

## Review of the South Canterbury Cricket Season 2008-2009

### HAG Centres

- Tekapo, St Josephs Fairlie, Fairlie Primary, St Josephs Pleasant Point, Pleasant Point Primary, Albury, St Andrews, Craighead (yr7), Craighead (yr 8) and St Josephs Timaru

### Kiwi Centres

- Holidays (July), Holidays (September), Geraldine, Twizel, Grantlea, Temuka

### Milo Cup and Shield

- 20 Cup sides (includes 2 from Ashburton)
- 10 Shield Sides
- Again, running the Kiwi and HAG programmes through the school system was very successful as well as putting the teachers through coach education courses.

### Holiday Programmes

- 3 Holiday programmes were held through July, September and April School holidays attracting over 90 children

### Coach Education

- HAG Courses x 2 with 12 participants
- Kiwi Courses x 1 with 6 participants
- Getting Started x 1 with 8 participants

### Other School Competitions

#### Primary

- After school comp in Geraldine (6 teams)
- Summer Tournament, run over 1 day with 16 year 5-6 teams and 19 year 7-8 teams
- Quickhit 6 team

#### Secondary:

- NZCT Girls, 4 teams
- Gillette Cup, 6 teams
- NZCT Year 9, 5 teams
- Supa 8's 8 teams

### Interfirm

- Timaru 14 teams
- Waimate 12 teams

### Leadership Courses

- 2 in 2008 and 2-3 booked in for 2009

### Representative Season

- Year 5-6 ----- 3rd
- Primary 'A' ----- 5th
- U15 ----- 6th
- U17 ----- 1<sup>st</sup> equal
- U19 ----- 3rd
- Senior ----- 2nd
- U15 Girls ----- 3rd
- U17 Girls ----- 4th
- Senior Woman ----- 2<sup>nd</sup>

### 2008-2009 Targets

	<u>Target</u>	<u>Actual</u>
School Visits	50	49
Awareness Lessons	200	175
Packs handed out	4000	3729
HAG Centres	5	10
HAG Players	150	251
Kiwi Centres	5	6
Kiwi Players	150	155
Milo Cup	19	18
Milo Shield	10	10
HAG Courses	2	2
Hag Coaches	12	12
Kiwi Courses	1	2
Kiwi Coaches	12	7
Getting Started Courses	2	1
Getting Started Coaches	6	8
NZC Skills Challenges	6	131
Holiday Clinics	5	5
Holiday Players	100	95
NZCT Girls teams	5	4
Gillette Cup teams	6	6
NZCT Boys team	5	5
Other Comps	Supa 8's	8
	Yr's 4-5-6	12

### Milo Initiatives

Most primary schools in the South Canterbury region have been visited throughout the 2008-2009 season and welcomed the Milo and Kiwi awareness lessons of which many wanted to repeat them during the latter part of the season.

With the help of the Geraldine Cricket Club, South Canterbury Cricket took the step in bringing out two English players who would play cricket for Geraldine, look after all the Milo awareness lessons and play for South Canterbury.

Matt and Chris delivered over 170 awareness lessons to in excess of 3500 primary school children as well as run Milo and Kiwi programmes in over 10 schools through out their stay in New Zealand. At the debrief to gauge the success, numerous ideas were tossed around and it was decided to repeat the process next season, maybe running in conjunction with the very successful WAVE and Club Assist programme.

Numerous teachers were put through coaching courses so that they had a better insight into how to run cricket through the school system.

Again approx 20 schools participated in the Milo Cup and Shield competition with Gleniti and Craighead fighting out the shield final and Waihi to play its final at the beginning of term 4.

With so many entries in this competition a 'Cricket' day may have to be looked at to speed up the draw so a winner is found before the end of term 1. This problem compounds, as in term 1 there is so much on in the schools they find it difficult to find a date to play their games that are compatible with each other.

### Community Cricket Initiatives

As an integral part of the Community Cricket Initiatives, South Canterbury Cricket looked at ways to improve the standard of club cricket, carrying on from the previous very successful season of implementation of the Club Assist programme.

With the Geraldine Cricket Club using the assistance of the English players running their practices, all the other clubs at least run practices that had structure and good organization.

Talks are under way to try and strengthen even more, the standard of club cricket with one of our local contractors who brings in employment from England to look at advertising for cricketers.

He employs up to 25 people through September-May and can see no problems with some of them playing cricket. At this stage we are looking at up to 10 players who would be at the discretion of South Canterbury cricket as to who they played for.

### Club Cricket

Club cricket in South Canterbury has increased in playing numbers by 2 teams in JAB and a further 5 teams in afternoon grades. The increase in the numbers is at the year 9-10 age group at the secondary school level. Good structures in the schools coaching and a sense of success has been a tribute to this. Both Roncalli (2) and TBHS (3) are testament to this.

Celtic was once again victorious in the Daily Freightways 1 day competition chasing down Stars total of 223, Dan Laming once again the standout player with 75.

In the Tweedy Cup 2 day final, Geraldine and Star locked horns at Aorangi Oval. Batting first Star struggled through to 226 with good contributions from Phil McGregor and Todd Elliotte.

Geraldine had all Sunday to over run Stars total but found the going tough against some tight bowling. Having lost their 9th wicket with only 2 runs needed for victory, everyone was on the edge of their seats. Out strode Phil Chapman and 'confidently' scoring 4 leg byes to secure a long awaited victory to Geraldine.

All Senior teams had reasonable playing numbers and competed well in both forms of the game, with many of the school leavers filtering into the senior ranks.

South Canterbury Cricket this season had its first taste of 20/20 cricket, on Waitangi day 4 teams comprising of a mixture of Celtic/Waimate, Star/Timaru, Geraldine/Temuka players and a selection of players made up into a composite Team played off against one another. The day was a huge success and all the players involved requested that some sort of format be introduced into the playing competition next season.

During the winter months, winter trainings at all age groups were well attended with cricketers in the 14-17 age group the most promising with large numbers, which bids well when trying to pick tournament teams.

Still the issue that must be addressed by cricket administrators at both district and their Major is the availability of school leavers when they head on to tertiary education. Many of South Canterbury school leavers don't even get the chance to play Senior cricket in their association, let alone play district cricket as they are snapped up by senior sides in Christchurch and promised the earth, only to be lost in the system. Their coaches in the cities must be encouraged to make sure that these players make themselves available for all district cricket so that the best players are available.

### Woman's Cricket

Woman's cricket in South Canterbury has maintained the same playing numbers as the 2007/8 season although probably the skill level has dropped back a little, with the reason for this is that many of the older girls have gone onto tertiary education and more younger ones are coming through the ranks.

At both the u15 and u17 tournament South Canterbury teams competed well.

At the Aotea Cup level, the Senior side lost 2 out of six games. There has to be a look at the timing of games in this competition especially around the first part of the season when there are exams on and not only South Canterbury, but the other sides as well when some of them play under strength. Talks are going on over the winter months with Otago Cricket to try and rectify this. Three women who at some stage played for South Canterbury also played for both the Canterbury Magicians (Amber Boyce and Rowan Milburn) and the Otago Sparks (Lisa Grant).

### Looking towards the 2009-2010 season

With a busy and reasonably successful cricket season behind us we can look forward to next season with allot of confidence.

Implementation of new Milo and Club Cricket initiatives have been successful and with more in the pipeline to be put into action in the forth coming season it appears that primary, secondary and club cricket is once again looking to get stronger with in the South Canterbury Cricket Association.

Many of the age group squads have been announced for the 2009-2010 season, with games already played with neighbouring associations.

Richard Davidson  
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