

Amitha (Amita) Weerakoon's - Cricket and Business Management background.



Cricket and Business Profile of Amitha (Amita) Weerakoon

Since relocating to Auckland in 1988, Amitha (Amita) Weerakoon has made an outstanding contribution to cricket in New Zealand, serving the game as a Premier player (with Grafton United Cricket Club) and Grade player (with Sri Lankan Cricket Club and Kumeu Cricket Club) , Foundation President, Senior administrator, Certified New Zealand Cricket coach, College 1st XI coach, College Director of Cricket with two renowned cricketing Colleges, Regional Director with the Auckland Cricket Association Regional Development Programme, and Business Mentor with the New Zealand Cricket Players' Association.

In 2014, Amita pioneered youth cricket tours from New Zealand to Sri Lanka as a way of giving back to his motherland by supporting tourism following the end of the civil war and strengthening the cricketing community, particularly in less privileged areas. Since then, he has successfully organised more than 30 + Cricket, Golf and leisure tours to Sri Lanka.

The key objectives of Amita's tours are to:

- Provide young cricketers with opportunities to develop their skills and gain valuable overseas playing experience.
- Expose players to diverse cultures and experiences in a cricket-loving nation.
- Promote Sri Lanka as a tourism destination and contribute to the country's economic recovery and growth.
- Create opportunities for Sri Lankan youth players to compete against overseas teams and enhance their cricketing skills.
- Support underprivileged communities through donations of cricket equipment and financial assistance.

Several highly regarded New Zealand schools have toured Sri Lanka under Amita's leadership and organisation, including Westlake Boys High School, Wakatipu High School, Rosmini College, Selwyn College and Sacred Heart College, Macleans College will join this distinguished list in 2026. Amita has also organised and led Cricket tours to Sri Lanka with the Takapuna District Cricket Club Women's XI, North Harbour-Auckland Women's Selection XI and Auckland University Cricket Club's Emerging Blues Youth XI.

Former New Zealand Black Cap's batting coach, ex Auckland ACES Head coach and former Royal Challengers Bengaluru IPL Batting Coach Mark O'Donelle has said *"my recent cricket tour to Sri Lanka with Amita's Cricket tours has been one of the most enjoyable tours that I have been part of, considering with all the vast number of tours that I have been on. I say this due to Amita's diligent organising and a nice balance of cricket, leisure, culture, cricket development opportunities, community and charity interaction on tour"*.

Amita has managed these international cricket tours as a NZBN registered Sole Trader, while serving as Director of Cricket at Takapuna District Cricket Club (TDCC) since 2015. In 2026, under Amita's directorship, TDCC won the most prestigious Club award, New Zealand Cricket's Club of the Year for 2025/26.

Under his leadership, the TDCC club has enjoyed unprecedented success over the last decade and in 2026, TDCC also won some major Championships:

- Auckland Cricket Association Premier Men's Two-Day Championship,
- Premier Men's One-Day Championship,
- Premier Women's T20 Championship,
- Premier Reserves Men's T20 Championship,
- Premier Women's Development Championship,
- Championship 2 Grade title,

- The club was also awarded Auckland Cricket's most prestigious honour, the Simmonds & Osbourne Shield, recognising it as the Club of the Year.

Congratulations have also been extended to Amita, whose extensive corporate, cricketing and mentoring experience has played a pivotal role in driving the club's growth and success, both on and off the field.

Outside cricket, Amita has enjoyed a distinguished business career. He served as a Senior Manager with the renowned Whitcoulls Group and was the recipient of the prestigious Crest Award for Best Business Manager in 2004. During his time with Whitcoulls, he also worked as a Business Mentor for the New Zealand Cricket Players' Association, helping NZ Cricket contracted players prepare for careers beyond cricket.

A certified New Zealand Cricket Level 2 Coach, Amita has coached junior, youth, College 1st XI and district representative teams since 2005. He has held Director of Cricket positions at both Rosmini College and Westlake Boys High School, guiding these two Colleges to win Auckland Premier 1st XI championships in 2017 and 2024 respectively.

In recognition of his dedication to the sport, Amita received the Auckland Cricket Association Services to the Community Award in 2013 for his outstanding contribution to junior, youth, Club and North Harbour cricket in Auckland. In recognition of Amita's continued contributions to New Zealand Cricket, the New Zealand Cricket Board invited Amita to be part of their delegation to meet the touring Sri Lankan Minister of Foreign Affairs and Sports Mr Vijitha Harsh during his recent state visit to Sri Lanka in May 2026.



Amita's commitment to cricket extends well beyond New Zealand. He has consistently supported the cricketing community in Sri Lanka, particularly in underprivileged areas, through donations of cricket equipment, mentoring support and financial assistance to support rural cricket in Sri Lanka.

Ranil Perera, Development Officer for Sri Lanka Cricket's Western Province, has praised Amita's contribution:

"Thanks to Amita Sir's support with cricket gear and financial assistance, many children from disadvantaged backgrounds in my area are now able to play cricket with far less financial burden on their families. God bless Amita Sir."

Amita was also instrumental in establishing the Sri Lankan Cricket Club (SLCC) in Auckland in 1990, serving as both Foundation President and Foundation Club Captain. The SLCC club went on to achieve notable success in Auckland Cricket competitions, including championship victories during the 2015/16 and 2016/17 seasons. SLCC is a thriving Club in Auckland now and has been a very dominating force in the Auckland Cricket Association Presidents Grades and is proud to have Amita as the Patron and a Life Member of the Club now.

A former Thurstan College 1st XI cricketer, Amita played Premier Cricket for Nomads SC (P Sara Trophy Tournament, then), List A Cricket for Catamarans SC (Browns Trophy, then). Amita also represented Liberty CC, Bohra's SC in Grade cricket, Akbar Brothers Ltd and Brooke Bonds in Mercantile cricket and Janatha Estate Development Board (JEDB) in Nationalised Services Cricket.

Amita now resides in Orewa, Auckland, with his wife Jodi and their sons, Niko and Taine. His lifelong passion for cricket, combined with his business acumen and commitment to community service, continues to leave a legacy in both New Zealand and Sri Lanka.