

Amita's Management and Mentoring

TDCC DIRECTOR OF CRICKET ACKNOWLEDGED BY NZC

We know how fortunate we are to have the expertise of someone as knowledgeable and experienced as our DOC, Amita Weerakoon but it is gratifying to see that our governing body New Zealand Cricket agree. At a recent meeting at NZ HQ, David White - CEO NZ Cricket, acknowledged Amita's contribution to both TDCC and his hard work at our feeder school Rosmini College who won the Auckland Secondary School's competition earlier this year



David White CEO NZ Cricket:

...Amita, I would like to congratulate you on your outstanding achievements in leading cricket at Rosmini College and Takapuna Cricket Club... I just wanted to show the appreciation from NZC.

TAKAPUNA DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB est.1950

Executive Committee Update – October 2017

TDCC Awarded Auckland Cricket Association –Club of the Year for 2016/17

At the Eden Park event hosted by Auckland Cricket Association in April, Takapuna District Cricket Club were once again named Auckland's Cricket Club of the Year.



"Important to also note our current Exec Committee and their families for the time spent working tirelessly and who have helped to bring to life our vision of being Auckland's Community Based Cricket Club of Choice.

We have such a committed family of sponsors and we need to thank them for their continued support. A special word of thanks to Amita Weerakoon our Director of Cricket whose Midas touch turns everything to gold" – Susanne Martin (Chairperson – Takapuna District Cricket Club) - April 12th 2017



It is my pleasure to write about Amita's considerable administration, management and mentoring skills.

"I have known Amita for more than 15 years as a cricketer, an employer, a referee, a coach and above all as a empathetic human being who cares for my development and progress as a human being. He always had my best interests at heart with the number of interactions I have enjoyed with him.

Together, we created a winning culture and an environment which everyone wanted to be a part of at Takapuna District Cricket Club. It was an enjoyable process and the results were incredible. His mentoring skills have given me encouragement, self belief and made me a better cricket coach.

He understands and empowers people and has helped many individuals to achieve their life goals. I value our relationship with Amita very much and wish him all the best in all his future endeavours."

Shoruban - Shoruban Pasupati shoruban@yahoo.com

Auckland Club cricket 'Coach of the Year' in 2015/2016, 2011/2012 and 2010/2011



Cachopa not leaving his future to chance

to place myself in a better position to transition into the workforce when that time comes”.

“One of my goals is to build a working profile that will allow me to step away from cricket, whether on my terms or not, and allow me to be employable at a level that can support a family” stated Cachopa.

Modern players face a range of confronting situations that await those who are ill prepared for life after cricket. Cachopa is a great example of a player who is well positioned to earn a long and successful cricket career, but like all players, it will conclude with no guarantee of post career success. The CPD programme challenges players to accept the reality that cricket will end one day and it is encouraging that more players are beginning to recognise the importance of planning their career outside of cricket.

“When we start out these are factors that we don’t often consider, as they are not upon us at the beginning of our careers. I believe you can throw yourself at the game and give everything you have, but

still have the time to study or work.” said Cachopa.

Cachopa aims to build his skills beyond his accounting degree and the work with Whitcoulls was a deliberate act to gaining work experience that will help him to clarify the career path he takes later in life.

A vital part of the CPDP programme is the network of people and businesses who accept the challenges our players face, and have recognised that professional cricketers have a range of transferable skills that can help them in their work. Sanj Silva will follow up with Cachopa to ensure that he is able to analyse and reflect upon his experiences and the skills he has learned, plus provide access to a range of mentors or providers that will help Brad to make the best career decisions he can.

Whitcoulls Queen Street Manager Amita Weerakoon understands that there are mutual benefits when employing cricketers. Weerakoon noted “Brad integrated seamlessly in to a very diverse team, and I believe that Brad found the integration easy due to his high quality interpersonal skills and also due the team ethics that he has learned from his sporting background”.

“Brad was appointed to our online team as a Supervisor to develop business avenues and follow up on key accounts. Brad did an extremely effective job in meeting his KPI’s through his highly effective communication skills, organisational skills, vision and follow ups.

“Brad is a very intelligent young person who has great personal and team values”



Weerakoon summarised the value he sees when stating “I believe that through business and workplace ethics, young athletes will learn better organisational skills, more effective communication skills and best practice, and will be able to enhance their emotional intelligence. It also creates opportunity for them to connect with others and build their networks”.

The vulnerability of domestic cricketers became a reality for Brad Cachopa at the end of last summer. Cachopa would normally welcome the end of the New Zealand season as a chance to pursue cricket by playing league cricket in the UK, but last year the harsh reality of injury put paid to those plans when the Canterbury wicket keeper was told his shoulder injury required surgery.

“The injury made me realise that at any stage you may have to walk away from the game when the choice is not yours” said a reflective Cachopa.

Gaining work experience is becoming increasingly difficult task for cricketers, with the importance of decisions players make during their career having a direct effect on a players employment prospects beyond their playing career. It is now common for cricketers to enter the professional cricket environment straight out of school, where success will leave players vulnerable to myriad insecurities and challenges 10 to 15 years later.

The CPDP programme promotes a healthy balance of cricket and non-cricket activity and it is through this programme that Cachopa was able to fulfil his goals for

developing his career skills. The former Canterbury player is returning to Auckland this season and in doing so has been able to accept an opportunity for part time work placement at the Whitcoulls’ Queen Street branch.

Cachopa recognises “the fact that I am now 26 and my CV was very lean. I have just completed my Accountancy degree, and I decided to take [this opportunity to gain] some work experience during winter

Sun 17/12/2017 12:29 PM



Hi Amita.

I would just like to say thank you for everything that you have done to make this possible for me, I had an amazing time and experience with the club and I'm really thankful for allowing me to become apart of the family.

It has been an amazing 3 months, and hope we cross each others paths in the future, I would love to make a return and get much more involved in your plans.

Keep well and thank you.

Yours sincerely,
Luke.

30 MAR 2017

Saint Kents and Rosmini eye up Marryatt Cup



Saint Kentigern College and Rosmini College will compete for Auckland Secondary Schools limited overs glory when they battle it out on Eden Park Outer Oval for the R H Marryatt Cup this Saturday.

IMPORTANT PARKING INFORMATION FOR THE MATCH, [CLICK HERE](#)

The final is shaping up as an absolute belter with Saint Kents unbeaten in 50 over cricket this season while Rosmini can boast an impressive semi-final victory over local rivals Westlake as just one outstanding achievement in a season of success.

“The boys are so excited, they are over the moon and can’t wait until Saturday,” says Rosmini Director of Cricket Amita Weerakoon.

While Rosmini’s rise to the top may come as a surprise to some, after speaking with Weerakoon you understand the school’s recent success hasn’t just come by chance.

“It has been a four-year plan that we put together in 2013. We only had four cricket teams in 2013 and were struggling at Premier level. We decided to introduce some feeder teams and within four years Rosmini now has 14 cricket teams from Year 7-13,” he says.

Saturday’s match is Rosmini’s first foray into an Auckland college cricket final; couple that with the fact several team members are coming to the end of their time at school and Rosmini are far from struggling for motivation.

“We are losing six players after this year, players that have been integral parts of this First XI team and cricket programme. It’s extremely important to send them out on a winning note, important for the younger boys to hopefully give them a fond farewell,” says Weerakoon.

On the other hand, Saint Kentigern College have been a dominant force in schoolboy cricket in recent years and come into the final as defending champions.

“I want to say a big thank you to Auckland Cricket for having the ground available for us, it will add a lot of prestige to the Marryatt Cup and for other First XI teams in the future,” says Weerakoon.

“The boys are absolutely pumped, absolutely fizzing; I’m sure both teams will be excited to get out there on such a great ground,” says Williams.

The extra carrot of representing Auckland at Nationals in December is dangling for the winner of the final but you get the feeling neither Saint Kentigern or Rosmini are lacking motivation.

The final takes place this Saturday 1 April at Eden Park Outer Oval, first ball at 10:30am.

Johan J. Kirstein <jkirstein@westlake.school.nz>

Mon 27/03/2017 8:04 AM

You

✉

Good morning Amita,
Congratulations to you and 1st XI for making the final against St Kents this week. Can you please convey my congratulations to the team and management?
Thanks
Johan

Johan J. Kirstein
Guidance HOD / MIC Cricket | Westlake Boys' High School
P: +64 9 410 8667 ex 769 F: +64 9 410 7717
jkirstein@westlake.school.nz www.westlake.school.nz
30 Forrest Hill Road, Forrest Hill, Auckland 0620, New Zealand

1 APR 2017

Rosmini pull off superb victory at Eden Park

Rosmini College have pulled off a sensational two wicket victory over Saint Kentigern College today in the R H Marryatt Cup school boy final at Eden Park.

Winning the toss, Rosmini backed their bowling strength and took the field first, restricting Saint Kents to 159 from 49.2 overs.

The Shore boys bowled well as a unit, each contributing to keep the Saint Kents batsmen in check.

Ryan Harrison was brilliant with figures of 3/11 off 6.2 overs while openers Giles La Ville and Niko Weerakoon both took two wickets a piece in an outstanding all round effort in the park.

Several batsmen got going but couldn't kick on, captain Fergus Ellis top scoring with 26.

Coming out to bowl and Saint Kents came out firing reducing their opponents to 39/4 including a runout in the third over of the innings.

But the cool head of Zakk Finlay prevailed, batting at number three Finlay anchored the innings scoring 44 to guide his team close to victory when he was dismissed with the score at 130.

The lower order from Rosmini rallied and ensured they got home in a nail biter, La Ville hitting the winnings runs in the final over.

"Today is the greatest day of Rosmini Cricketing history thanks to the wonderful efforts of Ryan Harrison and his team. Thanks also to the coaching staff off Hamish Buxton and Paul Brajkovich and the Manager Sean Delaney for all their

efforts to make our Rosmini Cricket four-year plan come true” said Amita Weerakoon Director of Cricket at Rosmini.

Rosmini’s win all the more impressive considering it was their first time in a premier secondary schools’ cricket final.

It also means the victors will represent Auckland at the national secondary school’s championships

Martin Snedden <Martin.Snedden@nzc.nz>

Tue 12/03/2019 8:14 AM

You

📧

Thanks Amita. It was a thoroughly enjoyable discussion. I greatly admire what you personally do to support cricket.

Martin

Martin Snedden

Project Lead

+64 27 292 2008 | martin.snedden@nzc.nz

Level 4, 8 Nugent Street, Grafton, Auckland, 1023, New Zealand
