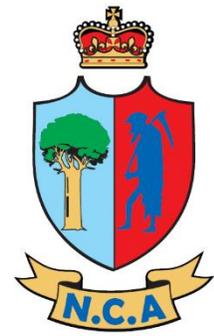




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Northland Cricket Association Annual Report 2017 - 2018



Northland Cricket Association gratefully acknowledge and sincerely thank our financial supporters



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Office Bearers

Patron Norm Wilson

President Murray Child

Life Members Keith Kimber, Norm Wilson, Peter Crawford,
Brian Johnston, Max Joass, Greg Guy, Murray Child, Bruce Scott,
Grant Wilson, Karl Treiber, Russell Smith

Chairman Paul Tomich

Board Members Murray Child, Sally Leftley, Robert Anderson, Maia Lewis, Emma
Johns, Derek Slatter, Dean Robinson

Finance Committee Brent Martin, Tim Anderson, Emma Johns

Honourable Medical Officer Dr. Rob Barton

Auditor Mallet Angelo Quinn Ltd

Accountants Plus Chartered Accountants Ltd

Bankers ASB

Honourary Legal Advisor Graeme Mathias

Delegates ND, NZC Paul Tomich, Stephen Cunis

Northland Statistician Jono Leftley

General Manager Stephen Cunis

Selectors Barry Cooper

Senior Coach Stephen Cunis

Umpires Chairman Geoff Ogle

Northland Junior Cricket Board Roger Turner (Chairman), Tony Edwards (Secretary), Dean Potter,
Neil Condon, Derek Slatter, Stephen Cunis, Karl Treiber, Murray
Byles, Mark Oldridge, Roger Kidd, Richard Pooley

Cobham Club Greg Guy (President), Brett Hood (Chairman)

Affiliated Associations

Rodney Graeme McRae, Kevin Forde

Far North Leslie Wallace

Mid-Western Wayne Child, Mike O'Sullivan

Northern Wairoa Arron Foster, Neil Condon

Chairman's Report 2017-18

The Season

The season here at Cobham Oval was dominated by two major international events, however the most exciting development in Northland cricket last year was the revamp of the junior cricket platforms into the Age and Stage formats that were rolled out throughout most of the country.

Yes, there were teething problems and a few worried frowns no doubt, but there is no doubt now that the inclusiveness and involvement and most importantly fun levels were apparent more than previous within our junior grades.

The two marquee events presented Northland an opportunity to be showcased to the world via the West Indies game and the presentation of the ground and surrounds to the cricketing public was great to see.

The U19CWC games were a brilliant sight and the colourful, noisy parochial spectators added the right tone, even if it did include a peaceful pitch invasion. Our report back from the ICC team regarding venue, staff, volunteers, food, ground, wicket and helpfulness were a well-deserved vote of thanks for our team who worked tirelessly throughout.

Junior and senior sides remained at similar levels to previous, and our representative sides all took the field infused with the pride of Northland, while not all teams won all games, there were notable team and individual achievements by many and some great examples of team spirit and sportsmanship.

Rest in peace

During the year we lost two of our life members, one of whom was patron, and while this is noted elsewhere it is appropriate that we remember them as contributors of the highest fashion to Northland Cricket.

Norm Wilson as our patron filled many roles within Northland cricket and his lifetime of effort will not easily be replicated.

Greg Guy also had a tremendous influence in Northland and Northern Districts, Greg was a tremendous sounding board and a voice of reason to many people for many years.

The contribution of these giants of Northland Cricket should not be underestimated.

Finances

Our financial year was again satisfactory, and the NCA took the opportunity on the back of the West Indies ODI and U19CWC to retain a larger but still modest surplus than previous seasons. We retained these earnings as we anticipated the 2019/20 season looked less likely to feature International sides. This has proved to be the case in that while we will host India A v NZ A, there is less opportunity for bonus revenue than for a full blown international.

Our rental commitment to The Cobham Oval Trust continues to provide the basis for the fund that will in time be used to complete major works at Cobham Oval.

Funding, Sponsorship and Support

Our funding sources have remained solid and we heartily thank all our funding partners. The Oxford Trust provide us with a significant base of funding that ensures we have a dedicated NCA team working for Northland Cricket and we remain appreciative of the continued support.

A special mention also to the Northland Cricket Trust who committed more financial support for various cricket projects this year than in any other, including enthusiastic support for our new scoreboard.

New Zealand Cricket, via Northern Districts, have continued their support via funding, coaching and development support. With the changes NZC are driving throughout New Zealand from the start of the 2018/19 season, a new funding model is in place that separates the Pathway or high-performance cricket and Community Cricket with a clear but separate focus on each. This is a positive step forward that has also included structural change at ND to support these initiatives.

We thank Educare and PLUS CA as two of the three key naming sponsors at Northland Cricket. Your continued support is appreciated. A special mention however goes to Bella Homes who have been with Northland Cricket for an extended period, as lead sponsor. In July the Bella Homes team have amicably concluded our sponsorship partnership. We thank Bella Homes for their long-term support.

Sport Northland also continues to provide resource, cross code contact and communication and access to support and funding in various guises.

Whangarei District Council continue their support of Northland Cricket. Without a ground we cannot play, and we thank the WDC team and contractors for the provision of our playing fields and the preparation and time taken to provide for the needs of the cricketing fraternity.

Some extra thanks also to the Venues and Events team who supported NCA through communications with NZC and the ICC teams in support of the West Indies and CWC U19 matches. A fantastic example of this support was evidenced by the Mayoral welcome to the world stars of tomorrow, to Northland.

Team NCA

Our dedicated team at NCA lead by Stephen Cunis have done a brilliant job again in 2017/18. The scope of the work done is vast, the hours long and the rewards are like a politician, damned if you do damned if you don't. You tread a fine line on an annual basis, relying on weather, wickets, budgets and strong personalities all passionate about cricket, this creates diverse views and be it board member or cricketer, male or female, critic or fan there is much opinion to consider. Thanks to you and your team for the years efforts.

The Plan

During the last 6 months the board has been working on a strategic plan that will take us through the next 5 years, there are many ideas within the plan - more than our budget will allow. We have not culled these ideas and will retain the plan in draft format through the 18/19 season as we prioritise the plan execution with our operational team.

This plan has been developed with wide consultation involving clubs and individuals and reviewed at various stages and has been agreed in principle by many. The contribution from many of you has become the basis for what we will build over the next five years.

There are many tasks to complete amongst the 5 streams of the plan:

- Best players, coaches, officials and support
- Be aligned and effective
- Be New Zealand's summer game of choice
- Create fans for life
- Have financial success

Of course, all the detail in the plan is to support the immediate and eventual growth of our sport across the north and we will only achieve that growth if the majority of us work together.

The Board

Mention should be made of the past efforts of Dave Lobb who finished with the board at the last AGM, Maia Lewis and Robert Anderson who both were elected to the Board but were unable to complete the year. Thanks also to the current Board; Sally Leftley, Emma Johns, Derek Slatter and Dean Robinson, your time and effort is appreciated.

Murray Child deserves special mention. After a lifetime serving in a variety of roles on Whangarei District and Northland Associations, Murray has decided not to put his name forward for re-election as Board member this year. Murray has always maintained a forthright attitude, spoken when there was something to say and been supportive of the Board as an entity and through that, Northland Cricket. Murray will continue as President and is of course a life member of Northland Cricket.

Murray – a special thanks for both your historic and your continued support.

Finally

Thanks to all the players, umpires, volunteers, parents and partners that support the game we love.

Paul Tomich

Chairman

Northland Cricket Association

Obituaries

Greg Guy 1954 - 2018

Greg's contribution and commitment to Northland cricket was massive. Greg served twice as Chair from 1982-1988 and again from 2011-2015. His first role as Chair was at the tender age of 28. Greg was a life member of both his Onerahi-Central Cricket Club and the Northland Cricket Association. Greg's reach was also much wider than Northland, contributing and influencing in his Northland Chair role to Northern Districts, where he was regarded as a legend around the DA table for his sharp intellect. Greg would see his lifetime of work also crowned by being awarded the Service to Cricket award by Northern Districts in 2016 for the many thousands of hours he put in over his lifetime in cricket.

Until his passing Greg was also President of both Onerahi Central and Cobham Cricket clubs and a trustee of the Northland Cricket Trust that had raised, with heavy involvement and reinvested in excess of \$1million back into cricket since 1980. During his service to cricket in 1989 Greg also served as a Minor Association representative on the NZC board where again he was well regarded for his enlightened thinking, quick wit and lively debate around cricket issues of the day.

Greg was passionate about all levels of cricket, equally enjoying the thrill of new people joining the sport and the effort put in to achieve success. He had a philosophy that to engage with people it usually worked better if all parties had skin in the game and a mutually vested interest. Greg's unstinting love and passion for the game has been an inspiration to many.

Norm Wilson 1931 - 2018

Norm Wilson passed away Wednesday March 28, 2018, aged 87. Norm was a Northland stalwart – a man who had great pride in cricket and great pride in Northland. He was a man that was passionate about cricket, and particularly passionate about the City Cricket Club and the Northland Cricket Association.

His love of the game started early on in life and as he progressed through his cricket career, he formed a strong bond with Northland Cricket. His dedication to the Northland province was outstanding; whether it playing, captaining, coaching, selecting and/or through administrative tasks, he worked tirelessly in supporting the game and influenced the lives of many people who played it.

He was on numerous committees and boards during his many years of service. He had a strong personality and he got things done. He formed good relationships with various entities throughout Northland and his opinion was respected and appreciated by those whom he worked for and alongside. Norm's presence and tenaciousness towards supporting cricket in Northland will be missed but it will never be forgotten.

Matthew Marshall 1927 - 2018

Matthew Marshall passed away Wednesday July 4, 2018, aged 90. Matthew was a long-time servant of Northland Cricket, by way of his medical expertise. He was highly respected within the cricketing community both as a doctor and as a gentleman. He formed some strong relationships with various people within the Northland Cricket fraternity and he will be sorely missed.

General Managers Report 2017-18

The 2017-18 season was certainly a busy one for the NCA, specifically for Cobham Oval. With hosting a One Day International, U19 Cricket World Cup games, an entire Ford Trophy campaign for ND's home games, Plunket Shield matches, Northland games, premier and reserve club fixtures and other festival-type matches, it meant that the ground was well and truly bursting at the seams with cricket.

We learnt a lot through the season. The process of preparing for, and facilitating, games and/or events, was very thorough and the NCA now has a very good grasp of what is required, moving forward. The intricacies of planning for, and running, televised games and ICC events, is extremely complex but we had good support from NZC, Northern Districts, Venue and Events and the NCA staff, along with various local companies, organisations and volunteers. I feel that the NCA really stepped up and embraced the challenges that we faced, and it was very rewarding to have extremely positive feedback from NZC, the ICC and the cricketing community, about what we did and how we did it.

The new electronic scoreboard was of huge benefit to cricket being played at Cobham Oval. The response we have had from international and domestic teams, officials, supporters and those within the cricketing community has been very good. It was also used in club finals, both in premier and reserve grade competitions, and players certainly acknowledged their enjoyment of it being used for final's days. It is important to recognize the support from the Northland Cricket Trust, the Cobham Oval Trust and the Cobham Club for their backing of this – and within various other areas of cricket in Northland. Thank you very much.

The ground itself was brilliantly managed by Nathan Bunting, our head groundsman. Nathan works for Recreational Services, who are contracted by the WDC, and he was instrumental in the success we had and to the positive feedback we have had from various international and domestic teams. We have some work on's but the facilities we provided were very well received by all that played at Cobham Oval. We thank Nathan, Recreational Services and the WDC for their efforts and expertise.

All the U19 CWC coach/management teams made comment that our ground was easily one of the best, and most beautiful, grounds that they had been to and/or played on. This included the likes of Chaminda Vaas and Roy Dias. They also commented that the entire facility, that being Cobham Oval, was outstanding and all four teams took away ideas on how to improve their facilities, in their own countries. I believe that this is a huge compliment to those that have been involved in the design, and build, of Cobham Oval and a great testament to how our ground has transformed over the years.

Although we had a vast amount of international, First Class, List A, representative and club cricket played at Cobham Oval, we still have various junior and senior competitions running, throughout the season. We, for the first time in many years, had a junior girls' competition played on a regular basis. It was fantastic to see four teams of girls playing cricket and the NCA now needs to establish ways to build on, and improve, this competition. Our other junior competitions were well facilitated, and it was pleasing to see cricket being played at numerous grounds, and at varying levels of ability, throughout Northland. Could it be bigger and better? Of course. It is now up to the NCA to find ways to support junior cricket, at all levels, and build on what we have.

It is vital to acknowledge our coaches, managers and supporters in junior club cricket. It's a hard task, at times, for parents to coach and manage teams and the NCA recognises this. It's difficult to show our true appreciation to all of those involved in junior cricket but we most certainly do. Again, thank you.

Our adult competitions were worthwhile and well organised. There were challenges that clubs faced, mainly based on player retention. Or, maybe a better expression would be, 'player commitment'. All clubs in Northland, at one time or another, battled to get teams on the park. There is no easy fix to this issue and all sporting codes have the same issues with player numbers. What is pleasing, however, is that we have support from Brent

Eastwood and Sport Northland, in trying to create plans that assist clubs and the future of all codes. I have to say, in no uncertain terms, that we do have some outstanding people in clubs who do their utmost to support cricket. The NCA unquestionably understands and appreciates the work they do.

It is important to acknowledge the Rodney Cricket Association. Kevin Forde has, again, administered competitions in the Rodney region well. Brendan Bracewell, who is now the Coaching Development Officer in Rodney, has done a fantastic job in reinvigorating junior cricket within the RCA and within the Kaipara Flats cricket club. I'd also like to mention the City Cricket Club; there are some very good people involved in CCC and I thoroughly enjoy working alongside those people. It was a tough year for the CCC premier and reserve grade side, with not playing as much cricket on Cobham Oval as they'd have liked, but it was pleasing to see many at the club understand the benefits of international and domestic cricket being played on Cobham Oval.

We have a good representative programme – both senior and junior. Karl Treiber does a fine job in the Junior and Senior Secondary Girls programme and within the Primary and Junior Secondary School Boys programmes. Sam Walker also did a good job within the realms of the Senior Secondary School Boys. I feel it pertinent to mention Northland Treeworks, Educare and Kensington Pharmacy for their support of our junior representative teams.

Both Karl and Sam also had excellent support from numerous volunteers in all the aforementioned age groups – selectors, assistant coaches, managers and parental support – their support and efforts are greatly appreciated by the NCA. Northern Districts also assisted in our representative programmes, along with other operational areas, and their forward thinking, regarding age and stage and the adjustments to rules that went with this, was excellent. Northland has a very good relationship with ND and we thank them for their support.

We have a great volunteer base. Whether it's Wok and Chuck assisting at major games at Cobham Oval, Tank at Kensington Park on Saturday mornings, Graham Mathias within his judicial capacity, our junior and senior board and/or the dozens of people that work behind the scenes. We are extremely fortunate to have such an obliging and cooperative group of people who support cricket in Northland. I also must mention our volunteers in the U19 CWC – a great bunch of people that flew the NCA flag tremendously well.

We also have very supportive sponsors involved in the NCA; Bella Homes, Educare and Plus Chartered Accountants are our three main sponsors and we also have numerous other companies and people who support the game in Northland. The NCA would like to thank the numerous people who offer this financial support.

Helen Smith is a pleasure to work alongside. Professional, reliable and committed are three words that certainly ring-true in explaining what she offers the NCA. She does an outstanding job and is a major component of why the NCA is regarded as one of the highest functioning District Associations in New Zealand.

Ben Hyde, Neal Parlane, Sam Walker, Karl Treiber and Geoff Ogle have also done a great job, within their roles at the NCA. It is unfortunate for the NCA that Ben has now moved on to another job but the expertise he showed whilst working at the NCA, has left junior cricket in a strong position, moving forward. And, his work ethic and commitment will be Mainfreight's gain! I also wish Sam well in his new career path and thank him of his efforts.

On a very sad note, it is significant to acknowledge Norm Wilson's passing. At the time of Norm's passing, he was the NCA's Patron and he was a real Northland stalwart. His presence, zest for cricket and Northland pride, will be missed by many. It is also with great sadness that I acknowledge the passing of Greg Guy. Greg was another stalwart of the NCA and a true gentleman, on and off the cricket field. His presence, guidance, professionalism and wit will be sadly missed but never forgotten. Mine and the NCA's condolences go out to the Wilson and Guy family.

I'd like to thank the NCA Junior and Senior Boards. Their efforts are greatly appreciated, and I look forward to working with them in the future. I'd also like to make special mention of Paul Tomich. His role as Chairman of the NCA Board is a challenging one and the way in which he demonstrates professionalism, pride and passion towards cricket in Northland, cannot be faulted. Paul is a major component of the NCA team and his mentorship and guidance is respected and appreciated by many of whom he works alongside.

Finally, Murray Child. With his stepping down from the NCA Board, it is pertinent to make comment of the countless hours he has put into our association as a Board member – countless hours that have seen our association grow and thrive. Murray, in some way, shape or form, has been involved in Northland Cricket for over 40 years – and he was a founding member of the NCA Board, when it was first established. He has had numerous roles within governance and his dedication to cricket in Northland is something to be admired. His presence on the NCA Board will be missed but with his continuing to be the President of the NCA, we will no doubt see him continue to contribute to the success of the NCA, in the years to come.

Stephen Cunis
General Manager

Operations Report 2017-18

1. School coaching programmes

The Educare NCA coaching team worked in various high schools, intermediates and primary schools throughout the season. The coaching programmes were well received and respected by schools.

Next Steps:

Work with NZC and the NDCA to identify, and form, a specific brand we want to promote in schools. New games and/or structure to coaching programmes. Target specific schools/classes and promote modified cricket games. Run intra and interschool festival days. Cross-code – teaming up with Northland Hockey, Rugby and/or Football to run multi-code festival days. Work closer with specific secondary schools to form modified school-based competitions.

2. Midweek Competitions for Primary, Intermediate & Secondary students (school-based teams)

Midweek competitions were, overall, not as successful (numbers wise) as 2016-17.

Next Steps:

We need to adjust some of these competitions. We feel that there needs to be new initiatives planned so schools and students stay interested. The NCA will look at facilitating Festival Days and limit midweek competitions so they are relevant and worthwhile. Having specific competitions prior to Christmas and then other alternatives in Term 1, is important to consider. We need a midweek competition for secondary school players – this is a major priority.

3. Junior numbers playing in Saturday competitions 2017-18

- C Grade – 8 teams (2016/17 – 12 teams, 2015/16 – 20 teams, 2014/15 – 8 teams)
- B Grade – 14 teams (2016/17 – 11 teams, 2015/16 – 9 teams, 2014/15 – 8 teams)
- A Grade – 10 teams (2016/17 – 6 teams, 2015/16 – 6 teams, 2014/15 – 6 teams)
- Junior Girls – 4 teams (2016/17 – 0, 2015/16 – 0 teams, 2014/15 – 0 teams)
- 3rd Grade – 4 teams (2016/17 – 5, 2015/16 – 9 teams, 2014/15 – 5 teams)

Next Steps:

Numbers were down C Grade. More numbers in this grade is a priority. The NCA will endeavor to promote this grade thoroughly within coaching programmes and using other media. C Grade will be played on Friday's, in the 2018-19 season. We need more structure introduced and better management of the girls' cricket competition. We need more alignment in clubs that promote/provide obvious pathways when players enter high school. There needs to be big changes made to 3rd Grade regarding club alignment. Rodney needs to introduce more structured junior competitions.

4. Junior club/school competitions

Meaningful competitions were established for various age groups. It was pleasing to again receive positive feedback about the various competitions that were facilitated by the NCA and the introduction of 'Age and Stage' modifications to A Grade (shorter games, shorter pitches, less players, smaller boundaries) was a revelation. The feedback that the NCA obtained, verified that junior players experienced cricket in a variety of formats; suiting a diverse level of skill and ability.

Northland-wide School Cricket Tournament Winners:

- NZ Shield (Intermediate Girls) – Kamo Intermediate.
- Doug Thorpe Trophy (Intermediate Boys) – Kamo Intermediate.
- John Bruce Trophy (JSS Girls) – WGHS.
- Armstrong Shield (JSS Boys) – WBHS.
- Leaf Cup (Senior Secondary Girls) – WGHS.
- Bruce Scott Trophy (Senior Secondary Boys T20) – WBHS.
- Robertson Shield (SSS Boys Challenge Shield) – WBHS.

Northern Districts School Cricket Finalists:

- ND 'NZ Post' Zone Finals (Intermediate Boys) – KIS.
- ND 'NZ Shield' Zone Finals (Intermediate Girls) – KIS.
- ND 'JSS NZ Community Trust' Zone Finals (JSS Boys) – WBHS.
- ND 'Gillette Cup' Zone Finals (Secondary Boys) – WBHS.

Northland-wide Junior Club Cricket Winners:

- C Grade: Pre Christmas – OCCC Whales
Post Christmas – OCCC Whales
- B Grade: Pre Christmas – OCCC Bears
Post Christmas – OCCC Bears
- A Grade: Pre Christmas – City Arrows
Post Christmas – City Aces and Kerikeri White

Next Steps:

We need to, again, look at various competition formats to keep children interested in playing, and parents interested in supporting, the game. We are currently looking at different types of modified games to play in C and B Grade. We want to have more school teams enter our local tournaments and/or festival days – the NCA needs to drive this more, due to teacher workloads. We need to revisit our current tournament structure and find ways to have more schools enter. As previously mentioned, 3rd Grade needs serious attention. The structure of this grade needs to be far better.

5. Representative programmes

We had well planned and, in turn, strong Northland Representative programmes for all teams, both at the junior and senior levels.

Next Steps

Junior: Continue to plan and implement worthwhile junior representative programmes. Trainings need to continue being of a very high standard and vigilant planning needs to be apparent when designing training and playing schedules. Our plan is to give players more opportunities to train and/or play in junior representative programmes. The NCA needs to ensure that age group selectors are transparent in their selection processes.

Senior: Continue to plan for the future, by way of introducing new players to the squad and ensuring that coaches and managers are assisting players in their overall development, on and off the field. We need to look at different players to fill spots in the Northland 1st XI, if and when, players represent ND. Trainings need to continue being of a very high standard and careful planning needs to be apparent when designing specific

training plans and schedules. We need to ensure we enjoy our playing and training environment and celebrate the successes we have, both as individuals and as a team.

6. Adult Club Cricket

Clubs worked tirelessly to put teams on the park but there was sometimes a lack of commitment shown by various players, in various clubs, resulting in some clubs struggling for numbers, particularly at the back end of the season. Overall, however, adult club cricket was of a satisfactory standard, regarding skill levels. Competitions were closely contested, and this was reflected by the way in which different clubs won various Premier and Reserve Grade competitions. Competition winners were:

- Third Grade (Pre-Christmas) – **OCCC-Huanui**
- Third Grade (Post-Christmas) – **Kerikeri**
- Reserve Grade One Day – **OCCC**
- Reserve Grade T20 – **City CC**
- Reserve Grade 50/40 Competition – **City CC**
- Reserve Grade Sub Association Competition (Greg Guy Shield) – **Rodney CA**
- Premier T20 – **Onerahi Central CC**
- Premier One Day – **Kamo CC**
- Premier Two Day – **KFCC**
- Northland Premier Cricket Challenge Shield (Karl Treiber Shield) – **Onerahi Central CC**
- Premier Sub Association Competition (Dargaville Shield) – **Rodney CA**

Next Steps:

Creating a pathway for junior club players into senior sides is significant. It is important that we cater for players with different skill levels/time restraints, to provide them with opportunities to play. The NCA hopes to provide clubs with a one-page document that enables committees to use a simple template of what a successful club looks like. Then, clubs can identify key areas for them to consider moving forward. The NCA will also to continue to promote cricket in Northland to overseas players, to enable amateurs the chance to play cricket in our part of the world.

7. International and Domestic Cricket – Cobham Oval

These games included:

- One Day International – Black Caps v West Indies
- ICC U19 Cricket World Cup – 6 games (Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Ireland and Afghanistan)
- Northern Knights (Ford Trophy) – 5 games (including a playoff match)
- Northern Knights (Plunket Shield) – 2 games

Next Steps:

Continue to develop our infrastructure – specifically broadcasting facilities. Continue to produce world class training and playing facilities.

8. Sponsors

We have very good support from sponsors. Their support is outstanding and the NCA most certainly appreciates and the relationship we have with them. From junior cricket to adult cricket, we have a great group of sponsors that are committed to promoting and developing cricket in Northland.

Next Steps:

The NCA wants to continue the strong relationships that we currently have with sponsors. We feel that their input into our overall philosophy of cricket in Northland is very important and the NCA will endeavor to work with them, within this area. The design and implementation of generic sponsorship packages is important to establish new sponsors.

9. Volunteers

There were numerous coaches and managers that worked with players and parents and they did an outstanding job. The junior club coordinators also did a fantastic job and their dedication has been admirable. Without them, cricket in Northland would not operate as it does. There were also a number school coordinators that assisted in establishing school coaching programmes and entered teams in various competitions. Their efforts were greatly appreciated.

Tony Edwards has been, as ever, influential in the success of junior cricket in Northland. The countless hours that 'Tank' has put into A, B and C Grade is hugely appreciated and he is an integral part of our organisation. He, along with Wok Jones and Chuck Norris, who are our cricket liaison managers for First Class teams (and for the international teams that played at Cobham Oval), are true cricket lovers and the work that they do greatly benefits cricket in Northland.

The Code of Conduct commissioner, Graham Mathias, had few issues to deal with this season but the NCA is grateful for his professionalism and presence as, and when, needed. He did a very good job in dealing with matters that came up.

Recognition of those that are members of the Cobham Club and Northland Cricket Trust is important. Their dedication and expertise, in numerous areas of cricket and its administration, is thoroughly appreciated by all at the NCA.

As in any organisation like ours, Boards are vital to the smooth running of such organisations. Thank you to the senior and junior boards for their efforts. The NCA also has a governing body in the Northern Districts Cricket Association. Ben McCormack (CEO) was extremely supportive of our association, as were James Pamment/Graeme Aldridge/Gareth Hopkins/Matt Horne (Knights Coaches), Pete Zanzottera (High Performance Coordinator), Cliff Dickeson (Development Officer), Kari Carswell (Women's Development Officer), Andrea Friar (Marketing Manager) and Alayne Duthie (Office Manager). Each of these people were all committed to, and enthusiastic in, developing cricket in Northland. Their efforts were greatly appreciated by the NCA. The NCA would like to wish James Pamment and Andrea Friar well, in their new employment opportunities.

The NCA would like to make mention of Sport Northland and the Whangarei District Council; they have been a pleasure to work with throughout the season and their support of cricket Northland is greatly appreciated. The hard work shown by Nathan Bunting has been hugely appreciated and it is important to thank the team at Recreational Services for their efforts. Nathan is always approachable and open to discussion in terms of practice and playing surfaces around Whangarei and this was respected by players and NCA staff, alike.

Kaipara Flats Cricket Club worked hard throughout the season with Recreational Services and their accommodating attitude was noteworthy for all visiting teams. Carl Tomich also worked tirelessly on the Maungakaremea wicket. All their efforts and dedication were fantastic. Also, a thank you must go out to ground staff in the Northern Wairoa, Bream Bay and Kerikeri clubs.

Finally, the NCA acknowledges the services provided by the huge numbers of suppliers, volunteers, parents, officials and club administrators who provided match, administrative or simply parental support to the players in our association. Without you all, cricket would simply not function as effectively as it does.

Next Steps

Interacting/communicating with the cricketing community is a major focus area.

Overall, the 2017/18 season was a very successful one and there is a strong foundation to continue to build on for the 2018/19 season. More emphasis is, again, going to be put into the administering of junior and adult club cricket and the communication that goes with that, growing junior numbers and promoting and facilitating new and exciting competitions for clubs and schools. The NCA will endeavor to professionally facilitate international and/or domestic cricket at Cobham Oval and the Northland Men's team will do all they can to win silverware. The NCA coaching staff will be working hard with our junior representative players in our Winter Training Academy, and during the season, to ensure that we keep developing the next crop of Northland, ND and NZ players. It is planned that cricket in Northland continues to grow stronger and that the Northland Cricket Association grows with it.

Neal Parlane and Ben Hyde
Operations Managers

Umpires Report

Once again, we had coverage of all premiere games and several reserve games as well.

Umpires standing this season were- Geoff Ogle, Mike Elliot, Dave Lobb, Kevin Salmon, Graham Dennie, Chris Pattenden, Dale Moorhouse, Tony Edwards and Warwick Rota.

Congratulations to Mike Elliot for winning our contribution to umpiring award, he had a fine season and consistently showed his experience and what a fine umpire he is.

Chris Pattenden and Dale Moorhouse both did very well in their first season. Chris proving as reliable as Tank in that I could call on him every single week.

Sadly, Graham Dennie's dodgy back got the better of him and he has had to retire, this is a shame as we can ill-afford to lose umpires of his experience.

Our numbers will improve again for the 18/19 season with Roger Kidd and Richard Cates joining us. We have two 15-year olds, Harrison Syers and Ethan Hare on umpiring scholarships.

Geoff Ogle

Umpires Coordinator

Northland Junior Cricket Report 2017-18

Firstly, our thanks to all the selectors, managers, coaches and supporters for all their time and efforts they have given towards junior cricket throughout Northland during our last season for without you we would not have a successful junior program

Special thanks has to go to Tank for his tireless work at the newly refurbished junior clubrooms every Saturday, from running the games to selling chips, drinks, ice creams etc.

The numbers of school boys and girls was great with 8 C grade teams (slightly down on the previous year), 12 teams in B grade (big jump there) and 10 teams in A grade which is fantastic, but the key will be to hang onto those players and with the new junior format this year I feel we are on the right track.

Another special mention needs to go to Bruce Kessel, Richard Johnson and Jess Turner who have been running primary girls cricket at Onerahi which started from a few teams to now over 30 players and still growing, keep up that great work.

The rep season had mixed results with the primary boys only losing 1 game and with the new rules with smaller playing numbers 9 instead of 11 and shorter boundaries some big scores unfolded at the start but petered out later in the competition. The new format seemed to work but there could be some amendments to this once Treibs gets his head around it.

The selectors and coaches for the season were Murray (Skinny) Byles and Dean Robinson.

The junior secondary school boys ended up 4th in the ND competition. They were hoping for a slightly better finish but narrowly lost the game that would have had them in for contention for first and second.

The selectors being Neil (Minty) Condon and Dean (Potts) Potter.

The senior secondary boys finished up 2nd and nearly pulled off the top spot only losing in the last 2 overs.

The selectors were Mark Oldridge, Roger Kidd and Richard Pooley.

OCC are in the process of renovating their clubrooms along with the junior premises. This could be a great opportunity for Northland to host another ND junior tournament next year which we hosted two years ago and proved a big hit with the other associations and hierarchy.

Our two secondary school teams must be congratulated on their success last season with WBHS finishing 2nd in the 50 over final only to lose by 2 runs with 2 balls to spare a great result considering the age of these boys.

KHS had a successful season finishing runners up in the 40 over final and the same in the T20 final only to lose in a bowl off against City as rain intervened half way through the game.

A huge thanks to our current junior board members Dean Potter, Neil Condon, Tony Edwards, Derek Slatter, Stephen Cunis, Karl Treiber, Murray Byles and to last year's members Mark Oldridge, Roger Kidd and Richard Pooley

Roger Turner
Chairman JCB

Club Cricket Review 2017-18

The Premier Grade season started with usual rain interrupting the Dargaville Shield. The final was played between Rodney and Mid-Western. Rodney won quite comfortably in a 50-run win.

Kaipara Flats carried on where Rodney left off taking out the Oxford Trust 2-day competition in a canter. Kamo defeated Whangarei Boys High School in a tense Lion Red Cup final by 1 wicket. Onerahi Central defeated City in the final of the T20 competition. The Karl Treiber Shield was retained by Onerahi Central.

The Premier Bowler of the Season was Fletcher Coutts of Onerahi Central CC. The Wicketkeepers of the Season were Bert Horner (City CC) and Rory Christopherson (Kaipara Flats CC). Ben Hyde (Kamo CC) took out the Batsman of the Season and was also the Premier Club Cricketer of the Season.

The 2017/18 Premier Cub Team of the Season

- 1. Rory Christopherson (KFCC)**
- 2. Brad Kneebone (OCCC)**
- 3. Henry Cooper (OCCC)**
- 4. Ben Hyde (KCC)**
- 5. Matt Taylor (KFCC)**
- 6. Fletcher Coutts (OCCC)**
- 7. Sam Sweeney (WBHS)**
- 8. Kyran Dill (KFCC)**
- 9. Hamish Kidd (MCC)**
- 10. Caleb Boswell-Smith (WBHS)**
- 11. Tom Herman (OCCC)**
- 12. Kieran Nelson (CCC)**

In Reserve Grade, the Greg Guy Shield was won by the Rodney Rams. City CC won the T20 and Declaration Cricket competitions and Onerahi Central took out the 40 over competition.

Nathan Parkes from Kamo High was the Reserve Grade Batsman of the Season. The Bowlers of the Season, in Reserve Grade, were Axel Rose-Sheppard (Onerahi Central CC) and Terry Jobbit (City CC). The Reserve Grade Player of the Season was Nathan Parkes.

In Third Grade (Russell Smith Trophy) Onerahi Central/Huanui were the pre-Christmas competition champions and the post-Christmas champions were Kerikeri High School.

Junior Club Cricket again thrived this season. We had over 70 Saturday and/or midweek junior teams from Kerikeri, Northern Wairoa, Rodney, Bream Bay, Maungakaramea, Kamo, Onerahi Central, City CC and primary schools. Included in this, was a four team girls competition.

Junior Competition winners this season were:

C Grade: Pre Christmas – OCCC Whales
Post Christmas – OCCC Whales

B Grade: Pre Christmas – OCCC Bears
Post Christmas – OCCC Bears

A Grade: Pre Christmas – City Arrows
Post Christmas – City Aces and Kerikeri White

A successful season with a lot of positives moving forward. Thank you to the many volunteers in the clubs for their tireless work, it is greatly appreciated by the NCA.

Thanks must also go out to Geoff Ogle and his team of umpires. All of Northland Cricket appreciate the effort you and your team put in.

Neal Parlane
Competition Manager

Northland Senior Secondary Girls 2017-18

Fergusson Park, Tauranga 4th - 6th December 2017

Coach/Manager: Vaughan Witten

Manager: Debbie Templeton

Team:

1. Makayla Templeton
2. Paige Witten
3. Meegan Soulsby
4. Olivia Crum
5. Gabi Hislop
6. Jess Canty
7. Ella Beehre
8. Amy Brown
9. Bailey Mounter
10. Terina Hauraki
11. Bree Kessell (Non-Travelling reserve)

Match Reports:

Northland v Waikato Valley – Monday 4th Dec 2017

WV win by 5 wickets

Batting:

Northland won the toss and batted first.

M. Templeton 36 runs

G. Hislop 14.

Northland Scored 91 off 18 overs

Bowling:

G. Hislop 3 overs, 1 wicket for 15 runs

M. Soulsby 3 overs, 1 wicket for 27 runs

P. Witten 4 overs, 1 wicket for 33 runs

Waikato Valley scored 3/92 off 13 overs.

Northland v Counties Manukau – AM Game – Tuesday 5th Dec 2017

Northland win by 140 runs

Batting:

Northland won the toss and batted first and scored 2/197 off 20 overs.

M. Templeton 111 not out

She was presented with a ND spirit helmet for her special performance.

O. Crum 26 runs

G Hislop 26 not out.

Bowling:

T. Hauraki 4 overs, 3 wickets for 6 runs

P. Witten 1.3 overs, 1 wicket for 1 run

G. Hislop 3 overs, 1 wicket for 8 runs

M. Templeton 4 overs, 1 wicket for 21 runs

Northland v Bay of Plenty – PM Game – Tuesday 5th Dec 2017

Northland win by 8 Wickets

Bowling:

B.O.P won the toss and batted first scoring 3/145

Bowling

G. Hislop 4 overs, 1 wicket for 21 runs

M. Templeton 3 overs, 1 wicket for 19 runs

P. Witten 4 overs, 1 Wicket for 33 runs

Batting:

Northland scored 2/147 off 18.3 overs

M. Templeton 76 not out

P. Witten 52 not out (Maiden rep ½ century)

Northland v Hamilton – Wednesday 6th Dec 2017

Hamilton win by 8 wickets

Batting:

Northland won the toss and batted first scoring 7/100

M. Templeton 31 runs

E. Beehre 14 not out

P. Witten 12 runs

M. Soulsby 10 runs

Bowling:

T. Hauraki 3 overs, 1 wicket for 8 runs

P. Witten 4 overs, 1 wicket for 24 runs

Tournament

The girls were led well by Makayla Templeton as captain. She is learning to be a more direct captain and growing here skills in game and team management. She has the ability to go far, in all aspects of cricket and shows leadership potential. The Northland team performed extremely well on and off the park. Wins were recorded against BOP and Counties Manukau and the girls had two losses, against Waikato Valley and Hamilton. Very respectable results! The Girls all improved their skills in batting, bowling and fielding, throughout the tournament. They listened and trained well, at all times, and were very respectful to their opposition teams and umpires. I would endorse the selection of any of these girls in future rep teams. They were outstanding representatives of Northland Cricket and themselves.

Accommodation - Summit Motor Lodge

The whole team had a superb time at the accommodation. The pool was well utilized after games, as well as the lower games room, where we held meetings, meals and table tennis. The staff were very accommodating and helpful. I recommend this spot for further tournaments. Mrs Debbie Templeton was a fantastic manager and camp mum! The girls were well feed, taken care of and looked after like daughters. This was a fantastic tournament, one that Northland girls need to continue to participate in and further their cricketing skills. The weather was sublime, and the cricket was a joy to watch. Thanks for the opportunity to see the girls in action.

Vaughan Witten

(keen cricket parent)

Northland Primary Boys 2017-2018

Cameron Randall (Capt), Nick Byles, Mike Robinson, Ben Litchfield, Rueben Crum, Maz Saunders, Sam Von Murllet-Carvell, Ollie Comber, Connell O'Sullivan, Lucas James plus George Poad as 11th player.

With the new rules, including 35 over games, 9 a side and 25 metre straight boundaries, it was a learning curve for all concerned. There was some scratching of heads as Counties Manukau posted 240 in 35 overs at Tikipunga on Labour Weekend. Ollie Comber with 76, Rueben Crum 58 and Ben Litchfield 70 made a mockery of that score and we coasted to victory.

Hamilton came next at Kaipara Flats. Hamilton posted 114, which was going to be a tough target against a good attack. We struggled with the loss of early wickets and with a comfortable loss insight, Benny and Maz proceeded to put on 59 for the last wicket to win the game for us.

We then took on the Hamilton Invitation side scoring 115 thanks to Ben 37 and Ollie 28, but our innings lasted only 25 overs. The boys bowled with purpose to defend that score and we held them to 88. Lucas with 5 overs for 11, Cam picking up 3 for 11 off his 6 overs and Maz with 3 wickets for 4 runs were instrumental in Hamilton being shut out of the game.

Lakelands were set 212 thanks to Rueben's 46, plus solid contributions from the rest of the batsmen. Lakelands though, were not to be outdone and battled all the way. It came down to the last over with 12 runs required and two established batsmen in. With our bowling options used up trying to shut the game out earlier, Ben Litchfield was thrown the ball for his first and only over of the tournament. He bowled brilliantly under that pressure to restrict them to 9 off the over, and another memorable victory was achieved.

Bay of Plenty Coastlands reached 110 in 30 overs against us. Solid bowling from Cam with 3 for 23 and Connell 3 for 12 kept the pressure on. Chasing, Mikey scored an accomplished 52 with Cam 29 to get us home, 111/1.

So, Waikato Valley was the last hurdle in a clean-sweep of victories for the season. Batting first, Ben led the way with 44 but a middle order collapse left us very vulnerable. Lucas and Connell stepped up to put on 63 which left the Valley chasing a respectable 171. An intriguing battle ensued with each side having their moments. The bowlers held their nerve for the most part and we managed to push the run rate required up, so we were sitting pretty with a handful of overs to go. Liam Purdy strode to the wicket and smashed 31 off 9 balls and left the boys shell-shocked in defeat.

A fantastic year though for the boys, with some really exciting games. As the results suggest, we have a very talented group of players moving forward.

Thanks to Murray Byles and Dean Robinson for their great work with selection and training. The parents were great, as usual, which is awesome and makes all the difference to us, as selectors and coaches. Special thanks to Richard and Julie Crum as our unofficial Chilltech-transportation-supporter and to Northland Treeworks for their sponsorship. It is great to have companies like Northland Treeworks and Chilltech involved in Northland Cricket.

Karl Treiber
NCA Pathway Manager

Northland Junior Secondary Boys 2017-2018

Nathan Parkes (Captain), Kian Bird, Will Potter, Nathan Condon, Baxter Skudder, Harry Cooper, Sam Lints, Brandon Peck, Vinny von Muret-Carvell, Kobe Walters, Cole Jakicevich-Roberts, Hunter Reid. Will Crum and Cullen Hilton-Jones in the Invitation team.

Selectors - Dean Potter, Neil Condon and Todd Skudder. Coach - Karl Treiber.

The team entered the season with high expectations based on a really good squad of players offering great all-round skills and variety.

We played the first tournament game against a strong Hamilton team in a T20 clash. We staggered to 108 which Hamilton knocked off in 16 overs. Lots of cameo scores without a significant innings.

Next came the Invitation side which was bowled out for 99 chasing our 136/6.

In the 50 over fixture, a weak Bay of Plenty Lakelands was dispatched for 65 with Vinny's off spin picking up a remarkable 5 for 5 off 2.5 overs. This proved to be an ominous sign as the old grass pitch was used again for our semi-final against Waikato Valley.

Waikato Valley won the toss and happily batted first scoring 203. We did have them in trouble early but failed to capitalise and they had a couple of strong lower order partnerships. Nathan Parkes picked up a commendable 4 for 28. Chasing we were bowled out for 95, on a slow low turning wicket.

This meant we played Counties Manukau in the two-day game for 3rd and 4th. We managed 184 thanks to 58 from Kian Bird, but once again our batting failed to fire. With rain drifting around, to make life hard for our bowlers, CM scored 213, based on 101 from Leon Marconi. Hunter Reid picked up 4 for 16 and we abandoned the game at that point due to rain.

So, there were good lessons learnt around being more assertive with our batting. The positivity shown early in the season disappeared at the tournament and a lack of runs gave our bowlers little chance.

Otherwise we were not that far off the pace and if we won the toss against Waikato Valley we could easily have been in the final as our spinners, Vincent von Muret-Carvell and Will Potter would have been a real threat.

A huge thank you to our parents who again were fantastic all year and particularly at the tournament. Special mention to Jackie and Alan Lints, for their support both as parents and sponsors through Educare.

Karl Treiber

NCA Pathway Manager

Northland Senior Secondary 2017 – 2018

Coach: Sam Walker. Selectors: Roger Kidd, Richard Pooley, Mark Oldridge

Pre-season

While WBHS was successfully touring Australia, the rest of Northland played a three-day match vs Rangitoto at Kaukapakapa. This match was ideal preparation with all the players having opportunities to shine. Runs were difficult to score on a slow outfield. Northland won outright, by 30 runs, in a close finish. Highlights were 100 to Hamish Kidd and 5 wicket bags to Sean West and Ollie White. New boys to the age group, Billy Alexander-Crawford, Cam and Alex Gordon, Cale Pooley and wicket keeper, Tom Bolton, were also impressive.

Labour Weekend v Counties

Day one saw four T20's played with Northland winning three and the other match ending in a tie. Notable individual highlights were a hat trick to Cam Gordon and Hamish Kidd hitting six 6's in one over. Unfortunately, day two was rained out.

Tournament Team to Gisborne

Selecting this team was a particularly hard job with a strong pool of players available. The team chosen was:

- Quinn Pooley (captain)
- Hamish Kidd
- Caleb Boswell-Smith
- Lewis Miller
- Sean West
- Cullen Lowe
- Kurt Oldridge
- Sam Webb
- Hari Kukreja
- Liam Wewege
- Luke Trigg
- Alex Gordon

We also had three players in the ND Invitation team. They were:

- Max Turner
- Cale Pooley
- Campbell Jones

T20 vs Counties

Northland 137/5 20 overs - L Miller 52, C Boswell-Smith 37no

Counties: 139/6 19.3 overs - C Lowe 3 for 15

A game that Northland should have won, but our run rate stalled in the last two overs of their innings, when 150 plus was on the cards.

T20 vs BOP Lakelands

Lakelands 104/8 off 20 overs – H Kidd 3/30, S West 2/11

Northland 108/5 off 17 overs – H Kidd 25, L Miller 29

Northland were always in control of this game, with a good all-round display.

Day 2: 50 overs vs Poverty Bay

Poverty Bay 125 all out – S West 3/33, S Webb 3/9

Northland 125/1 in 22 overs – L Miller 58, L Trigg 41, C Lowe 18no

Northland were far too strong for Poverty Bay, with Miller and Trigg putting on an 80-run partnership, backing up a great bowling effort by West and Webb, in particular.

Day 3: Semifinal vs BOP Coastlands

Northland 169 all out – L Miller 26, L Trigg 26, Q Pooley 39no, A Gordon 20no

BOP Coastlands 123 all out – H Kidd 3/17, S Webb 2/28, S West 2/26, C Boswell-Smith 2/45

Batting first, Northland started well with a 62-run opening partnership from Miller and Trigg, but then crumbled to be 121/9 with 10 overs left. A fabulous fight back from Pooley and Gordon got Northland through to a respectable 169. This 10th wicket partnership proved to be the pivotal moment of the match. Northland came out into the field, fired up, and West and Boswell-Smith bowled with pace and hostility. Although going for a few runs, they picked up four vital wickets. Coastlands were 49/4 in the 8th over when the spinners came on. Kidd and Webb bowled exceptionally well as a partnership, and Coastlands had no match to their accuracy and turn. The team backed them up with some superb fielding. Miller, Kidd and Wewege all took great catches and Webb broke a knuckle when taking a scorching caught and bowled. Captain, Pooley, tactically was in complete control. BOP was all out for 123 and Northland was into the final.

Final vs Counties Manukau

Counties Manukau 185 all out – C Boswell-Smith 2/30, K Oldridge 2/39, H Kidd 2/40

Northland 176 – L Trigg 33, H Kidd 27, L Wewege 30, S West 31

With the first day rained out, the final became a 50 over match. CMwon the toss and were held together by a fine 91 from Captain Tyler Jerram. All the Northland bowlers were difficult to play and kept the pressure on. Chasing 186 to win on a good track, Northland made life difficult with regular wickets falling. At 112/7 in the 34th over things looked bleak, until a brilliant counter-attack from Sean West and Liam Wewege. Batting positively, they raced along to 172/7 with 6 overs remaining. Unfortunately, Wewege was dismissed after a drinks break and the final two wickets fell quickly, leaving Northland 9 runs short. Defeat was snatched from the jaws of victory! A thrilling victory for CM who were worthy champions after being unbeaten. A disappointing end for Northland but overall this has been a strong group through the years. They have achieved a first and second at JSS and a second and third at SSS. This talent pool should benefit Northland in the long term and was reflected in the higher honours achieved by some team members.

Higher Honours

ND Under 17's: Ollie White, Luke Trigg

ND Under 19's: Ollie White

Northland Men's Second XI: Luke Trigg, Hamish Kidd, Sean West, Sam Webb, Cullen Lowe

Northland Men's First XI: Caleb Boswell-Smith, Ollie White, Luke Trigg, Hamish Kidd, Cullen Lowe

Northland Senior Secondary Awards

Player of the year: Hamish Kidd

Batsman of the year: Lewis miller

Fielder of the year: Luke Trigg

Bowler of the year: Hamish Kidd

Thanks to Sam Walker who put a lot of time and passion into his role as coach. Sam was very analytical and fair to every player. Most of all, a big thanks to Mark Oldridge and Richard Pooley for their hard work and support over the years with this group. It has been great to be involved with them since the Primary Boys level, and I wish them all the best for their careers.

Roger Kidd
Manager

Northland 2nd XI 2017-18

The season started with a tough match at Manurewa's War Memorial Park, against a team full of Counties-Manukau 1st XI players. Bowling first, Northland managed to keep CM to a solid score of 188/7, on a low wicket with long grass in the outfield. The pick of the bowlers were Fletcher Coutts 2-20, Cullen Lowe 1-26 and Hamish Kidd was miserly, going for only 30 off his 10 overs. Northland battled to 70/5 in their innings, before Matt Taylor joined Kidd. Together, they put on 50 for the 6th wicket, and they looked to have a very good CM attack under control. Unfortunately, Taylor (24) then fell to the first of a couple of average LBW dismissals. Fletcher Coutts joined Kidd and they proceeded to match power with smart running and the pair got the team back on top before Coutts (24) was the second recipient of an ordinary LBW dismissal. However, with Kidd still there and only needing 20 to win, with 3 wickets in hand, the match was in the balance. Kidd took it upon himself to win the game and managed to hit a towering 6 before being caught on the boundary on the next ball. His innings of 51 was exactly what was required of him and he showed that he is a player for the future. Unfortunately, the Northland side fell 10 runs short, all out for 178.

Game two was away to Hamilton. Northland lost the toss and bowled on a wicket that was low and slow. Hamilton were looking like scoring 100 runs too many, at 181/1 off 40 overs, but Fletcher Coutts then came to the bowling crease and his mixture of slow balls and yorkers helped restrict Hamilton to 229, with the 10th wicket falling in the 50th over. Shaun Beamish also bowled well and took 3-36. Coutts was elevated to open as we felt we needed quick runs at the top, while the ball was still new, on what was a very worn track. Coutts whacked 12 off 10 before trying to go for another boundary and getting bowled. This brought Todd Beerhe to the crease, where he joined Sam Murphy. The pair put on 110 to take the side to 132/2 before Beerhe (48) fell. Murphy (65) was out soon after and things started to look difficult. The wicket was getting lower and slower and it was hard to get yourself in, while maintaining the required run rate. Skipper, Harry Darkins, was getting himself set and finally found an able ally in Lewis Miller (19). The pair ran the Hamilton team ragged and looked to have got us back in front, before Miller took on the wrong arm from the boundary and was run out. This brought Kidd to the crease but Darkins (44) was dismissed almost immediately. Kidd, again, took it upon himself to get the Northland side over the line but he showed that he had learnt from the match against CM. His 14no off 8 balls was invaluable and whilst seeing three of his teammates fall at the other end, he kept backing his batting partners and then when required, he hit back to back boundaries to win the match. It was a fantastic game and the boys played out of their skins to claw their way back into the match on more than one occasion.

Game three vs Waikato Valley was washed out.

Game four was against Bay of Plenty at Kensington Park. We won the toss and decided to bat on a good wicket. After a very slow start (44/4 off 15 overs), skipper Harry Darkins joined Sam Sweeney and the pair took the score to 110, before Darkins hit one to cover on 34. Lucky Singh (42) joined Sweeney and together they added 84 for the 6th wicket, before Sweeney fell for a fine 82, off 74 balls. Shane Burton then played a lovely cameo and scored 12 off 8 balls and we ended with 229 all out, with 3 balls to spare. In reply BOP attacked the new ball bowlers and they were 85/1 off 15 overs. From that point, the Northland bowlers picked up regular wickets, but the BOP run rate was never really behind. That was, until, Burton (2-23) and debutant Sam Webb (2-33) but the skids on. They were ably backed up by Sweeney (1-35) and Cullen Lowe (5-59) who both bowled 8 overs each at the death. Eventually, BOP was bowled out for 225 off the last ball of the 50th over.

It was a very enjoyable season with all three games going down to the wire and everyone contributing. Harry Darkins picked up Batsman of the Season, Cullen Lowe was Bowler of the Season and Hamish Kidd was named Player of the Season, at the Northland Senior Prizegiving.

Northland 1st XI 2017-2018

Northland v Auckland – One Day

The Northland 1st XI kicked the season off with a match against the Auckland A side, at Cobham Oval. Batting First, the Auckland side amassed a competitive 272 for 6 in their 50 overs. The pick of the Northland bowlers was Kyran Dill (1 for 32) and Mike O'Flaherty, who bowled economically. Northland started poorly with the bat and were 3 for 20. Neal Parlane and Ben Hyde then added 41 for the 4th wicket, before Parlane was dismissed. Hyde and Kyran Dill put on 57 for the 5th wicket but when Hyde was dismissed, Northland struggled to form any further substantial partnerships, eventually being bowled out for 202 in 42 overs. Dill top scored with an aggressive 85.

Northland v BOP – Two Day

The first round of the Fergus Hickey was against BOP, again at Cobham Oval. Northland batted first and compiled a solid 336, all out. Matt Taylor, Ben Hyde and Neal Parlane all scoring half centuries in a good team effort, although the home side lost the final 4 wickets for only 25 runs.

In reply, BOP was under pressure early by way of good bowling from Brent Randell, Kyran Dill and Tom Herman. All three seamers bowled consistently, throughout the day, and although the wicket was flat, the Northland attack was always in the hunt. BOP, who had a quality side that included 9 current ND or ND A squad members, were eventually dismissed for 311 and the Northland side got a well-deserved first innings win.

Northland v Hamilton – Two Day

Northland travelled to Hamilton for the second round of the Fergus Hickey and lost the toss on a tired surface. In turn, they were asked to bowl. The Northland attack bowled very well up front and were unlucky not to pick up wickets but Hamilton took advantage of that and scored a very competitive 351. Ben Hyde was the pick of the bowlers with 4 for 63 off 23 demanding overs.

Northland started poorly and were reeling at 3 for 43. Neal Parlane and Henry Cooper then added 122 for the 4th wicket before Parlane was dismissed for 60. Cooper continued to bat extremely well but unfortunately had very few partners who supported him and Northland was bowled out for 248. Cooper eventually be dismissed for a good hundred.

Northland v Poverty Bay – T20

The first game of the Brian Dunning tournament was against Poverty Bay and the format was T20. Northland batted first and scored 171 for 7 in the 20 overs. Neal Parlane was in fine form and played aggressively in scoring 42 off 26 balls. He was well supported by Henry Cooper (28), Ben Hyde (29) and Matt Taylor (22). Poverty Bay then struggled against the Northland attack, being bundled out for 60. Kyran Dill was on fire and took 5 for 24 and he was well backed up by Henry Cooper, Ben Hyde and Tom Herman. There were also three run outs, which was pleasing to see.

Northland v Waikato Valley – T20

Northland had WV in the second match at the tournament. WV batted first and scored 123. Kyran Dill was brilliant with the ball picked up 3 for 16 off 4 overs. He was well supported by Tom Herman who got 2 for 20 off his 5 overs.

In reply, Northland had little trouble in chasing down the score, winning in the 19th over, four down. Neal Parlane top scored with 35 and Kyran Dill finished the game with two towering sixes.

Northland v Hamilton – T20

In the third game of the Brian Dunning competition, the Hamilton side won the toss and batted first. Northland was great with the ball and Hamilton were dismissed for 124. Kyran Dill, again, was dynamic with the ball and picked up 5 for 32, including a hat-trick. He was well supported by Henry Cooper, Simar Virk, Sam Sweeney and Ben Hyde.

Northland then destroyed the Hamilton attack and won easily, in the 15th over. Fletcher Coutts, who was promoted in the order, played a powerful and destructive innings, scoring 83 off 47 balls and he and Neal Parlane put on 80 for the 3rd wicket. It was a very good performance by the Northland side.

Northland v BOP – T20

The 4th match of the tournament was effectively a final. Regardless of the last match, whoever won this match, would be the winner of the Brian Dunning Trophy. Northland batted first and scored a very competitive 154. Brad Kneebone (23 off 15) and Henry Cooper started well and when Kneebone was dismissed, in the 5th over, Northland was on 50. Cooper continued to bat superbly throughout the innings and he was well supported, with cameos, by Fletcher Coutts (20 off 13) and Kyran Dill (15 off 10). Cooper ended the innings 82 not out.

Northland then bowled well up front and had BOP under tremendous pressure. At 59 for 4, the Northland side was well in control. BOP, as expected, fought hard and the game ebbed and flowed, with neither side giving an inch. It eventually came down to the final over, BOP needing 10 to win. Kyran Dill stepped up and bowled extremely well, restricting BOP to only 8 and the Northland side won by one run.

Northland v Counties-Manukau – T20

Having secured the Brian Dunning Trophy, the Northland side probably lacked a bit of edge in the final match but batting first, the Northland side certainly played with freedom and amassed a very good score of 161. Henry Cooper (43 off 26), Fletcher Coutts (44 of 31) and Neal Parlane (33 off 21) all played extremely well.

Northland's bowling and fielding, however, was poor and a mixture of inconsistent lines and lengths, along with substandard fielding saw the CM side win with 3 balls remaining. Simar Virk was the only shining light with the ball, getting 1 for 12 off his 4 overs. Although the loss was disappointing, it was a great tournament and winning it was a fantastic achievement. With Brian Dunning being Northland's legend, the Northland side regards the Brian Dunning Trophy as 'our' trophy so it was very rewarding.

It is important to note that this was also Neal Parlane's 100th game for Northland. He became one of only six players to play 100 games for the association. This is an outstanding achievement; particularly with being away from Northland for 14 years, whilst he played in First Class cricket Wellington and Auckland.

Northland v Waikato Valley and Counties Manukau – Two Day

The next round of the Fergus Hickey was against WV, away at St Pauls College. Batting first on a very low, slow wicket, the Northland side scored a very competitive 217. Brad Kneebone (40) and Fletcher Coutts (59) were the pick of the Northland batsmen.

WV then fought hard and a good century by Chris Swanson saw the home side get over the line. Albeit, limping home, 8 down. The pick of the Northland bowlers was Hamish Kidd, on debut (2 for 41) and Ben Hyde (3 for 35) and both Matt Taylor and Cullen Lowe (also on debut) supported them well.

Unfortunately, the CM match was cancelled due to rain.

It is important to acknowledge Brent Martin, for the outstanding work he did, as manager. Brent did a brilliant job and we look forward to his managing of the side for years to come. A special mention to Jono Leftley is also appropriate, due to his scoring for the team during the season.

Barry Cooper (selector) was, again, instrumental to the selection of both the 1st and 2nd XI sides. His support was greatly appreciated, as was that of the NCA Chairman, Paul Tomich, who was at most, if not all, of the games offering support.

Stephen Cunis
Coach

Northland Cricket Awards 2017-18

Junior Club Cricket:

<u>C Grade:</u>	Pre Christmas –	OCCC Whales
	Post Christmas –	OCCC Whales
<u>B Grade:</u>	Pre Christmas –	OCCC Bears
	Post Christmas –	OCCC Bears
<u>A Grade:</u>	Pre Christmas –	City Arrows
	Post Christmas –	City Aces and Kerikeri White

Junior Representative Cricket:

Primary Boys:

- **Batsman** – Ben Litchfield
- **Bowler** – Cameron Randall
- **Fielder** – Nick Byles
- **Player of the Year** – Lucas James

Junior Secondary Boys:

- **Batsman** – Kian Bird
- **Bowler** – Vinnie von Mulert-Cawell
- **Fielder** – Sam Lints
- **Player of the Year** – Nathan Parkes

Senior Secondary Boys:

- **Batsman** – Lewie Miller
- **Bowler** – Hamish Kidd
- **Fielder** – Luke Trigg
- **Player of the Year** – Hamish Kidd

Junior Secondary Girls:

- **Player of the Year** – Makayla Templeton

Senior Secondary Girls:

- **Player of the Year** – Makayla Templeton

School Tournaments:

NZ Cup - Doug Thorpe Trophy (Year 7/8 Boys)

Kamo Intermediate

NZ Shield - Intermediate Girls Trophy (Year 7/8 Girls)

Kamo Intermediate

John Bruce Trophy (Year 9/10 Girls)

WGHS

Leaf Cup (Senior Secondary School Girls)

WGHS

Armstrong Shield (Year 9/10 Boys Tournament)

WBHS

Bruce Scott Trophy (Secondary Schools T20 Tournament)

WBHS

Robertson Shield (Premier Award for Secondary School Cricket)

WBHS 1st XI

Third and Reserve Grade Club Cricket

Russell Smith Trophy – Third Grade

Pre-Christmas – Huanui-OCCC

Post-Christmas – Kerikeri

Team Tait Real Estate Trophy – Reserve Grade One Day

OCCC

Plus Trophy – Reserve Grade T20

City CC

Reserve Grade 50/40 Competition

City CC

Greg Guy Shield – Reserve Grade Sub Association Competition

Rodney Rams

Most Valuable Reserve Grade Players

Batsman: 578 runs @ 83 – **Nathan Parkes**

Bowler: 25 wickets – **Terry Jobbit and Axel Rose-Sheppard**

Player: 578 runs and 23 wickets – **Nathan Parkes**

Premier Club Cricket

Karl Treiber Shield (Northland Premier Cricket Challenge Shield)

OCCC - held this for the season being unbeaten at home (in One Day and Two-Day cricket)

Dargaville Shield (Premier Sub Association Competition)

Rodney

Mark Cromie Holden Trophy – Premier T20

Onerahi Central

Lion Red Trophy – Premier One Day

Kamo

Oxford Sports Trust Shield – Premier Two Day

Kaipara Flats

Most Valuable Premier Grade Players

Batsman: **Ben Hyde – 489 runs**

Bowler: **Fletcher Coutts – 34 wickets**

Keeper (Lance Mountain Trophy): **25 dismissals – Rory Christopherson and Bert Horner**

Player (Bob Cunis Trophy): **Fletcher Coutts**

Umpires Award

Graham Cowen Trophy for Greatest Contribution to Umpiring

Mike Elliott

Premier Club Team of the Season

The team is made up of 12 players selected from the 6 senior sides that play in the T20, One and Two-Day Competitions in Northland.

Selection Criteria:

- The team is selected as a normal team is selected, therefore there are:
- Two openers
- A top and middle order
- A wicket keeper
- All-rounders
- At least one spinner
- Fast bowlers
- Only one overseas player was eligible for the team
- There was no advantage of playing for Northland, it was purely based on club cricket

The team is as follows:

1. Rory Christopherson
2. Brad Kneebone
3. Henry Cooper
4. Ben Hyde
5. Matt Taylor
6. Fletcher Coutts
7. Sam Sweeney
8. Kyran Dill
9. Hamish Kidd
10. Caleb Boswell-Smith
11. Tom Herman
12. Kieran Nelson

Women's Player of the Year

Olivia Lobb

Northland Men – Second XI

Batsman: Harry Darkins

Bowler: Cullen Lowe

Player: Hamish Kidd

Northland Men – First XI

Norm Wilson Trophy (Biggest Contribution to Northland 1st and 2nd XI)

Stephen Cunis

Captains Trophy: (presented to the Northland Men's Captain)

Ben Hyde

Bob Henman Trophy (Most Meritorious Performance)

Kyran Dill

(5 for 24, including a hatrick v Hamilton)

Bowler of the Year

Kyran Dill

Batsman of the Year

Henry Cooper

Northland Men's 1st XI Player of the Year (Brian Dunning Medal)

Kyran Dill and Henry Cooper

Northland Cricket Association Player of the Year:

*This award goes to the Northland cricketer that has reached what are regarded as the highest honors of the season. An award like this often involves accolades such as Northern Districts and/or New Zealand selection and in turn performances of a very high standard. This player, as always, is a true role model for younger and older players alike and the Northland Cricket Association is extremely proud of his achievements and the way in which he flies the Northland flag. It is no surprise that **TIM SOUTHEE** is the Northland Cricket Association's Player of the Year.*

Northland Cricket Association gratefully acknowledge and sincerely thanks our financial supporters...

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