretty successful weekend at the batting crease. But the damage was done with the red rock with *“Captain Araldite”* Gary Stevens leaving the Southern comfort batting line-up in a flat spin taking a devastating 6-27. Snell chimed in with a few scalps and comeback kid Matty *“Must love dogs”* Tallents provided the encore entertainment with the bat, clubbing 19 off about 3 balls to end the day much sooner than expected!

E-GRADE

The **G-Train** (new skipper **Graeme Tribe**) and his E-Streeters started the season off with an almighty ***bang*** by monsterring the **Tah-Tahs** Lizards like **Dr Frankenstein** in Round 1 on the back of a half-century from the “*Chieftain*” Mulholland (62) with contributions from **Dave Knowler** (20) and the **D-Mac** (Dustin Mack, 23).

The E-mails have since lost to Southern & Coke, despite an excellent all-round performance by **Rick Vaughan** (57 and 4-54) and to Darwin by 5 wickets, after “*Spider*” (**Kym Webb**, 33) and the Gag-man (**Declan Gaggin**, 30) had given them something to defend. The Es are looking to build on a more promising start to the season in 2009 and will also benefit from the injection of some more super-slogs once more cattle arrives back at Tigerland.



The G-Train Graeme Tribe...trying to gel together a competitive team in 2009

UNDER 17s

Well the Under 17s have been in the thick of the action with a few close losses and a massive win against the Palmerston Cheeses (Marooned), which was highlighted by a brilliant match effort from superstar all-rounder **Kyle McKenzie** with a well compiled 40-odd runs and 5-9 and a magnificent hat-trick from **Declan Gaggin** to well and truly put the baby to bed! The Mini-Tigers are currently 1-3 but they have been highly competitive in all their games and look set to have a successful season as they prepare themselves to tackle Senior Cricket and then *the World* in years to come!

PLASTIC FANTASTIC

If only life-sized Lego man **Michael Jackson** had thought to have his plastic surgeons use some kind of liquid **Tuppaware**...then at least he would have received a lifetime guarantee. Incidentally this is a picture of **Wacko Jacko whilst sleeping**... as he can no longer move his eyelids...



“THEY SAID IT” - QUOTABLE QUOTES

<i>“We’re going to have to stop running so much, we have 40 overs to bat”</i>	C-Grade batsman/keeper Bob Lavender , apparently after about 5 overs of frenetic batting action against the Evildoers at Wanguri paddock. Bob the (innings) builder managed to compile 23 on the weekend...and has been referred for one-on-one boot camp sessions with fitness/pain merchant Kim Wyles this week!
<i>“Shut the [firetruck] up and step over here big man and say it to my face!”</i>	And suddenly B-Grade cricket in Darwin has an R-Rating and can only be televised after 9.00pm! A certain snowy-haired B-Grade skipper and unbeaten centurion to a certain Evildoers stalwart of some 25 years standing and leading A-Grade DDCA cricket run-scorer of all time, after there was a non-subtle suggestion loudly made on the field by the latter that the former had opened up a pack of Cheetoes on the field before the tea break... <i>[names withheld to protect the parties involved]</i> .
<i>“Yeah, they’d fit over my shoulders!”</i>	D-Grade Premiership player and 2007 GF “Norm Smith Medalist” Matty Tallents was finally back in the fray last weekend – but he had no cricket gear or clothing! D-Grade enforcer Geordie “Fergalicious” Ferguson had just offered him a pair of jocks...
<i>“Umm... playing B-Grade this week as I’m not an import or sucking enough c*ck!”</i>	Angry ant Tah-Tahs batsman Shane Piercy expressing a few private thoughts about Tah-Tahs A-Grade team selection policy...on Facebook! Will be interesting to see what his published explanation will be if he <i>does</i> get selected to play A-Grade in 2009...
<i>“I was stuffed at half-time. But you couldn’t stop. We hate Collingwood and I wanted to beat them bad.”</i>	Bombers’ Paddy Ryder after his potentially career-shaping Anzac medal-winning performance against the Collywobblers .
<i>“Many Richmond supporters have stuck with the club through thin and anorexic partly due to Richo’s charismatic presence.”</i>	The <i>Melbourne Age</i> on 6 May 2009, after it was announced that Richmond icon Matthew Richardson was going to probably miss the balance of the 2009 season with a hamstring tear. Sometimes we forget just how tough it is to be a Richmond fan!

ODD SOCKS

THE NCC COMMITTEE FINANCIAL TIP OF THE WEEK

Always bet on black (*and red...c’moooon you Bombers!!*).



NCC WORD OF THE MONTH

“PREMATURE JACKET-ELATION!”

Well this one is more of an ‘expression’ now thanks to shallow-end-of-the-Gene-pool Collingwood cheer leader/circus act **Joffa Corfe!**

Collingwood was 14 points up with less than 5 minutes to go in the 2009 ANZAC Day clash against Essendon after a hard-fought contest all day, when the big Joffa-man opted for a costume change, to signify “**game over**”. Three goals later, including the below **Zaharakis special** from 45m under pressure to win the game...and somebody’s crying!

Now **THAT** is pure gold!



WHY I WAS FIRED...

For the last Annual company picnic, Management had decided that, due to liability issues, we could have alcohol, but only one (1) drink per person.

I was fired for ordering the cups!



BE SUN SMART!

It is all-important that cricketers young and old take the necessary precautions to avoid potentially harmful sun damage in these damn hot globally warmed times.

You will see below that new A-Grade batting and keeping Maestro **Jason “Supercoach” Bremner** has failed to adequately take measures to protect his dome from sun damage – just look at those red rosy lips, which may be the envy of many females but so potentially damaging to Bremner’s long term health. Some basic tips for sun-smart cricketing in Darwin include:

- * Apply a liberal amount of SP 30+ sunscreen before and during games;
- * Wear a hat, and ensure your neck and ears are covered, particularly during the mid-afternoon heat; and
- * Keep up your fluid intake during games – for some players that may mean alternating between beers and water.

Sunstroke can affect your general demeanor as well as your health. Take a **Squizzy Taylor** at the **Warner** man in the background here for example - he looks glowingly pink and frazzled and quite affected by the sun’s rays as well, seen here *ordering* young gun **Tom Foley** to the bar to buy the next round, *“before trouble comes knocking!”*



Sunstroke – it can really sneak up on you if you are not looking out for it!

COINCIDENCE?

Don't know if this is just a sick coincidence but....

- 2007:** Chinese year of the **Chicken** - Bird Flu Pandemic devastates parts of Asia
- 2008:** Chinese year of the **Horse** - Equine Influenza decimates Australian racing
- 2009:** Chinese year of the **Pig** - Swine Flu Pandemic kills hundreds of pigs around the globe.

Is worse still to come? What *else* could happen? Hold on, what is next year on the Chinese calendar...

2010... Chinese year of the **Cock!** *Yeek!* I’m staying in bed for all of 2010...alone!

MUSIC TO MY EARS

Recently I bought a new **Lexus 350** but I had to return it to the dealer the next day because I couldn't get the radio to work. The car salesman explained that the radio was voice activated and demonstrated this brilliant feature.

"Nelson," the salesman called to the radio. The radio then responded "Ricky or Willie?" "Willie!" he called back and immediately the radio burst into song "On the Road Again".

Then the salesman calls "Ray Charles," and in an instant "Georgia on My Mind" immediately replaces the Willie Nelson song. I drove away very happy, and for the next few days, every time I'd say, "Beethoven," I'd receive beautiful classical music for the afternoon.

Then I would say "Beatles," and I would hear a multitude of their awesome songs. It was fun and even my girlfriend got into it too. She would say, "Billy Joel" and up came "The Piano Man". "Rolling Stones" and up came "Jumpin' Jack Flash" plus many other great Stones hits.

But yesterday, I had the best experience of all. A couple tried to run a red light and I nearly creamed my new car, but luckily I managed to swerve in time to avoid hitting them. I yelled out in anger, "Arseholes!"

Immediately up came the song "Good old Collingwood forever"



TRUE COLOURS

Well Tigers' Under 13s coach **Doug Hardcastle** certainly experienced the roller-coaster that is cricket on Saturday at Nightcliff Oval over the May Day long weekend! For a story of sheer courage against the odds, like Mount Everest on a windswept day, this one is hard to top.

After his initial exasperation over only six of his charges turning up by game time (*Memo to Junior parents – please let your child's cricket Coach know if your child has long-weekend plans that involve not turning up for cricket!*), Hardcastle then felt a tremendous sense of pride a few hours later after the few Tiger lads he had in attendance displayed tremendous application to register an impressive 3-96 of their allotted overs. With a few Nightcliff Under 11 players also taking the field the young Tiger Cubs then rolled the mini-Evildoers for 53 runs to record a memorable victory.

So what was the response from the conquered Tracy Village counterparts? Shake hands and walk off the field, dipping their lids to the tenacious Tigers triumphant against the odds? No, instead they said they would be claiming a "Forfeit win" for themselves *after* the completion of the match as the Tigers did not have eight players present by 30 minutes after the start of the game. Yeh...nice one.

So congratulations to the Tracy Village on their victory. Final score check for the record...**TV Dinners 1 Sportsmanship 0.**

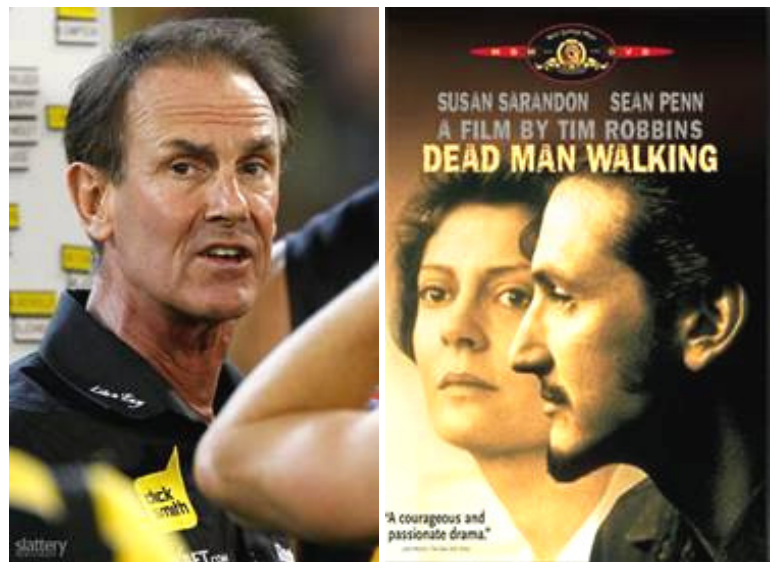
ON THE REX HUNT
"I Punt therefore I Am"

**\$50 on the double of CARLTON to mince the PIES this weekend,
 into PORT ADELAIDE to rubbish RICHMOND**
 (\$1.65 x \$1.25 (both straight out) = \$2.06 = for a \$103.00 return)

Well the *Growl* is off to the football this week! Whilst identifying ultimate winner **Vision & Power** as a definite danger in the Doncaster last month, our pick was undone by a Randwick track so wet that Victorians were actually scraping water off the track into containers to take home after the weekend! The footy has been harder to pick than a broken nose in 2009, but we figure they are at least not as smart as most horses!

Carlton has shown more endeavour than Captain Cook in 2009 thus far and has an elite running fleet with few rivals in the AFL. They are also not tanking games just yet, so they appear to have a genuine belief they will play finals footy. **Fevola** may be out so suddenly by accident their attack might appear less predictable, with a few lightning-quick crumbers to play important roles. The mince Pies are now missing more men than **George Michael** in a maximum security prison and will struggle to contain the promising Blues running brigade all day. **Port Adelaide?** Unpredictable, brilliant at their best and back at the sanctuary of home, will be simply better than **Richmond**. The Tigers may struggle to give their utmost with a talent pool definitely up the shallow end and uncertainty surrounding embattled coach **Terry Wallace**, who must surely be typing out that Resume and dusting off his best "bag of fruit" for future job interviews!

Editor's Note: Buy! Buy! Continue to climb all over **Richmond FC for the bottom four in 2009** – **Terry Wallace** has declared "*Armageddon*" – *Armageddon the hell out of here!*



Richmond Employee for the Month Terry Wallace. Like a New York subway, the writing's on the wall!

LOOK-ALIKES

Can you spot the difference?



Nightcliff's ageless warhorse **John Tate** and Socceroos goalkeeper **Mark Schwarzer**.



Too cool for school. Nightcliff President and midnight toker **Alex Krepapas** and 80s heart throb **Corey Hart** from way back in 1983, wearin' his "sunglasses at night!"



Emergency aid from PNG! We'll be pretty stoked to see **Jacob Mado** (left) and **Vani Morea** back here soon in 2009!

THE END. SIX LEGITIMATE DELIVERIES (OVER).