

# Kingston Heath Cricket Club

## Junior Presentation Report

Season 2019/20



Hi everyone and welcome to the KHCC Junior Report for season 2019/20.

Due to the current circumstances we had to cancel our presentation night and instead have put together this report. Inside you will find messages from each coach, team award winners and the winners of our perpetual trophies – the Best Junior Club Person and Junior Club Champion. Thank you to the coaches for their submissions during a busy and difficult period, to Rob Gillespie for taking our photos and to Adam Williams for editing and formatting the report and photos.

The Junior program was remarkably successful on-field this season, with each team eligible to play finals making the finals. Congratulations to the 16 and Under Red team and the Under 14B team for winning their respective premierships and the 16 and Under Black team and Under 12Cs playing in the finals for the first time. I would also like to acknowledge the successes of our younger teams. In the Rookies, we had too many players but Adam, Oisin and Dave managed the team fantastically, so everyone had an opportunity. The Master Blasters, under the watchful eye of supercoaches Simon and Max, grew from one team to three teams and it was great to see almost half the ground at Jack Grut in KHCC shirts on a Saturday morning. And finally, to Nick Waltrich, for his continual service to the KHCC Juniors running the Junior Blasters, arguably our most important program as the entry point for many juniors. Thank you taking on this task and for aiding in the development of young coaches in Lachie, Harrison, Jackson and Adam.

I would like to thank a number of people for their contribution to the Junior program over the season. Firstly, to the Junior Committee: Zac, Andrew, Hannah, Jason, Max and Simon, thank you for your effort into the administration, decision making and implementation of our Junior Program. You make the job of the Junior Coordinator much easier and your contributions have been highlighted with the growth of the Junior program over the last few seasons. Thank you also to the Senior Committee for their consistent support of and investment into the Junior Program.

A big thank you to our Junior Coaches for the time and effort they have put in during the season. This season we had a number of new coaches: Chris and Brad in the Master Blasters, Oisin in the Rookies, Heath and Baeden in the U14s, and Donna, Grace, Lisa and Amy in the 16 and Under teams. We also had some stalwarts of the Junior program: Nick, Simon and Max, Zac and Adam, Birty and Hannah coaching across the program.

I would also like to thank many other individuals who have volunteered their time for the Junior Program in a variety of managing and admin roles: Dave Kosior, Andrew Topp, Kris Farr, Jason Buck and Paul Brown. And of course to Lou and Geoff Birt, who provide a fully stocked canteen every Friday night, Saturday morning and Sunday morning, thank you for the enormous amount of work in maintaining the clubrooms, running the canteen and general support of the Junior Program over many years.

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And finally, to the parents – thank you for taxiing your children to and from trainings and games, helping out with ground set up, canteen and scoring. The Junior Program relies on contributions from many different people and we appreciate everyone's efforts and support.

I hope everyone enjoys reading what the coaches have put together and I pass on my congratulations to all the award winners announced in this report. Trophies, medals and photos have been delivered and will be distributed amongst players at an appropriate time, such as the beginning of next season.

On a personal note, this will be my last year as Junior Coordinator. The job is a rewarding role which is incredibly well supported by many of the people already mentioned in this introduction (too many for another list of names!). If you are interested in taking on a role like this or joining the Junior Committee, please contact myself or Dylan Smith.

Stay safe and well throughout winter - summer and cricket will be back again in no time!

Tom Richards  
Kingston Heath Junior Coordinator

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## Junior Blasters

Coach: Nick Waltrich

The season for the Junior Blaster participants was a very enjoyable one. For those that don't know what this is, it is the first step young cricketers take when getting introduced to the game (besides from the very official backyard matches they would have had already!). We had a great group of young children, some who were in their first season of the Junior Blasters program, or some others that had come back for more.

For 12 weeks over the summer we met on Sunday morning and had a run around at Kingston Heath reserve. We rotated through warm up activities, skills stations for batting, bowling and fielding and always finished with a game. As is very normal for the first few seasons, the kids were getting used to the very specific skills that cricket involves, but it didn't take long at all for them to demonstrate significant progress in one or many areas of the game. Catching became second nature to many, hitting a moving ball wasn't just a regular occurrence but the balls often got wacked very far, and for many others celebrating hitting the stumps while bowling toned down due to how regularly they were hit!

Seeing all the kids progress in their skills over summer was very pleasing, but the main objective of these sessions is simply to have fun. So to see the kids running around with a smile on their face, laughing with each other and making friends was probably the best part from my point of view.

I would like to congratulate the following kids for completing this season of Junior Blasters:

**Mia**

**Kayden**

**Austin**

**Harvey**

**Theo**

**Henry**

**Kiana**

**Ciara**

**Lily**

**Dylan**

**Ethan**

**Jake**

**Ollie**

**Jamie**

**Zac**

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I would also like to thank the parents for all their help throughout the season. It is a program that requires parents to not just get involved, but actually provide a significant amount of help so the program can simply run. So to all the parents, thank you very much for helping during the summer.

I also want to thank all the other coaches who ran these programs with me. Lachie, Adam, Jackson, Baeden, Tom and Harrison. I know the kids took a lot from you guys and the advice and assistance you gave was fantastic.

Thanks again to everyone who participated and helped this season. I hope to see you all next summer!

Nick ☺

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## Master Blasters

Coaches: Simon McKean and Marius Pienaar

This year we had a strong Master Blasters squad with 17 boys and 1 girl. With the growth in numbers we managed to field 3 teams each week. The teams showed fantastic enthusiasm at trainings and at games. The emphasis was on creating a 'squad' culture whereby everyone was supported and challenged to improve their cricket skills. There were a number of excellent individual performances, including some accurate stump-to-stump bowling, some lusty blows with the bat and some sharp outfield catches.

As coaches, we stressed the importance of to keep regularly practising their bowling, batting and fielding skills on a regular basis throughout the season. There was obvious improvement in skill development, as well as knowledge of game strategy, including running between wickets, fielding for run outs and hitting the ball into the gaps.

A big thank you to the parent group who assisted at training sessions and on game days. Thank you to the Dads and Mums who helped with scoring games, managing teams and supporting the players each and every Saturday.

A number of the squad got a taste of Rookies before Christmas and they are super excited about jumping into Rookies for a full season next year.

Well done to everyone and we look forward to seeing you at the refurbished Kingston Heath clubrooms next season.

Simon and Max

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## Under 12 Rookies

Coaches: Adam Williams and Oisin Gribben

Season 2019/20 was one built on improving individual and team cricket, enjoyment and a whole lot of fun. From the very first preseason training to the final day at St. James Bentleigh, the smiles on the players faces was the best part. As a whole, the season should be commended as an enjoyable one filled with improvement. The progress from each individual player was exponential thanks to continued efforts at training, willingness to listen and the initiative to learn which are the most promising things about the cricketers in the Rookies. As well as the individual improvements of the Rookies, the team comradery was such an exciting development with friendships established and flourishing throughout the year.

Wins against Omega 3 times, Dingley twice and Le Page Park twice gave the boys a taste of the sweetness of winning while enjoying their cricket with all round contributions from each player in all assets of the game.

It was great to have Simon who helped us out by bringing some of the young guns from our Master Blasters team to fill in throughout the season. Always willing and able, the Blasters provided great energy and enthusiasm to the side whenever called upon. Xavier, Billy and James, you guys were awesome, and we look forward to seeing you guys in the Rookies team next season!

**Finn** - Finn unfortunately spent the majority of the first half of the season with a cast on his arm! Finn demonstrated his commitment to his teammates by showing up to training week in and out, and kept working hard (even with only 1 working arm!).

Finn got a wicket with his first ball back in a match after getting his cast off, which was an amazing reward for the efforts he had put in. The improvement Finn has shown just in this year alone is outstanding, and it has been a pleasure to have him in our team. Finn will continue to grow as a cricketer, and improve each year, which we look forward to seeing.

**Josh** - Josh is a confident young cricketer, who always gives it his absolute all. He has demonstrated his growing knowledge of the game, and showcases this through his very loud, confident calls when running between the wicket (which gets everyone's attention and makes sure we are all awake on those early Saturday mornings!). Josh took a liking to wicket keeping throughout the year, which was fantastic to see and made our lives as coaches a lot easier. Great job Josh!

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**Will** - Will is the type of cricketer that any coach would absolutely love to have in their team. He is supportive of his teammates and will do anything that is asked of him with a smile on his face. This year Will's bowling has improved out of sight. At training, Will was able to diagnose and acknowledge where his bowling action needed to improve, and by the end of the year, he could feel when his action was slipping and knew exactly what he needed to do to get back on track. A personal highlight of the year for us, was seeing Will hit his first ever four in the last game of the year, with his family watching and cheering on from the side.

**Seb** - Seb was a pleasure to coach this season and is another cricketer that coaches would love to have in their team. He was one of the older boys in our side and showcased his knowledge and experience by always doing the little things like backing up in the field. Seb's running between the wickets was fantastic, and he quite often put together some big partnerships with the teammate he was batting with. Seb was dismissed the least amount of times for the season, which showed his determination and hard work. On the team photo weekend, Seb came just for the photo after being sick all week, which further showed his dedication to his teammates. Well done Seb!

**Marcus** - Marcus was our leading run scorer for the year, and hit plenty of boundaries and the first six we have seen in 3 years of coaching rookies! He was a great partner to bat with, always running hard between the wickets and put on some fantastic partnerships with his teammates. Marcus was also very reliable in the field, taking any catch that came to him, and bowling economically. As Marcus progresses through the age groups, I have no doubt he will start to make some big scores when he is no longer restricted by the limit of balls allowed to face in rookies cricket.

**Kalen** - Kalen had a great season in the rookies, and was one of the most consistent players with both the bat and the ball. Kalen improved his run up at training early on in the year, eliminating an extra hop he had in his delivery stride and achieved great success with the ball, being our leading wicket taker and most economical bowler for the year. It was great to see Kalen get along with everyone in the team, and make some great friendships throughout the year.

**Max** - Max had a fantastic year, and always kept his teammates and coaches entertained with his positive attitude towards cricket and life. He was always the first to run over and give his teammates a high five when they did something well, which was fantastic to see. Max's bowling has improved out of sight in the 2 years he has played in the rookies, and has quickly become a consistent and reliable bowler taking 10 wickets for the year. Well done Maxy!

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**Harshil** - Harshil was a pleasure to have around in our rookies side, and loved the social side of playing cricket. Harshil got along well with all his teammates, and was always there to keep everyone happy and laughing. Unfortunately, Harshil had an interrupted season, not playing every game and not being able to make training as often as we hoped, but when he was there, he worked hard on improving his bowling by practising in the nets on a consistent runup and delivery. With some more consistency, Harshil will see lots of success in his cricket.

**Zac** - Zac achieved some fantastic results this year, finding himself on a hat trick in one game, and missing out by the smallest of margins! Zach is a speedy bowler, who is always consistent with the ball, quite often taking multiple wickets in a game. A highlight of the year for us, was our win against Omega, where we found out the scores were level on the last ball that Zach was bowling, and coolheaded Zach ensured he got the win for his team by bowling the opposition batsmen out middle stump! Zach's support and encouragement of his teammates in the field was also outstanding. We have no doubt that as Zac grows up, he will find great success with the ball, as his bowling action is technically correct and all he needs to do now is grow a bit taller!

A huge thankyou to our team manager Dave, who week in and week out had the hardest job out of anyone... scoring junior cricket! Thankyou Dave for keeping the team organised and making sure the results and stats were input into MyCricket each week. Dave put together a spreadsheet, detailing every players individual results for the year, and each games result, which is a seriously massive job. I know that in 10, 20 years' time, our team will look back on this spreadsheet and enjoy some great memories of their junior cricket careers. So, thank you again Dave.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who helped throughout the season with the Rookies, especially Shaun and Terry for match day preparations. All of your support and dedication towards junior cricket at Kingston Heath Cricket Club is greatly appreciated and helps develop our club at its core. Our club's community values were displayed throughout with selfless help and support from parents, carers and the board.

Thank you to Zac Arthur for your enthusiastic and engaging Thursday night training sessions, that our kids were lucky enough to be involved in. Zac has been coaching for over 3 seasons now and is a huge reason behind the success and depth we are now seeing in our junior cricket program at Kingston Heath.

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And finally, thanks to the junior committee and Tom Richards for his tireless efforts as Junior Coordinator. The work behind the scenes Tom puts in, especially in the preseason is second to none. KHCC junior numbers have grown exponentially in the last few years and the efforts of Tom and the junior committee are solely the reason behind this.

Overall, the Under 12s Rookie Season was a major success and we look forward to seeing you all back at Kingston Heath next season!

Adam and Oisin

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## Under 12C

Coach: Zac Arthur

I have been lucky enough this year (& I use luck in a very literal sense), to have coached this outstanding young group of boys in the 2019/20 season. Although there has been a small core of boys that have played together since my first year of coaching under 12 Rookies that have progressed through the junior pathways together, a lot of our side had never played 'hard ball' cricket together or had not played cricket at all. I found that through the year this worked in our favour as the players that I have had for a few years became leaders & set an incredibly high standard for our side & the younger or first year players were more than happy to adhere to. This was evident during training & especially on match day as we knew that to be a successful team we needed to do exactly that; 'play as a team'. Our mantra all year was to play as a team & to do it the 'Kingston Heath way'. The Kingston Heath way to us was always making sure that we were encouraging each other, doing the very best we could, conducting ourselves in a sportsman like manner & fighting to the very end & there was not a game throughout the season where 'The Invincibles' did not apply this & I believe went a long way to the boys enjoying the successes they did. Every win the boys had was a testament to the relationships they had formed & how much they cared for each other & thinking back on the year it is one of the things I am most proud of.

When I say we "did everything as a team", we did EVERYTHING as a team. We put the boundary out together, we put the stumps in together, we spoke together about whether it was a good day to bat or bowl, we spoke together about what tactics to employ... we always did everything as one unit. Our side throughout the year did not have a nominated captain. We decided instead to have all the boys captain one game each. Captaining the side for the week came with some heavy responsibility. The captain obviously was there for the ever-important coin toss, the captain opened the batting & had one of the toughest & most overlooked job on the field which is to keep wicket. Our boys; experienced or not so all took this in their stride. We always had a bit of fun in the morning before a game as the captain was announced & we made it ritual to all be in a circle together & clap & cheer for the anointed captain for that week which the boys all loved. This once again was something we deemed to be the 'Kingston Heath way'.

As each season of cricket comes around so to do the challengers players & teams face. Whenever a game was coming down to the wire, I always felt so confident in our boys as they had done the hard workday in & day out & you will never meet a bunch of blokes who care about each other as much as this group did. The boys always supported each other & they didn't care if another team had 2 or 3 good players because they didn't play that way;

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they played as a team. Playing as a team the boys were able to beat the second & third placed sides during the home & away season (who relied on only a few players), & narrowly losing to the top side in the last over. We went on to play the top side Chelsea in a Semi Final & unfortunately lost & their coach said that the boys were the "team to beat" throughout the year which is something the boys should be very proud of & I mirrored their coaches amazing words. I believe Kingston Heath were the side to beat all year. Such a fantastically well-rounded bunch of young men & I will always be incredibly proud & feel incredibly lucky that I was able to coach them. I have loved being in the front row for the journey these boys have started to undertake together & the amazing year they have had. I have loved every minute of the season & The Invincibles should be very proud of what they have accomplished so far together as a group.

## AWARDS

### Batting – NOAH PEARCE

The winner of our Batting Award this year was definitely one of our most consistent. A young man who upon his arrival to the club had a very limited exposure to the great game of cricket. A young man who always went above & beyond for his side & always wanted to do his very best. An amazing kid with an incredible work ethic this young man on more than one occasion jumped behind the wheel of the ship in stormy seas & steered us into calm waters & onto land. The path this young man has taken from having never played a game of cricket before as an under 12 Rookie to being one of the pillars of the side & a future star has been amazing to watch. A young man who's work ethic & maturity is far beyond his years. A young man who puts countless hours into his game with bat, ball & in the field & it does not go unnoticed & for the first time rewarded. The winner of the batting award for season 2019/20 is Noah Pearce.

Batting average - 69.5

### Bowling – COOPER TOPP

The winner of our Bowling Award this year was someone who is a leader of the team & has been someone we have always relied on with bat & ball in hand & never more so than this year. This young man had an uncanny knack of always taking a wicket at just the right time for his team. I have been lucky enough to have coached this incredible cricketer from our first year together in under 12 Rookies & I have loved every minute of watching this young man not only becoming an outstanding cricketer but a leader, a mentor & a cool head for his times. I can't wait to watch this young man grow & refine his game as not only is he a bowler but a fantastic all-round cricketer. Our winner of the Bowling Award for the season 2019/20 is Cooper Topp.

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Bowling average - 4

### **Coaches Award – ANGUS FERRIS**

The Coaches Award was especially hard to delegate due to all of our amazing young boys demonstrating all the things coaches love to see from one of their players. This young man in particular was someone I always felt I could rely on despite the condition of the game to go above & beyond for what was required of his team. A real team player who always typified the 'Kingston Heath way' in every way, shape & form throughout the season. One of the things that I have been absolutely blown away by this year has been this young man's knowledge of the game & ability to get his team up & about whether it be with bat, ball or his amazing leadership on the field. This young man has been a fantastic leader for the side all year & with that was given the responsibility of co-captaining during the Finals. This year the Coaches Award goes to Angus Ferris.

### **Most Determined – DANNY FARR**

The winner of a Most Determined Award at a junior level to me always spells a cricketer who is incredibly hard-working & absolutely loves the game. Being incredibly hard-working & loving the game are a recipe for success & there is no one more hard-working or who loves the game more than the recipient of this award. This is my first year coaching this young man & he has surprised me more & more every week with his 'buy-in' to the team & how hard he was prepared to work. At the start of the year he had never bowled with a 'hard ball' in a game of cricket before but as a result of his fantastic work ethic & game application he was soon bowling at the start of most games due to how disciplined his bowling was & the 'Kingston Heath' type approach he brought to every game. So proud of the way this young man has conducted himself throughout the year & how far he has come & there is no more deserving winner of the Most Determined Award than Danny Farr.

Congratulations to the team & all individual award winners

I would also like to thank all the parents for all their ongoing support throughout their year & thank them for all getting their sons & to training & to games on time & for helping out at training & on match day. Thank you to Paul Brown & Tristan Robinson for doing anything & everything for me & a massive thank you to Andrew Topp for constantly putting up with me & for sending out copious amounts of emails to parents. Thank you all for such a fantastic year, I have loved every minute of it & cannot wait until next year!

Go Burras!

Zachary

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## Under 14B

Coaches: Baeden Maurice and Heath Wadley

Hello everyone,

I hope everyone is healthy and doing well during this terrible time and are staying safe at home. Due to the circumstances we were unable to have a junior presentation night thus this summary of the year's occurrences and awards. It was a truly amazing year of cricket for the under 14s who were able to come out as premiers for the year.

A successful season from all the boys, in a real team display. I preached it all year that this team would not make it to the last game of the year if they played for themselves and if 4 or 5 individuals perform every week. Everyone will get an opportunity to take wickets and score runs, but if you play as a team you will reap the rewards, and that's exactly what they did. Fantastic year boys, but it couldn't have happened without a few people.

Thank you to each of the parents for supporting the boys every game and taking them to training, especially the last couple months when there was more training as well. Also thank you to parents who brought food for the boys and helped out in the canteen, especially Tracy Colella and the Gillespie's. Especially appreciate the scoring of Steve Burke and Lis Burn every game, and to others like Jackson and Kai for helping out when they had time. To Kris Farr, thank you for your role as team manager and always being prepared with match balls and scoring books and counters or whatever it is we needed. This is as much your premiership as anyone else's in this team, as the former coach you have developed these boys extraordinarily well and put them in good shape for the future.

Thank you, the coaching staff, in Richo, Birty and Heath for the countless hours you helped training, providing feedback and evolving these boys and myself. Heath and I are so proud and honoured of what we accomplished and although we talk a lot of garbage have become closer in the process of making good cricketers, so thank you Heathy boy for all your efforts, and cannot wait to continue coaching with you for years to come.

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## AWARDS

### Batting – TULLY WALKER

Tully had another amazing year this season. Tully scored 206 runs at an average of 41.2, scoring 50 twice, and one of the best innings I've seen from a junior, in a remarkable 41no against Mentone in the Grand Final. He bowled 6 overs 1/9 that game as well, in what was a true captain's display. During the season, he also took 9 wickets at an average of 12.78 as well. Tully was brilliant in some capacity all year every game, and there isn't enough praise I can give him for the season he had, and the future he has. Well done Tully on a phenomenal year and congratulations on winning the batting award, the man of the match in the Grand Final, and on being a premiership winner this year.

### Bowling – JACK WALKER

Jack had an outstanding season in the field this year. His bowling performances was what earned him the bowling award in a premiership season. His Grand Final demonstrated how good he was all year taking 3 wickets in 5 overs, and although the youngest player, perhaps the most important with ball in hand. Jack took 9 wickets in his 31 overs this season at an economy of less than 3 and an average of 10. Jack's curiosity and willingness to learn stood out to us over the course of the season, and we see him having a big future at the club. Congratulations Jack on a stellar year and Bowling Award.

### Fielding – KAI BURKE

Kai had another consistent season, taking the most catches for the season, 6 wickets and playing an important role opening the batting which was highlighted by scoring 26 runs in the finals. Kai improved his calling and running between the wickets later in the season, as demonstrated in both finals. Kai earned the fielding award with multiple run outs and the most catches for the season and is one of the better fielders I've played with or coached over 10 years. Kai worked hard on his throwing earlier in the season and he has reaped the rewards of this. Congratulations Kai on the award and for playing a major part in a premiership team.

### Coaches – LIAM BURN

Liam took 4 wickets as the opening bowler and his pace and movement would routinely trouble opening batsmen. He would constantly have play and misses, close chances, or edges through slips, that in another season would have given him 20 wickets. His economy was only 2.39, showing his accuracy with the ball. He was dynamite in the field and made over 100 runs with the bat at 17.5. He is a future leader of this club, who has unbelievable cricket smarts for his age. That's not why he won the award though. Every week he would help me get the equipment from the shed, always asked how he could improve, and how to

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better himself as a cricketer. Burno will be an important leader in years to come. An incredible season and incredible individual. Congratulations Burno on winning the coaches award and winning a premiership this year.

Lastly, a reminder to all players who I have already had the discussion with, and now parents, that the seniors will be looking to add a 5ths team next season. Fingers crossed I will be captaining, or a more senior older player will be co- captaining with me next season (If the season goes ahead on time and such). I urge all of you to play senior cricket, even if it is for one game to try out and get a feel for, and you will be much better cricketers and people for it. All of the coaches started playing seniors at a very young age and are all better men and cricketers for it, plus I will be leading the boys in a similar role to the coaching capacity and will ensure it's as much fun as possible.

Please consider it and contact the club or myself on my email [Baeden.maurice@gmail.com](mailto:Baeden.maurice@gmail.com) or on my mobile number: 0434 741 396

Thank you all for reading and congratulations once again on a magnificent season boys, I'm so proud and happy for all the success we achieved this year, and let's hope for much more.

Cheers and stay safe everyone,

Baeden

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## 16 and Under Black

Coach: Donna Gouldthorp

This was my first year as coach of the U16 girls Black Team and I am grateful to have been given the opportunity. Coaching an enthusiastic bunch of girls who were always respectful and eager to listen and learn was a highlight for me. They made the experience a very enjoyable one. It's great to see so many girls playing and loving the game of cricket.

We finished 7<sup>th</sup> on the ladder with 5 wins and several close matches. All of the girls should be very proud of their efforts throughout the season.

Making finals for the first time was a fantastic achievement and an experience I hope they don't forget. Unfortunately, we didn't win the semi-final game against Cluden, but again the girls should be proud of their efforts. Their attitude on the field and the spirit in which they played all of their games is a credit to them.

Thank you to all the parents for their support throughout the season, coming to the games supporting the girls, and helping with throw downs, warmups and umpiring to name a few. Special mention to Andrew Smith who was our scorer for the season.

Helping me with the coaching this season were Grace and Lisa. Their help and support was amazing, and I couldn't have done it without them. Their commitment to the team was remarkable, they did not miss a game all season, and I cannot thank them enough for everything they did.

Congratulations to Hannah, Amy and the Red team on a well-deserved premiership win. Great recognition for all of the hard work put in by everyone involved. Well done Girls.

It's a really exciting time for Girls and Women's cricket and hopefully we can expand our female program at Kingston Heath CC. next season.

I hope that all the girls enjoyed their cricket and are all ready for next season.

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## AWARDS

### **Batting – KASEY ARUMANAYAGAM**

The winner of the batting award is Kasey Arumanayagam. Kasey was new to Kingston Heath CC this season. Opening the batting for the whole season, Kasey was a consistent performer with the bat, making double figures every time she batted and RTNO 4 times.

Well done Kasey, great effort. Keep up the hard work.

### **Bowling – STEF FARR**

The winner of the bowling award is Stef Farr. Congratulations Stef, a well-deserved winner. I was impressed with Stef's commitment to training, both junior and senior, as well as her efforts on and off the field. Stef's hard work has contributed to her winning this award. Stef has also been a regular player in the Women's 1<sup>st</sup> XI playing in her first senior grand final this season. I look forward to seeing Stef play senior Women's cricket next year.

### **Best First Year Player – SENEJA ALLES**

Congratulations to Senja Alles on winning 'best first year player'. Seneja's bowling has been a standout. Against East Malvern-Torongu, Seneja was on a hat-trick. Unfortunately, she missed out but took a wicket with the very next ball. Ending up with figures of 3 for 5 off 4 overs which were her best bowling figures for the season. I look forward to seeing her play next season.

### **Most Improved – HAYLEY SMITH**

This award goes to a young lady that sometimes doubts her ability and she certainly shouldn't. This season I have seen her grow in confidence. Her batting has been great to watch and her running between the wickets a standout. Her bowling this season has been very consistent and she improved from week to week, with best bowling figures of 2 for 8.

Congratulations Hayley Smith, you truly deserve this award and I hope that you come back and play next season.

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## 16 and Under Red

Coach: Hannah Bailes

What an incredible year not only for the red team but for the entire junior girls sector. It was our third year in the 16&U AGCC competition and thanks to the help from multiple clubs providing us with permanent fill in players, we were able to get a second team up for the second year. To have so many of the KHCC girls return to play a third season of cricket after finishing last and second last on the ladder two years in a row, was outstanding. It just shows that so many of these girls don't play to win. They've made such great friendships that no matter what happens on the field, they're still committed to training and playing. In the AGCC, there is such a big gap between the top teams and the bottom teams that it was decided that there would be a "Cup" for teams that finished 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> to play off for. This would give the teams that weren't strong enough to make finals an incentive to keep playing after Christmas. It was a fantastic initiative and definitely gave our girls something to strive for. We were sitting around the 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> spot on the ladder for majority of the year and were finally beating teams we should have been all along. As a team, the girls played magnificently together. It is such an incredible moment as a coach when you see everything you've been doing at training coming out in match day. The hours of continuous throw downs, making them stay out fielding until every single girl took a catch and all the little things were finally coming together.

We finished 5<sup>th</sup> on the ladder which meant we had a home final to play off for the Libby Nicholls Cup. We played against Washington Park/Bentleigh Uniting and after winning the toss, chose to bat. We were outstanding with the ball and kept them to 67. We passed them pretty convincingly and before we knew it we were in the grand final.

The next week we were up against Cluden. A team we had been struggling to beat the last few times we played them. The girls bowling and fielding was incredible. Wickets were aplenty and before we knew it we had them 7/18 and needed one more wicket. Cluden did will to bat out the rest of the 20 overs and gave us a score of 65 to chase. We passed them 1 wicket down in the 8<sup>th</sup> over and before we knew it, the girls had won a grand final! It was an incredible moment for the girls, and I could not be happier that after years and years of trainings and losing games and finishing low on the ladder, it had finally all paid off.

The year could not have been possible without the help of all the girls that we had fill in for us throughout the year. We had Darcy, Penni, Rhea and Alannah all play every Sunday as well as every Wednesday for their home club. Thank you so much to those parents that let their daughters play twice a week in order for our team to get on the park every week. And an even bigger thank you to the KHCC girls and parents who showed up to training every

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Wednesday, often stayed for seniors and then would play 2 games on a Sunday. The improvement I have seen in each and every single one of you has reminded me why I do this.

Thanks to Amy who helped coach this year and was at almost every game, learnt how to umpire and was more than willing to get involved. It was really good to have so many senior girls get involved in the juniors as it makes the transition to senior cricket a lot easier for them.

The biggest thank you of all has to go to Jason Buck who took on not only our team managing role, but also the black teams as well. I would have struggled big time if I didn't have Jason there with me every Sunday setting up the score board, scoring, entering the scores every Sunday night, sending out the emails to both teams every week, finding out who was available and who wasn't and moving girls from team to team to ensure we had 9 in each side every Sunday. All of your hard work most definitely did not go unnoticed and I am extremely grateful for the amount of help and support you have given me and the team. It was an incredible year for the girls, and I can't wait to watch even more improvements in the following seasons.

## AWARDS

### Batting – EMMA HALL

Congratulations to Emma Hall who is this year's recipient of the batting award. Emma batted extremely well this year and really listened when given advice and coaching. She stood up as a senior player and helped the girls that needed it. Emma has improved a lot over the last couple of years and it is exciting watching her continue to grow. Emma played a massive role in our team this year with both the bat and ball. Her fielding was outstanding, and she was a real leader when in the field. Congratulations Emma on a fantastic season! I hope you continue to play as you will get very far if you put your mind to it.

### Bowling – TAYLAH BLACKLAW

This year's bowling award is going to Taylah Blacklaw. Taylah opened the bowling for us nearly every game and was one of the most consistent bowlers in our team. She continually hit the spot and kept her cool when asked to bowl the last over of the game which required 6 legal balls. Taylah did really well captaining for us during the finals campaign and was a fantastic leader. She is extremely encouraging and has a fantastic attitude towards her teammates. Congratulations on a standout year Taylah with both the bat and ball. You're an exceptional cricketer with a bright future ahead.

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### **Most improved – KATIE GILLESPIE**

The most improved this year was an easy decision. Katie Gillespie. Katie's improvement has been incredibly significant over the last 3 years. We have worked really hard on getting her bowling action right and she has finally nailed it! Katie is now running in off a run up with an extremely fluent action and is able to bowl a fantastic line and length for the entire over. She is extremely determined and doesn't let one bad ball get her down. Her batting is almost unrecognizable. Her technique has improved so much, and she has now started playing attacking shots. I am sooo proud of Katie and how far she has come. Congratulations Katie – you are an incredible person with a fantastic attitude.

### **Coaches – ALANNAH GORA**

I've decided this year to give the coaches award to someone who was the best team player. They played every game with the right attitude; they were forever encouraging their teammates despite only just meeting them and they were always willing to get involved. Every Sunday morning, she was full of energy, ready and raring to go and never said no when asked to do something. This year's coach's award goes to Alannah Gora. Alannah plays for Washington Park in the 13&U competition on Wednesday nights and when her mum heard we needed an extra player, she was more than happy to let Alannah play for us. I am so grateful that she did as she played an important role in our team. Alannah was extremely vocal in the field which kept everyone up and about and gave our team an extremely positive vibe. Congratulations Alannah.



## **Best Junior Club Person – SIMON MCKEAN AND MARIUS PIENAAR**

Presented by Nick Waltrich

This award is one of the most prized at the club and for good reason. It is awarded to those who put in amazing work for the club simply for the love of the club, and specifically here, for the love of developing the junior side of the club.

Very few times has this been awarded as a joint prize but sometimes great packages come in two. Marius and Simon are one of those great packages.

A couple of seasons ago I began running the Junior Blasters on the Sunday morning for the summer. Prior to the first session I put an email out saying that I was not able to run the sessions for the whole summer but I would need someone to take over after the first couple of weeks. Very soon after that email Marius responded with something along the lines of 'I have no experience with cricket but I am happy to give it a go'. That in itself is what this award is about – willing to help out no matter what. After the first session of which Marius and I run together Simon walked up to us after as we were discussing how the session went and, not so much asking if he could help, but telling us he would also be helping out for the entire season. From the moment a dream team in Kingston Heath junior club history was born! It may sound a bit over the top but since that first session that is exactly what has happened. With pretty much no cricket coaching experience behind them, Marius and Simon ran the sessions for the rest of the season with constant positive feedback coming in. I dropped into one of the sessions towards to the end to see all parents and kids participating in this session. It was well run, had many activities but most importantly had all the kids and parents running around smiling, laughing and, well simply just having the best time!

The following season they did it again. With the same result – big turn outs every Sunday, amazing feedback coming back to the club about these two coaches that turned every Sunday morning into an experience that kids and parents looked forward to.

And this season they moved up with their kids to the next level in junior cricket development, the Master Blasters program. Again, they have brought their infectious enthusiasm with them still every Saturday morning, and further to that, with a few years under their belt of cricket coaching they are able to also match this with coaching for the kids on how to improve their skills.

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As someone who has been at the club for so long and simply has a strong love for the club, it is so nice to see two guys, who bring their young families along, to also have the same passion for this club, and only after a few years. This club is built and run by people like Marius and Simon who help out no matter what and share a passion for developing people's cricket skills as well as simply a love for the game. And for this reason I firstly want to say a huge thank you to both of you for the work you have done over the past few years. The youngest part of the club is so important for the club's growth and what you have done is so incredibly valued. And secondly, due to all your work I have the great pleasure in awarding you joint 'Best Junior Club Person' for the season of 2019/20. Congratulations!

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## Junior Club Champion – TAYLAH BLACKLAW

Presented by Hannah Bailes

It is my absolute honour to again present the award for Junior Club Champion. I'm so lucky to have coached this person over the last 3 years and watch them grow and improve, both on and off the field.

This person was thrown a heap of responsibility throughout the year and took it within her stride. She is a fantastic cricketer with no doubt, an extremely bright future in cricket ahead of her. She has the right mindset, a positive attitude and most of all, the willingness to learn. She has been one of the easiest kids I have ever coached as she really listens to what you have to say. She works hard at training and doesn't let a bad ball or a bad knock effect the rest of her game. I am so proud that she has won this award as she truly deserves it this year. She has had a standout year with both the bat and ball and been an absolute rock in a lot of games when the pressure was on.

Taylah's stats this year are as follows:

### **Batting**

Innings – 12, Runs – 205, Average 50.25

### **Bowling**

Overs – 37, Wickets – 13, Average 9.46

### **Fielding**

Catches – 4, Run outs - 3

It is my absolute pleasure to be able to present this award to Taylah Blacklaw.