



# CHRISTCHURCH JUNIOR CRICKET ASSOCIATION

## **Presidents Report - 2019/2020.**

Welcome to the Christchurch Junior Cricket Associations Annual General Meeting.

We can again report another positive season in 2019/2020 although we did lose the last two weeks of the season as a result of the COVID-19 lockdown.

Our financial performance has been conservative but measured with any investment made determined by its benefit to Junior Cricket.

I would like to extend my thanks to the Executive for their support and efforts again this year and special thanks to Rob, who as the face of CJCA, continues to grow and develop how we support our stakeholders, deliver more and more opportunities for our children to experience and play cricket.

To all of our parent volunteers and supporters we extend a big thank you. Without the dedication of this large group we would certainly not be able to deliver junior cricket at our local clubs and festivals. We thank you for your time, experience and passion for our game.

To our Coaches and Managers, with a number of changes in registrations, police checks and certification through Vulnerable Children's Act, as well as further modules for coaching it has been a busy year. To each of you we pass on our thanks and gratitude and hope that the learning has made you better coaches.

For our Club Representatives who facilitate the delivery of our game, a very big thank you. I am sure many do not know how much you give to the game. We certainly do and we appreciate all that you give to our game.

### **Operational Summary**

- CJCA Saturday competitions grew slightly to 232 teams at the start of the season.
- The Girls Year 7/8 grade rose to 10 teams this season, up from 8.
- CJCA Spring and Summer Festivals remains a key player development mechanism with the latest Festival featuring 10 teams in all three boys grades.
- Girls Festivals have been a challenge this season and need a reassessment of what can be offered to increase participation for girls across the age ranges.
- Around 160 games this season were controlled by Youth Umpires during CJCA events. This eases pressure on Coaches and Managers and improves the quality of the experience for all players. Many thanks to Eugene Sanders from Canterbury Cricket for co-ordinating this.
- CJCA School competitions remain very popular. The division of the NZ Cup and Shield Tournaments allows for more even matches and increased opportunities for players at an appropriate level.
- Year 5/6 Inter School Friday competitions remain very popular as well but are under pressure as logistics and compliance issues for schools mean a greater level of support is required. We have tried some alternatives however further work is required to resolve the logistics challenges.
- The CJCA's Winter Training Programme remains popular and the quality of the delivery continues to improve year on year. Our thanks to Keryn Ambler for co-ordinating the coaches used in this programme.
- The CJCA had success in its two South Island Tournaments winning both the Boys and Girls events in Westport and Christchurch respectively. The Girls Tournament, which the CJCA organises and hosts, has now grown to 10 teams with Southland and a 2nd team from Canterbury Country being the additions this season.
- We again funded the delivery of the in schools Awareness Program. Although we only had 5 clubs apply we will certainly continue to offer the funding in the 2020/2021 season.

- The CJCAs involvement in January Festivals organised in conjunction with Canterbury Country continues to grow with a more open registration process seeing 13 teams participate compared to 8 generally a few years ago.
- Unfortunately the Girls trip to Auckland in late March had to be cancelled due to the Covid-19 restrictions that adversely affected not only this but also the conclusion of CJCA inter-club and Schools Competitions and an inter-districts day in mid-March.
- Providing quality venues remains to be focus for the CJCA with this year 4 new lockbox arrangements being made with schools to allow for players and supporters to access toilets at venues. This project will continue with the aim of having access at as many school venues as we can.
- Additional investment in extra mowing tagged from recent increases in player levies continues, with schools under pressure to pay for enough mowing to provide an appropriate surface for our players in the early season.
- Seven school venues became unavailable either on a permanent or temporary basis during the season, this meant there were few spare pitches for all Cricket on Saturday mornings on occasions. We are working with CCC through Metro to devise a plan for the future growth of pitches required.
- In partnership with CCA we trialled an Activator recruitment initiative to help build a profile for cricket in Schools and at a Community level. We are currently reviewing this and how we might advance the opportunity to provide greater support to Clubs and Schools.

### **Executive Changes**

This season we will lose a number of our Executive team. To Jo Malta, Adrian Brown and Rachel Candy we extend our thanks for their service to the CJCA. All have been active members of our Executive helping us as a group to better deliver to our stakeholders at all levels.

### **Partnerships**

For the last 3 years we have worked in partnership with Metro Cricket. This continues to develop in a positive way for both parties as we work together to support stakeholders, players and volunteers. To Mike, Mike and Keryn we extend our thanks for their support and advice.

The Canterbury Cricket services team have also provided invaluable support in Female Participation, Activators, Funding, and Umpire co-ordination.

We have not been shy in asking for assistance when needed and we appreciate their support and advice.

I would also like to extend my thanks to Simon Hill who has been an invaluable support to me as President and to Rob in his operational planning and compliance reporting.

### **COVID-19 Support**

COVID-19 may present us with a number of challenges in the coming months. After talking to a number of our clubs we are aware that there will be a need to support them through the challenges and provide assistance to help retain their membership where there has been changes in parents and clubs financial circumstances.

We are very fortunate to have the financial resources to be able to do this and our door is always open to help clubs so they are able to continue to deliver a positive experience to our junior cricketers.

We are in the final stages of finalising a support package and will circulate this to clubs in the next few days.

Mike Dunlop  
**CJCA President**