

NEWSLETTER

A New Season And A New Challenge Ahead

A new season, a new competition. What will the upcoming season bring?

Discussion always centres around new arrivals at this time of year and what they will bring to the Club. Whilst the club is extremely pleased to have picked up Papua New Guinea captain Rarua Dikana to hopefully fill the hole left by Michael Riach, it is the development of our own group that will ultimately decide our fate.

The club pumped some significant games and responsibility into Jeff Keyt, Alex Caravelis, Rob Ciccarella, Ben Russell and Daniel Clarke last season and it will be this group that needs to step up further against the strength and depth of teams in the top division.

Keyt and Caravelis will again be given opportunities at the top of the order to impress. Both will need to develop their own playing style that they can rely on week-in, week-out. Keyt especially appears to be able to play fast paced and slow paced innings but has yet to settle in to a consistent groove. If he does he will be a commanding presence at the crease for Bentleigh for the next decade.

Ciccarella is an interesting proposition. So often the supporting act he now needs to take his punishing and dangerous game to a more consistent level. He is often spoken about as having a loose technique but nothing could be further from the truth. When in form he plays as straight as any.

Russell and Clarke will again perform key roles in a formidable attack. Russell continues to excel when the going is at its toughest. If he can learn to dismantle weaker players as he can the better ones his star could continue to rise for many years yet.

Clarke will face tougher opposition for his place this year with the reemergence from injury of James Robertson and Scott Dole. With those two chipping at his heels for a place in the First XI the club's depth should be a little stronger again.

Dikana comes with a big reputation from his homeland. He is widely recognized as their best cricketer, and a steady leader of men.

His coaching background will help enormously off the field, while we hope he finds Bentleigh a Club that can get the best out of him on the field.

He is known as a correct top order batsman and very handy medium pacer. Both of these weapons will hopefully serve us well in season 2010/11.

The premiership is a long time ago now but the lessons of that game have hopefully not been forgotten amidst the celebrations. The team with the better game plan, a better spread of quality players, higher self belief and a superior ability to execute under pressure won the day.

Here's hoping that we can continue that on this season.

Peter Roach



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Coach's Corner

Welcome everyone to a new season. A season that has us back in the Senior Division where we belong, and where Bentleigh will make a mark once again going for a seventh premiership at this level.

A lot of things will stay the same as we head into this new season, thanks to the great leadership that Chris Seisun put in the last two years.

A couple of things that I would like to change is what players wear to training. All professional clubs have the same clothing on at all times at training and I would like this to be implemented into our club. Training shirts and shorts will be available to purchase from the Club.

Pre-Season Training has commenced at the Melbourne Cricket Centre and I encourage all of you to get there. Details of the schedule is available on the website.

Outdoor training will begin the week of the first game and will be on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and will start at 6pm sharp.

I would like to welcome Rarna Dikana as the Clubs assistant coach who is Level 3 Accredited and who has trained under former Australian Test player, Andy Bichel. There is no doubt that his knowledge and experience will strengthen the Club.

Lets make this a special season for all.

Chris Street



The New Recruit

The Club has continued on its recruiting campaign by signing Papua New Guinea cricketer Rarua Dikana for the upcoming 2010/11 season.

Rarua is currently the national captain of the PNG national team and since his appointment in 2002 when he was 24 years old, has been a strongly performed all-rounder for Papua New Guinea, both as a player and an inspirational leader as Captain.

In 2009 Rarua was voted in a world wide pole as East Asia Pacific Cricketer of the Year and achieved this feat with a resounding margin. Rarua is a Cricket Australia Level Three (3) accredited High performance Coach and is a fulltime employee of Cricket PNG as National High Performance Manager. He is also Assistant Coach of the National Men's team, second to Andy Bichel, who is National Coaching Director.

He has played in two ICC World Cup qualifiers and three World Cricket League division 3 tournaments. The highlight of his performance was when he lead the PNG team in the 2009 WCL 3 tournament in Argentina where he put up sterling performance with the ball taking 13 wickets @ an

average of 6.38. In two of the matches he bagged 5 wicket/innings hauls and Won "Man of the Match".

In 2004, Rarua was part of the first East Asia Pacific team that took part in the Australia Country Cricket Championship. He was selected as the captain of the first EAP team in 2004 and held the captaincy role in the next five ACCC tournaments; 2005 to 2009.

In 2006 Rarua made the ACCC All Stars select team at the completion of the tournament for his outstanding performance for the EAP as an all rounder. Rarua completed his Cricket Australia Level Three accreditation course in June 2009 which makes him the first indigenous Level Three (3) coach in the East Asia Pacific Region.

His first Senior National coaching duty came in 2009 when he coached the PNG National Team to the ICC EAP Cricket Championship in Samoa. The PNG Barramundi's swept aside every team to grab the T/20 and the 50 over ODI competition in the same tournament. He was also assistant coach to Andy Bichel in the U/19 World Cup tournament in New Zealand in 2010.

In May 2010, Rarua was named PNG Sportsman of the Year.

From the President

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to the 2010/2011 season. With plenty having happened already, it promises to be an exciting and hopefully successful season for the Club.

For those of you who don't know me, I joined Bentleigh Cricket Club in 1999/00 having only played indoor cricket and no junior seasons - the year the 1st XI last won the Senior Division Flag.

John Diamond recruited me from a tennis match to fill up the 4th XI with a couple of my mates. He will openly tell you, he knew I was no good, but my two mates were OK. I trained hard in the early days to improve and eventually found a niche as an opening batsman and captained both the 3rds and 4ths for several seasons.

The next year in 2000/01, I was approached by Gary McInnes to join the committee and then found myself elected Secretary, when Gary handed over to John Diamond. I then switched roles with Ken Griffiths to become Treasurer, given my accounting degree and banking and finance career, and remained there for four seasons.

Those seasons were tough and we had several presidential changes, plus a real lack of players and funds at various times, and the 1st XI began to get relegated as the team lost players.

It is still my belief that two events saved our club. The first was Matt Thorp landing the generous sponsorship of the Mentone Hotel group a week or two before the season began in 2004,

(whose former owners remain one of our key sponsors today) and the second was Australia losing the Ashes to England in 2005, which inexplicably meant we had 10-12 former players itching to play cricket again and who rejoined the ranks at preseason training, giving us a genuine four teams again. This also gave us a chance to grow our revenue base and recruit a coach.

I then re-took the Secretary role for two seasons when Matt Thorp put his hand up to take over treasury, a logical move given his Herculean efforts in driving the sponsorship levels and having a keen dedication to the club's fortunes.

After 6-7 years on the executive having helped fight hard to recruit players, workmates etc and keep us on the track, I needed a break, so at the end of Season 2006/07 I had to do the right thing by my family and step down from the executive to free up some time at home. This allowed me to continue playing 3rd & 4th XI Cricket and play in a premiership side whilst also having a 3rd child who is now 18 months old.

Thankfully this 'time-out' was made possible under Tony Roger's presidency, as Paul Glew was in a position to resume a role on the executive as Secretary, and later replace Tony as president.

I had no real expectation of resuming a senior post, but also now think I had a little left to contribute and hope to repay the favour to assist Paul Glew to step back, in this difficult year for him.

I look forward to seeing you all in the coming weeks and throughout the season and welcome you another season at BCC.

Brad Coppens

Junior Registration Day

The Junior Registration Day is on Sunday August 29th at 11:00am at Bentleigh.

It only costs \$70 to register to play which includes insurance, affiliation and a cap for new players

Be sure to get along on Sunday to be a part of the Bentleigh Cricket Club for season 2010/2011.

Visit www.bentleighcc.com.au for more information on our Junior program and to download a registration form.



Sponsorship

We are pleased to announce the following businesses as Sponsors of the Bentleigh Cricket Club for the 2010/2011 season:

- Westpac Bentleigh - Major Sponsor
- The Point Albert Park
- The Grosvenor Hotel
- Urban Central Accommodation
- 7 Apples Gelato
- R&N Building Services
- JD Furniture
- The Bentleigh RSL
- Century 21
- Drive Projects
- SoundStorm Entertainment
- Brighton Toyota
- Woodards
- 2 Brothers Brewery
- Cushion Lounge
- Mr Burch
- Telstra Shop Bentleigh
- Grill'd Elsternwick



Their support plays a significant part in the success of our Club and we encourage all our members to support them.



Now that I'm retired I've got more time to follow Bentleigh. Visit bentleighcc.com.au like I do to keep up to date with what's happening around the club.

2010/11 Social Calendar

October 24th 2010

Dimmattina's Lunch

November 13th 2010

Trivia Night

December 12th 2010

Family Christmas Day

December 19th 2010

Junior Christmas Party

January 23rd 2011

\$1000 Draw

February 6th 2011

Ladies Lunch

February 20th 2011

Sth Caulfield Twenty / 20

February 26th

Premiership Reunion & RGL Award

April 8th 2011

Annual Dinner

AROUND THE GROUNDS

Raise the bat for:

Matthew & Holly Thorp on the birth of their daughter Lily Mae

Arthur & Dionne Karzis on the birth of their daughter Ruby Anna

David & Christie McNamara on the birth of their son Daniel Gregory



Past Player Postcards

Our contact list of past players continue to grow with many keeping up to date through regular emails.

We are always glad when a familiar face drops by the club and would love to hear what you guys are doing now that you have put the whites away - as would your former teammates.

To publish your postcard in the newsletter, email Matt Thorp at mthorp@bigpond.net.au

With regular events celebrating the achievements of the past players as well as just welcoming them back, there is never an excuse not to pop down during the season.



GOT SOME NEWS?

Have you got something to put in the newsletter or on the club website?

Email the club at cricket@bentleighcc.com.au to get your story in the most read and viewed media in Bentleigh.



2010/2011 Executive Committee

President	Brad Coppens
Vice President	Paul Ciccarella
Secretary	Matthew Thorp
Treasurer	Julian Roberts
Junior Coordinator	Stephen McGinness
Social Secretary	James Robertson

WE WANT YOU!

Visit www.bentleighcc.com.au and join us now!