NZC ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024 **₩NZC** 

# THIS IS WHERE IT ALL STARTED,

WITH A PITCH AND A GAME NEARLY 200 YEARS AGO.

A GAME OF CRICKET THAT BECAME A GAME FOR ALL. A GAME THAT WEAVES THROUGH THE HISTORY OF NEW ZEALAND. CONNECTED. TOGETHER.

THIS IS CRICKET IN NEW ZEALAND, AND WE ARE NEW ZEALAND CRICKET.

WE BUILD OUR GAME ON FUNDAMENTAL VALUES:

**RESPECT - WHAKAUTE** 

**TENACITY - WHAKAPAU KAHA** 

**OPTIMISM - NGĀKAU ROROTU** 

**INCLUSIVITY - MĀKOHA** 

**FUN - PĀREKAREKA** 

**TE AO MĀORI** 

THEY ARE THE FOUNDATION BLOCKS THAT DRIVE OUR BEHAVIOUR AND DECISION-MAKING AND REPRESENT WHAT THE GAME IS BUILT ON.

OUR STRATEGIC PILLARS GROW OUT OF AND ARE SUPPORTED BY OUR VALUES, GIVING OUR GAME A VITAL STRUCTURE WITHIN WHICH THE CRICKET NETWORK CAN THRIVE:

PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY - EKENGA ME TE TUKU

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND GROWTH - WHAI WAHITANGA HAPORI ME TE TIPU

COMMERCIAL SUSTAINABILITY - TOITU Ā-ARUMONI

#### **OUR VISION:**

NEW ZEALAND'S FAVOURITE GAME - TE TINO KĒMU A AOTEAROA

#### **AND OUR PURPOSE:**

A GAME FOR ALL, A GAME FOR LIFE - HE KĒMU MŌ TE KATOA, HE KĒMU ORANGA ROA

THEY PROVIDE A ROOF OVER OUR HEADS. THEY FUTURE-PROOF OUR GAME FOR THE GENERATIONS TO COME.

NEW ZEALAND CRICKET TODAY STANDS ON THE SHOULDERS OF THE GENERATIONS OF MEN AND WOMEN THAT WENT BEFORE US.

OUR RAUPONGA WEAVES THROUGH OUR HISTORY, REMEMBERING AND CONNECTING OUR PAST AND PRESENT, AND ENSURING OUR FUTURE UNDERSTANDS WHO WE ARE AND WHERE WE COME FROM.

WE ARE ON A TE AO MĀORI JOURNEY, TO BUILD OUR WHARENUI SITTING SIDE BY SIDE WITH OUR CRICKET PAVILION. STRENGTH IN VALUES, VISION AND PURPOSE. STRENGTH TOGETHER. A BICULTURAL WELCOME TO A MULTICULTURAL GAME.

THIS IS CRICKET IN NEW ZEALAND, AND WE ARE NEW ZEALAND CRICKET.















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#### **DIANA PUKETAPU-LYNDON**NZC CHAIR

It says something about this game that kiwi cricket fans were forced to endure such a challenging and sometimes confronting year, and yet emerged from it just in time to see the WHITE FERNS become the world champions, and the BLACKCAPS win their first ever Test series in India.

The two national teams create easily our most prominent shop window in terms of the visibility of cricket in New Zealand and, while the 2023-24 year was one in which both were challenged, the events of late October ensured there was plenty left for the New Zealand cricket pubic to celebrate.

In qualifying for the final of the ICC T20 World Cup in the UAE and then overwhelming South Africa to win the trophy, the WHITE FERNS captured the hearts and minds of all sports-loving Kiwis and once again showed the character and resilience that makes us proud to be associated with them.

That they were able to achieve what a few weeks earlier was considered unthinkable was testament to the hard lessons they had learned at the hands of Australia and England in the lead-up to the tournament and allowed them to depart the UAE as stars of the cricketing year's biggest fairy-tale.

The World Cup triumph was, perhaps, one of the first signs that our strategic priority of enhancing and invigorating the women's game through a range of measures and initiatives might finally be paying a dividend at the high performance end of the spectrum.

It was two years ago, in 2022, that we first signed one combined agreement with both our men and women players.

That agreement meant women players received not only match fee equality but also equity in matters such as travel and accommodation, access to support services

such as personal development programmes, and in the wider playing and training environment.

Our high performance female and male players now share the same access to strength and conditioning; they play at grounds and venues of the same quality and standard, and receive the same consideration in terms of medical, psychological, and skill-set support.

At domestic level we increased the number of women's annual contracts awarded by 30% to further invest in the development of our pipeline.

As a result, cricket is becoming the most attractive professional sport in the country for young female athletes - the recent World Cup providing further evidence of that. Our centrally contracted women include some of the highest paid sportswomen in New Zealand.

The 15-strong squad who contested the World Cup final received circa NZ\$256,000 in prizemoney each, on top of their annual retainers and match fees. Throw in additional revenue from overseas leagues and the ability to do all this while still living in New Zealand – and no other sport compares.

Yet, we know we need stronger growth across the board. We need more of everything, from girls and participation to women interested in other facets of the game such as coaching, training, officiating, administration, volunteering, and governance.

The real challenge is achieving the complete visibility of women's cricket throughout the levels, throughout the workforce, so that everyone can see a place for themselves in the game.

The BLACKCAPS too, had their moments at the end of last year's ICC Cricket World Cup (50 over) in India, reaching the semi-finals before being eliminated by the hosts, ahead of returning home to claim their first-ever Test series win against South Africa.

However, nothing much went right for the side at the ICC T20 World Cup in the Caribbean and, for the first time in a long while, they were eliminated at the group stage.

The good news was that, following that ignominious result, the BLACKCAPS made history in India, winning their first Test in India in 36 years with an eight-wicket win in Bengaluru, and followed it up with a comprehensive 113-run win in Pune to win a Test series in India for the very first time.

Like the WHITE FERNS, the men's national team continues to make

the most of its resources and opportunities and, while clearly in a time of transition, the sight of such talented young players achieving remarkable things on the international stage offers evidence that the system is working.

One of the highlights of the past year was the announcement that T20 cricket will make its debut at the LA Olympic Games in 2028 – some 128 years after the game last featured at the Olympics.

Events such as the Olympic Games provide the opportunity for cricket to put itself on a much bigger world stage and to market itself to new audiences. It can help grow the world game and make it more visible to non-Commonwealth nations.

The Olympics are also an outstanding example of gender equality. The recent Paris Games were the first ever with a 50-50 parity between male and female athletes.

Off the field, NZC has enjoyed a year of great productivity, overhauling our strategic plan for the next five years, future-proofing our game, and redefining our priorities to ensure cricket is fit for purpose over the short-to-medium term.

Our focus over this period is targeted, to both address some of the challenges in the social fabric of our game and also, to ensure we are in the best possible place to deal with a fluctuating ICC financial forecast, particularly in terms of member distributions and media rights values.

Some of our biggest upcoming challenges are to maximise our free-to-air broadcast opportunity, prioritise the participation growth of women and girls, and to continue to service the high performance

needs of our players teams, marquee events and series, while ensuring the financial and commercial sustainability of NZC and the cricket network – particularly the Major and District Associations and clubs.

As our positive 2023-24 fiscal result shows, NZC is in a sound financial position, something of major importance to our Major Associations given our top-down funding model. Our long-term forecast warns of some head winds, and we have taken steps to ensure we will be best placed to navigate what is currently a volatile global cricket environment.

This year's AGM will see us farewelling one of the game's great servants when Martin Snedden steps down as an NZC board director. Few individuals have given as much to cricket as Martin – a former New Zealand player, a former NZC chief executive, board member and chair. He even acted as GM Community Cricket for a while.

It's impossible to calculate the impact Martin has made on the game since his retirement as an international player but it's been said the time, energy, and passion he's provided places him alongside only Walter Hadlee as New Zealand cricket's single greatest influence. I can only agree with that.

I want to round off this year's report by acknowledging and thanking our Board, NZC management and staff; our Major and District associations, and Heath Mills and the NZCPA.

And I want to express a sincere vote of gratitude to all NZC's stakeholders - Sport NZ and Minister of Sport Chris Bishop, our family of broadcasting and commercial partners, and our fellow ICC members.



#### SCOTT WEENINK NZC CEO

It is a privilege to write my first annual report at a time when our WHITE FERNS have just been crowned world champions, and the BLACKCAPS have shown great strength in raising themselves off the canvas to etch themselves into history and claim their first ever Test series victory in India.

These events occurred just outside the period under review but within the deadline for publishing this report, and have been included to best reflect the mood of NZC as we move into the new financial year.

Cricket in New Zealand involves so much more than just our national men's and women's teams but it is also true that these sides are our most publicly visible, and that most casual opinion on the sport, and with that commercial appeal, revolves around their success or otherwise.

So it was with enormous pleasure that we watched the WHITE FERNS bounce back from a seriously challenging tour of England to play brilliantly through the ICC T20 World Cup in the United Arab Emirates before winning the final against South Africa and becoming the T20 champions of the world.

That they were able to achieve this against the backdrop of a 10-game record losing streak against England and Australia and the not unexpected media criticism that accompanied that, was nothing less than extraordinary.

As Diana has pointed out in her report, it is also more evidence that cricket is evolving into perhaps the most lucrative and appealing sport in New Zealand for young, aspiring female athletes, particularly as they can reach these heights

while still living in New Zealand.

As a father of four girls, I'm hugely encouraged by the way this is progressing, albeit at a pace that demands some patience. The package for our high performance female players continues to impress – the priority now is to create the depth below to produce sustainable success at the top.

The story was much the same for the BLACKCAPS, given their early elimination from the ICC T20 World Cup in the Caribbean and back-to-back Test losses in Sri Lanka. The idea had been to help our players up to speed with a one-off Test against Afghanistan. However, once that contest was rained out the assignment in Sri Lanka became much more difficult.

All the more astonishing then that the BLACKCAPS should follow up the















setbacks with a quite remarkable Test series victory against India becoming the first New Zealand team to ever win a Test series in India. The back-to-back win in Bengaluru and Pune were just the team's third and fourth Test wins in that part of the world, after solitary wins in 1969 and 1988.

In applauding the team, I also want to pay tribute to Tim Southee, who so selflessly surrendered the captaincy of the Test side following the series loss to Sri Lanka, and then found himself both selected and playing a vital hand in the win in Bengaluru.

Off the field, NZC has been active in seeking solutions to the main challenges facing the world game – the player contracting model, the competition between international bilateral cricket and the privately-owned overseas franchise leagues, and the future of Test cricket.

We're finding there's enough goodwill across all parties to create adequate flexibility in player contracts and meet the needs of the game. The players still want to play Test cricket, for which the franchise leagues have no appetite, and that provides us with some leverage.

However, it's difficult to see how the current state of affairs can continue for long without the creation of some playing windows (preferably for the franchise leagues) and more relevance for bilateral fixtures.

One of the most important pieces of work we completed this year was finalising our new five-year strategic plan, which aims to ensure that both NZC and the cricket network is best prepared for whatever vagaries the world

game might throw at us, particularly in terms of commercial values.

It's a journey we've plotted through a Te ao Māori lens that highlights the significance of relationships and interconnections in everything we do, from pursuing our vision and purpose to fulfilling the goals in our three strategic pillars. In doing so, we better recognise the importance of our integration with the wider cricket network: the Major Associations (MAs), District Associations (DAs), clubs, schools, and the New Zealand Cricket Players Association (NZCPA).

This is a five-year statement of intent, one that looks to maximise the potential of our entire network by harnessing the potential of one system, remaining alert to the ebbs and flows of the cricketing environment, and ready for the road ahead.

We unashamedly call out the need to prioritise the participation growth of women and girls, to maximise the opportunity provided by free-to-air TVNZ coverage, and to make the game as popular and as relevant as possible to the young who, after all, will be its guardians in the not-too-distant future.

And we want to do this while remaining true to those who have brought it this far.

Likewise, we recognise the importance of maintaining outstanding national teams, national competitions, and players, and being exceptional hosts.

Ensuring our teams are viewed as high-achievers and respected for the way in which they play the game remains a priority, as does the need to maintain our reputation for staging quality events in our own backyard, not least the inbound tour from India in 2026, and our co-hosting of the 2028 ICC T20 World Cup.

This is a plan that strives to safeguard the financial and commercial sustainability of NZC for the benefit of all, placing high amongst its priorities the need to invest and grow our commercial foothold in South Asia, to operate in an environmentally sustainable fashion, and to build strong partnerships with our broadcast partners at home and in India. The bottom line is that we all depend on each other to survive and flourish.

Commercially, NZC continues to enjoy strong relationships with its partners. I want to take the opportunity to pay tribute to ANZ, our flagship partner for 25 years, who has stood beside us through thick and thin for the benefit of the game here at both the professional and amateur levels.

To ANZ, Ford, GJ Gardner Homes, Life Direct, Dulux, Gillette, Restaurant Brands, Tegel, Canterbury, Pals, Dreaml1 and Asahi, and our broadcast partners TVNZ, SENZ and NZME, my sincere thanks to you all.

To the MAs and DAs, Board of NZC, NZC staff, and, last but not least, the NZCPA, I greatly appreciate the way you have all contributed and collaborated over my first year as CEO for the greater benefit of the game.

Thank you all – your support has been invaluable.



## NGĀ AUPIKI HIGHLIGHTS



## FIRST YEAR FREE-TO-AIR

The 2023-24 season saw cricket return to free-to-air television, with close to 100 domestic and international men's and women's matches broadcast across Aotearoa through NZC's domestic broadcast partnership with TVNZ.

More than 2.4 million New Zealanders tuned in over the summer to watch BLACKCAPS and WHITE FERNS matches, all screened live and free on TVNZ 1 or TVNZ Duke and with all matches simulcast on TVNZ+.

TVNZ+ experienced significant growth over the summer and cricket reached 466,000 accounts with over 7.1 million match and highlight streams, all culminating in

cricket becoming New Zealand's most consumed summer sport.

The Dream11 Super Smash competition continued to drive strong engagement and record viewership, with all 64 matches broadcast live and free on TVNZ 1 and TVNZ Duke, resulting in more than 1.4 million kiwis tuning in to New Zealand's premier T20 competition.

The TV coverage was supplemented by NZC's Free-to-Air radio-rights partners SENZ and the ACC, whose digital-led live coverage and wraparound sports programming continued to engage and entertain their growing audiences.















## U19 MEN ON THE WORLD STAGE

Following an unbeaten campaign at the East Asia Pacific Qualifiers in Darwin, a 15-strong squad departed to South Africa in January to compete in the 15th edition of the ICC Men's U19 Cricket World Cup, captained by Wellington College's Oscar Jackson and coached by Johnny Bassett-Graham, Paul Wiseman and Graeme Aldridge.

The opening match against Nepal saw 16-year-old Hamilton Boys' High School's Snehith Reddy blast 147\* propelling New Zealand to a 64-run win.

The following match was a low-scoring thriller against Afghanistan in which New Zealand claimed a 1-wicket win bolstered by Palmerston North Boys' High's Matt Rowe who took 5-21, claiming the 3rd best bowling figures for a New Zealander at an U19 World Cup, sitting alongside Trent Boult (7-20) and Tim Southee (5-11).

New Zealand's tournament came to a close following their five pool play matches in which they won two games in East London

Australia took home the title defeating defending champions India by 79 runs.





## THE RETURN OF THE PACIFIC CUP

In January 2024, NZC hosted the second edition of the Cook Islands, Women's T20 Pacific Cup in Pakuranga, Tāmaki Makaurau. to Aotearoa.

Cook Islands, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, and Samoa teams to Antegraa

The first-ever Aotearoa Māori women's squad was named to compete in the tournament, captained by Central Hinds' Kerry Tomlinson (Te Whānau-ā-Apanui / Ngāti Porou) and coached by former WHITE FERN Maia Lewis.

The Aotearoa Māori squad also featured WHITE FERNS spinner Eden Carson (Ngāti Porou) and a host of domestically contracted players from all six Major Associations.

Celebrating women's cricket and Pacific culture, the Pacific Cup began with an opening ceremony at The University of Auckland's Fale Pasifika to welcome the The teams battled it out in six rounds across four days at Lloyd Elsmore Park with Papua New Guinea beating Aotearoa Māori by five wickets in the Grand Final and defending the cup that they claimed at the inaugural tournament in Vanuatu in 2022.

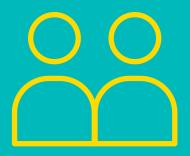
Aside from competitive games of cricket, the Pacific Cup offered a chance to celebrate the best of Māori and Pacific culture on and off the field and connect with the local Māori and Pacific communities in Auckland.

The tournament was broadcast on TVNZ+ with a commentary team featuring former WHITE FERNS Rebecca Rolls and Katie Perkins.



#### **SEASON HIGHLIGHTS**

**FAN COMMITMENT** 



OF ALL NEW ZEALANDERS TUNED IN TO CRICKET OVER THE 2023-24 HOME SEASON ON TVNZ LINEAR CHANNELS

SOLDOUT

11 SOLD OUT MATCHDAYS



1908

FANS ATTENDED BLACKCAPS & WHITE FERNS MATCHES

30%

**INCREASE IN TOTAL TICKETS SOLD** 

39K

UNIQUE TICKET PURCHASES (UP 20% ON LAST SEASON) 67%

THE SHARE OF TICKET SALES FROM 16-34YR OLDS JUMPED FROM 47% IN 2022-23 TO 67% IN 2023-24.

**SOCIAL MEDIA GROWTH** 

**10%** û

INCREASE IN FOLLOWERS ACROSS INSTAGRAM ACCOUNTS (BLACKCAPS, WHITE FERNS, SUPER SMASH)

24%



INCREASE IN FOLLOWERS ON NZC TIK TOK

### MOST CONSUMED SPORT IN SUMMER

171

AVERAGE AUDIENCE ON LINEAR TV

NZC APP/EDM DOWNLOADS

95.3M 7.8M

**VIEWS ON NZC YOUTUBE** 

**NZC DIGITAL AUDIENCE** 

TOTAL ATTENDENCE AT INTERNATIONAL **MATCHES** 

**MAINSTREAM MEDIA STORIES** 

#### **HEALTH OF CRICKET**

SUMMER SPORT IN NEW ZEALAND

**CRICKET FANS ACROSS NEW ZEALAND** 

## RISINGSTAR



RACHIN RAVINDRA BECOMES THE MOST MARKETABLE PLAYER ACCORDING TO NZ FAN RESEARCH



CONSUMPTION UP 6% YEAR-ON-YEAR



PARTICIPATION 256K PLAYED CRICKET



PASSION UP 7% AMONG THE 16-34 AGE GROUP

1.36M

**CRICKET FANATICS (UP 190K)** 



COMBINED INTEREST IN BLACKCAPS & WHITE FERNS HAS INCREASED



# KIRIKITIKI AOTEAROA CRICKET IN NEW ZEALAND

#### **CRICKET NETWORK**

Across the country, community cricketers enjoyed another summer filled with initiatives, competitions and programmes designed and delivered by our network of cricket development staff.

Two years into its journey, Smash Play junior - tamariki has become an important foundation of the community cricket experience in Aotearoa, with 68% of clubs embracing the programme across the motu.

Smash Play has forged strong partnerships with schools, aligning with school values and enhancing the experience for our tamariki. Beyond the clubs and schools, it continues to create additional touchpoints through activations at major events, such as the Dream11 Super Smash games.

Smash Play youth – rangatahi landed last summer, aiming to change the way that cricket is delivered in secondary schools and cricket clubs.

An online delivery platform including 10 training games and three modified formats were released in the first season, alongside a range of content aimed at engaging a youth audience.

Participation for women & girls at all levels of cricket continues to be a significant focus for New Zealand Cricket.

'Girls Smash' has evolved to be a national programme for girls aged 7-13 years, with the format delivered in each Major Association during the 2023-24 season. Yeah! Girls continues to prove itself as an effective engagement tool for girls aged 10-17, with 67% of participants experiencing cricket for the first time through the programme.

Female participation across the community network continues to be on the rise. 49% of last season's total programme participants and 52% of total festival day participants were female, alongside a general 26% increase in adult female traditional participation.

Further positive results have been achieved through prioritising and supporting women in off-field leadership positions. This has come to life through the Aspiring Female Umpire, and Pathway to Performance programmes, which supported the development of 20 coaches and umpires in the 2023-24 season.

This programme helped promote 12 women to Head or Assistant Coach roles at the 2024 National U19 Women's Tournament.

Through the Female Leadership Development Contestable Fund, 14 locally-led female leadership development initiatives were able to be supported and delivered by associations, clubs and schools.

A positive flow-on effect of such initiatives has been the number of young wāhine involved in youth leadership programmes. Last season, that number grew to 78 young leaders emerging through the sport of cricket.

New Zealand Cricket hosted the Rangatahi Cricket Festival for a second time in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland in 2024. Over three days of cricket, the festival of cricket welcomed Aotearoa Māori Schoolboys & Schoolgirls, Pasifika Schoolboys & Schoolgirls, and two Governor General's XIs.

For many these programmes are a vehicle to embrace and celebrate their Māori or Pasifika heritage alongside their peers.

Transformational change was undertaken ahead of the 2023-24 season to establish a modularised learning approach, giving more bite-sized and individualised learning options to NZC's Coach Development network. These changes were made for the modern coach, who needs to access learning where and when it suits them.

The Coach.nzc.nz 'Coaching Centre' was also introduced last season, providing a home for all things coaching in New Zealand. The creation of the new website included the compilation of coaching games, videos, resources, and learning opportunities for all community coaches to easily access.

#### **WOMEN & GIRLS**

70

KÕHINE (GIRLS) INVOLVED IN YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMMES ACROSS AOTEAROA 14

LOCALLY-LED LEADERSHIP & DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES SUPPORTED THROUGH NZC'S CONTESTABLE FUND



10 FEMALE UMPIRES SUPPORTED THROUGH NZC'S ASPIRING UMPIRE PROGRAMME



10 COACHES DEVELOPED THROUGH NZC'S PATHWAY TO PERFORMANCE WOMEN IN COACHING PROGRAMME



12 FEMALE LEADERS FROM ACROSS THE CRICKET NETWORK BROUGHTTOGETHER FOR A TWO-DAY EMERGING FEMALE LEADERS WÄNANGA.



WOMEN CONNECTED TO COACHING ROLES AT NZC'S NATIONAL U19 WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT



## WOMEN'S HIGH PERFORMANCE

This season has seen a continued focus in women's high performance cricket on improving the support structures around our Major Associations and within our centralised programmes. We congratulate the Major Associations for the amazing work they are doing in this area. With extra coaching resources, access to mental skills support, nutrition support, provision of physio and strength and conditioning support, along with ever-improving daily training environments, our next tier of female players are now able to prepare and train at a higher level than ever before. Our focus remains true to our belief that, for the WHITE FERNS to achieve sustainable success on the world stage in the future, we need to invest time and resources in the female pathway here and now. This is happening and we're excited by the work being done at each Major Association and within our centralised programmes.

An important component of the high performance strategy is providing increased playing opportunities that bridge the gap between domestic and international cricket. NZC has committed to developing a Future Tours Programme for our NZA women which will expose our next level of female talent to playing opportunities against overseas opposition. We believe that focusing

on the system beneath the WHITE FERNS will have a flow-on effect in the years to come.

The first New Zealand Women's A squad in over 20 years was selected to face England A Women in 50-over and T20 series in Queenstown and Dunedin in March and April. England A began the tour with a convincing 3-0 T20 series victory, however, New Zealand A bounced back with a spirited display, clinching the 50-over series decider by 133 runs to claim a 2-1 series victory.

The North v South T20 series was held in Napier, in its second season since its reestablishment last summer and continues to bridge the gap between domestic and international cricket.

A New Zealand Under 19 development squad was selected off the back of the National Under 19 tournament and took part in several camps at Lincoln in preparation for the 2025 ICC Women's U19 T20 World Cup.

The introduction of winter contracts is a huge step forward for the women's programme and provide an opportunity for players to access more coaching resources and facilities over the winter months.

This is part of a broader strategy to provide more central support to identified players of interest outside of the WHITE FERNS.

The WHITE FERNS started another big year with an away tour to South Africa, where they lost the ODI series 2-1 before drawing a heavily rainaffected T20I series 1-1. They faced Pakistan at the start of the home summer, losing the T20I series 2-1 before winning the ODI series 2-1. A home and away series against England followed with a 4-1 T20I series loss and a 2-1 ODI series loss at home before 3-0 and 5-0 ODI and T20I series defeats respectively back in England.

A special mention must be made of Suzie Bates who became the first women's player to reach 300 international appearances. We congratulate Suzie on her outstanding achievement and recognise the incredible contribution she has made to cricket both on and off the field.

We were excited to welcome back Craig McMillan, who joined the WHITE FERNS as their Assistant Coach in June. His specialist coaching talent along with the continued integration of the NZC HP coaches into the women's programme provides our players with a network of world-class coaching talent.

NZC is committed to providing more opportunities and resources to our female players and is excited by the talented young athletes entering the pathway. Our focus within the women's high performance environment is to continue to develop inspirational players who possess a growth mindset and can go on to be aspirational New

Zealanders. We are optimistic about the growth over the past 12 months and the strides that will be taken within the women's high performance programme.



## MEN'S HIGH PERFORMANCE

It's been a big year in men's high performance as we continue to focus on a system that accelerates the development of inspirational people who we believe will go on to become our next BLACKCAPS.

This approach involves strengthbased learning and creating high performance environments where players can accelerate their development. The CRAVO grass nets around the country are invaluable for players accessing grass in the off-season to promote this kind of learning.

The NZA programme remains critical for the development and progression of potential and incumbent BLACKCAPS. This year provided an opportunity for our NZA squad to tour Australia in September where they played two First-Class and three 50-over games. These opportunities are key to our players' development and provide an opportunity for them to measure themselves against overseas talent and conditions.

Two camps were held at Lincoln which provided our players critical access to grass in their build up to the series. An important component of this programme is the

communication and alignment with the Major Associations to support players when they are back in their home environments. Role clarity was vital in this programme as well as a personalised focus on areas of development for each player, which was achieved with regular meetings between the player and the high performance coaches. We're excited about the future tours programme that includes playing opportunities against Bangladesh, South Africa and India.

Our Men's Development/Under 19 programme included four camps at Lincoln as well as an internal tour around the Major Associations to play Provincial A teams in the lead-up to the ICC Men's Under 19 Cricket World Cup in South Africa in January. For most of the players in this squad, the World Cup was their first experience playing against international opposition. An emphasis was placed on ensuring the team environment was a safe place where they can reflect and learn, not just technically and tactically, but also in terms of their personal development.

In South Africa, the team won the first two matches and lost the next three which saw them miss out on the

semi-finals. While winning is always a goal, the level of resource and depth of talent that we invest in this programme will always make that challenging. At this development level, the focus is on individual experiences and performances that develop players towards becoming BLACKCAPS of the future.

It's been a year of adaptation within the men's professional game. As we face the challenges of the growing world of franchise cricket, we are seeing the inevitable flow-on effects this has on our contracting process, both at a centralised and domestic level. While some players are opting to decline central contracts at home to pursue their options overseas, it's important to note that this doesn't close the door to these players if they are still dedicated to the team. It also creates an opportunity to offer contracts to emerging young talent who have recently proven themselves on the domestic and international stage, which provides them with a higher level of support and resources.



The BLACKCAPS had a huge year with over 230 days on tour across all formats. When looking at those numbers, as well as the increasing opportunities in franchise cricket, it's easy to understand why planning and well-being is vital for these players. This also applies to our BLACKCAPS support staff who work tirelessly to support the wider squad on and off tour.

Special mention must be made of Tim Southee and Kane Williamson for reaching the incredible milestone of 100 Tests in the second Test against Australia. Their contributions to the BLACKCAPS both on and off the field have been exemplary and they are amazing role models for the game of cricket in New Zealand and across the world.

The BLACKCAPS started the year with a tour to the UAE, followed by a white-ball tour of England. An ODI tour of Bangladesh then led them straight into the ICC Cricket World Cup in India. The BLACKCAPS missed out on the final, but continue to deliver consistent success - now the only team in world cricket to have made the semi-finals of the last five 50-over World Cups. A red ball tour to Bangladesh was followed by a busy summer at

home against visitors Bangladesh, Pakistan, South Africa and Australia. The build up to the ICC T20 World Cup in the USA/West Indies came with several challenges, however, following a review of the tournament performance, there are a number of recommendations that will assist us in reflecting and learning, and then taking these learnings into the peak events that lie ahead.

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## NGĀ TĀNGATA KIRIKITI OUR PEOPLE

## NZC'S LONGEST SERVING SCORER



Otago's Helen Simpson completed her 54th season scoring cricket over the 2023-24 summer, making her NZC's current longest-serving scorer.

Simpson's career began at Dunedin's Albion Cricket Club in 1970 after leaving school, when she says her enthusiasm for the game didn't match her playing ability but knowing she wanted to stay involved in cricket.

Fast forward 54 years and Simpson has gone on to score at the highest level yet still remains a dedicated scorer for Albion, only missing a club game when she's appointed to an NZC fixture.

To celebrate the unsung heroes of cricket, NZC's Head of Cricket Operations Charlie Brewer recently introduced a recognition system for scorers to receive a lapel badge when they reach between five to 50+ years of scoring.

Simpson is the first and only scorer to have received the 50+ badge of service, which was awarded to her in a ceremony at Queenstown's Sir John Davies Oval following the WHITE FERNS warm-up match against England A.

Otago Cricket life member Malcolm Jones, whose own scoring career has run parallel to Simpson's, praised Simpson's well-rounded character and dedication.

"Helen is the epitome of a cricket scorer," said Jones.

"She is punctual, reliable, pleasant, friendly, helpful, unflappable, loyal, honest and accurate.

"Her service to the Albion Club, Dunedin Cricket, Otago Cricket and NZC has been simply nothing short of outstanding."



## 200 UP FOR BILLY BOWDEN

Umpiring icon Billy Bowden became the first New Zealand umpire to stand in 200 first-class matches in October.

The 85-Test umpire reached the milestone during Auckland's Plunket Shield match against Northern Districts at Kennard's Hire Community Oval, 30 years on from making his first-class umpiring debut in the Shell Trophy fixture between the two sides at Eden Park in 1993.

Known for his eccentric umpiring signals, Bowden has become one of the most recognisable and respected umpires in world cricket.

He made his international umpiring debut in an ODI between New

Zealand and Sri Lanka at Seddon Park in 1995. He made his Test umpiring debut at Eden Park in 2000 in the first Test between the BLACKCAPS and Australia.

Bowden would go on to stand in 85 Test matches, 221 ODIs and 48 T20Is (men's and women's).

He officiated in four ODI World Cups, and two T20 World Cups and stood in the famous 2005 Ashes series in England, dubbed the greatest Ashes series of all time.

The Auckland-born umpire said he was immensely proud to reach the milestone and represent New Zealand cricket over the last 30 years.

"To be involved in 200 first-class games is pretty special.

"When I started I just wanted to challenge myself and be the best umpire every day and enjoy the journey.

"Being a former player myself I just wanted to embrace the cricket, try and make a difference and enjoy being involved in what is the best game in the world.

"There's been many highlights, the 2005 Ashes series being one that stands out. But covering the domestic finals here in New Zealand, the 50-over finals and the Super Smash and being able to contribute to cricket in New Zealand is a privilege."

#### INTERNATIONAL & DOMESTIC WINNERS 2023-2024









#### MELIE Kfrr

DEBBIE HOCKLEY MEDAL

ANZ WOMEN'S T201 PLAYER OF THE YEAR

ANZ WOMEN'S ODI PLAYER OF THE YEAR

WOMEN'S DREAM11 SUPER SMASH PLAYER OF THE YEAR

#### RACHIN RAVINDRA

SIR RICHARD HADLEE MEDAL

#### TRUDY Anderson

BERT SUTCLIFFE MEDAL



ANZ MEN'S ODI PLAYER OF THE YEAR

DARYL MITCHELL



WOMEN'S DOMESTIC PLAYER OF THE YEAR
PHYL BLACKLER CUP (DOMESTIC BOWLING)

**EMMA BLACK** 



WINSOR CUP (FIRST-CLASS BOWLING)

**MATT HENRY** 



ANZ TEST PLAYER OF THE YEAR

REDPATH CUP

**KANE WILLIAMSON** 



MEN'S DOMESTIC PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**NATHAN SMITH** 



ANZ MEN'S T201 PLAYER OF THE YEAR

#### MITCHELL SANTNER



MEN'S DREAM11 SUPER SMASH PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**DANRU FERNS** 



OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO CRICKET TURF MANAGEMENT

**ANDY MAY** 



G.J. GARDNER HOMES UMPIRE OF THE YEAR

**CHRIS BROWN** 

### COMMUNITY AWARD WINNERS 2023-2024



SIR JACK NEWMAN AWARD

MARK JAMES
Petone Riverside Cricket Club



OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO CRICKET

**BRYAN JOHNSTON**North East Valley Cricket Club



DULUX OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION AND SERVICES TO COACHING

**ROB FREW**Canterbury Cricket Association



COMMUNITY CRICKET OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

**GLENN SCHACHE**Counties Manaukau
Cricket Association



**VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR** 

KATH CLARK
Methven Cricket Club



COMMUNITY CRICKET ACTIVATOR OF THE YEAR

MATTHEW MANNING
Auckland Cricket Association



OUTSTANDING FEMALE ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

ST MARGARET'S COLLEGE



GILLETTE VENUS PLAYER OF THE YEAR

EMMA MCLEOD St Matthew's Collegiate School RISHIKA JASWAL

Takapuna Grammar School



GILLETTE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

JORDAN VAN ZYL Westlake Boys High School



**CLUB OF THE YEAR** 

OLD BOYS COLLEGIANS CRICKET CLUB



LEADERSHIP IN DIVERSITY EQUITY AND INCLUSION

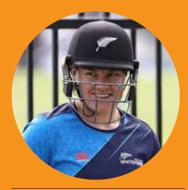
SUBURBS NEW LYNN CRICKET CLUB



COLLABORATION INITIATIVE OF THE YEAR

PAKISTANI ASSOCIATION OF CANTERBURY NEW ZEALAND & CANTERBURY CRICKET ASSOCIATION

## NEW BLACKCAPS & WHITE FERNS



**KATE ANDERSON** 



**BELLA ARMSTRONG** 



**ADITHYA ASHOK** 



JOSH CLARKSON



**ZAC FOULKES** 



**DEAN FOXCROFT** 



**MIKAELA GREIG** 



WILL O'ROURKE



**TIM ROBINSON** 

### RETIREMENTS



BERNADINE BEZUIDENHOUT (INTERNATIONAL RETIREMENT)



**DEANNA DOUGHTY** 



**GREG HAY** 



COLIN MUNRO (INTERNATIONAL RETIREMENT)



**OLLIE NEWTON** 



**SOPHIE OLDERSHAW** 



**SETH RANCE** 



**HAMISH RUTHERFORD** 



**JACINTA SAVAGE** 



NEIL WAGNER
(INTERNATIONAL RETIREMENT)



**GEORGE WORKER** 

#### **OBITUARIES**

#### JACK ALABASTER

OTAGO CRICKET ASSOCIATION
1930 - 2024

A wiry leg-spinner who took 500 first-class wickets at 25.37, Alabaster played 21 Tests for his country, the first six of which took place before he was selected for his first-class major association, Otago.

Alabaster was 25 when selected for New Zealand's maiden tour of Pakistan and India in 1955, at the time only the third non-Asian team to play Test cricket in the subcontinent following the chaos of partition in 1947.

He returned to New Zealand later that summer to play against the inbound West Indies side and was in the eleven which registered New Zealand's first ever Test victory, at Auckland, taking the prized wicket of Everton Weekes into the bargain.

Apart from the 1955 tour to Pakistan and India, he also featured in Test tours of England in 1958, South Africa in 1961-62 and the West Indies in 1972, the latter for which he was selected at 41 years of age.

When New Zealand beat India in Christchurch in the summer of 1967-68, Alabaster became the only player to have participated in New Zealand's first four Test wins.

He retired from all first-class cricket following the tour of the West Indies, having taken 49 Test wickets at 38.02.

Probably the highlight of Alabaster's Test career was the tour of South Africa in 1961-62, in which he took match figures of eight for 180 at Cape Town as New Zealand registered its first overseas Test win, before helping to level the series 2-2 at Gqeberha (formerly Port Elizabeth).



In total, he took 86 wickets in 16 first-class matches on that tour, including 22 at 28.04 in the Test series.

Born in Invercargill, Alabaster undertook his teacher training in Dunedin and returned south, where he was later the principal of Kingswell High School and, between 1981 and 1988, the Rector of Southland Boys High School.

A New Zealand basketball rep between 1950 and 1954, his cricket career initially failed to thrive, mainly because the Otago side was already graced by Test incumbent leg-spinner Alec Moir and the local selectors couldn't see the value of including a second.

However, once Alabaster was brought into the fold upon his return from the 1955 tour of the subcontinent, he had a massive influence on both Otago and Southland cricket, featuring in multiple teams which won the Hawke Cup and the Plunket Shield.

Between 1957 and 1961, Alabaster and Moir played 20 matches together for Otago, taking a combined total of 212 wickets.

When Otago won the Plunket Shield in 1957-58, Alabaster took 28 wickets at 16.32, and when they won it again in 1971-72, he took 22 at 14.95 – leading to his New Zealand recall for the maiden tour of the West Indies.

Alabaster played in Southland's Hawke Cup team from 1954 to 1975, including an outstanding season in 1973-74 when he took 36 wickets at 8.02 as Southland successfully defended the title.

## 2 ft. et au aux

## **BRIAN HASTINGS**

WELLINGTON, CENTRAL DISTRICTS & CANTERBURY CRICKET ASSOCIATIONS 1940 - 2024

Brian Hastings will be remembered as an elegant righthanded batsman who, though making his Test debut late in his career, contributed to some of New Zealand's most memorable achievements.

The man who made his first-class debut for Wellington as a 17-year-old in 1957-58 before moving to Central Districts for five matches and then on to Canterbury, played in New Zealand's fifth, seventh, and eighth Test victories, the last his country's first historic win against Australia.

He also featured in a world record 10th wicket partnership with Richard Collinge in New Zealand's first innings against Pakistan in Auckland in 1973, the 151-run record lasting nearly 31 years.

That was also the Test in which Rodney Redmond scored 107 and 56 on debut, and never played a Test for New Zealand again.

Another stand-out innings for Hastings came at the Sydney Cricket Ground in 1974, his sweetly stroked 83 in the second innings helping New Zealand to a 456-run lead on Australia, only for rain to thwart the tourist's chances with the hosts reeling at 30 for two.

New Zealand and Hastings didn't have to wait much longer for their maiden win over the neighbours, however, beating Australia in Christchurch later that summer in a Test memorable for centuries in each innings from Glenn Turner.

In all, Hastings played 31 Tests and averaged 30.20, scoring four centuries and seven 50s, with a top score of 117 not out against the West Indies in 1969, which helped save the Test and the series.

He also represented New Zealand in its first eleven official one-day internationals.

Hastings, who was an executive at the Christchurch Press, also served as an ICC Match Referee in 10 Tests and is a former President of Canterbury Cricket.

His son Mark played for Canterbury with distinction between 1992 and 2001.

## **DAVID QUESTED**

CANTERBURY CRICKET ASSOCIATION & NEW ZEALAND CRICKET UMPIRES ASSOCIATION 1946 – 2024



Quested, who served in the New Zealand Police for 32 years, was appointed to the New Zealand first-class umpires panel around 1990 and umpired 116 matches at that level over 20 years.

He made his ODI debut at Napier, standing in the New Zealand-Pakistan match alongside Brian Aldridge, and three years later stood in his first Test – New Zealand v Sri Lanka at Carisbrook.

Quested served on the New Zealand Cricket Umpires Association management committee and was president and later patron of the Canterbury Regional Umpires and Scorers Association.

Born in Christchurch, he attended Linwood High School and played for Woolston WMC in the Christchurch Suburban Competition and for the New Zealand Police and New Zealand Combined Services team.



NZC chief executive Scott Weenink said Quested was a passionate servant of Canterbury and New Zealand cricket. "David was a highly-respected and influential umpire who made a significant contribution to the game at both regional and international level".

"He was well-known for his consistency, accuracy, on-field demeanour and, not least, his commitment to the spirit of the game – later playing a key role in mentoring and assisting aspiring umpires throughout the cricket network.

Quested kept his hand in umpiring matches at the Willows Cricket Club at Loburn, North Canterbury up until last year and also officiated in occasional games at St Bede's College.



## IAN TAYLOR

CRICKET WELLINGTON & NEW ZEALAND CRICKET 1938 - 2024

Ian Taylor, was one of New Zealand's most popular and resourceful team managers, making an outstanding contribution to the team's reputation and integrity through the ten years between 1980 and 1990.

Pleasant and collegiate but also diplomatic and discerning, Taylor found himself in the middle of an international incident on New Zealand's 1980-81 tour of Australia, in which the hosts won the third match of the World Series Cup final by six runs after Captain Greg Chappell instructed his brother Trevor to roll the final ball of the game along the ground to Brian McKechnie.

Taylor excelled in the fallout, counselling the New Zealand players to stay composed and to avoid becoming distracted by the recriminations. Hounded for comment by the media he simply said the matter was history and that New Zealand would continue to look ahead and not back.

New Zealand also found itself in controversial waters on the 1984-85 tour of Pakistan, a series riven by accusations of partisan umpiring and even scoring irregularities. Once again Taylor found himself in the thick of it when the tourists appeared to be walking off the field in protest at another alleged umpiring incident. It was only Taylor, who strode onto the outfield to dissuade his players from continuing the walk-off, that prevented the situation from deteriorating and New Zealand losing the game by forfeit.

Respected immensely by the New Zealand players he helped manage, Taylor was a former Cricket Wellington and NZC Board member.



## **DEREK STIRLING**

CENTRAL DISTRICTS CRICKET
ASSOCIATION & WELLINGTON CRICKET
ASSOCIATION
1961 - 2023

BLACKCAP No.154, Stirling played six Tests and six ODIs between 1984 and 1986, and is best remembered for a strong tour of Pakistan, in which he toiled on unhelpful pitches and took four for 88 at Karachi.

Initially with Central Districts before moving to Wellington, Stirling took six for 75 against Northern Districts on first-class debut, figures he never bettered in a career spanning 84 games and realising 206 wickets

Stirling never played in a Test on home soil, his career comprising the three Tests in Pakistan, the third Test of the 1985 tour of the West Indies, at Bridgetown, and the first and second Test of the 1986 tour of England – the first time New Zealand beat England in a series.

In total, he took 13 Test wickets at 46.23 and 206 first-class wickets at 33.72.

Stirling played six ODIs on the 1984 tours of Sri Lanka and Pakistan, respectively, and was considered a decent 50-over player in domestic cricket, taking 90 List-A wickets at 22.26, and averaging 14.39 with the bat.

After his playing days, he continued to give back to the game, coaching at junior level and later becoming involved in administration, eventually chairing the Hawke's Bay District Association board.

## **LESLIE DAVID ANDERSEN**

NORTHERN DISTRICTS CRICKET ASSOCIATION & AUCKLAND CRICKET ASSOCIATION 1939 – 2024

FORMER FIRST-CLASS CRICKETER

### **JOHN DAVID BEHRENT**

AUCKLAND CRICKET ASSOCIATION & WELLINGTON CRICKET ASSOCIATION 1938 – 2024

FORMER FIRST-CLASS CRICKETER

## **KEVIN JAMES BURNS**

OTAGO CRICKET ASSOCIATION 1960 – 2024

FORMER FIRST-CLASS CRICKETER

## **JOHN EVEREST ENGLAND**

CANTERBURY CRICKET ASSOCIATION 1940 - 2024

FORMER FIRST-CLASS CRICKETER

## **BILLY IBADULLA**

OTAGO CRICKET ASSOCIATION 1935 – 2024

FORMER TEST CRICKETER (PAKISTAN), FORMER FIRST-CLASS CRICKETER

## **REX KIRTON QSO**

WELLINGTON CRICKET ASSOCIATION 1941 – 2024

VICE PRESIDENT

## TREVOR EDWARD LUKE

CANTERBURY CRICKET ASSOCIATION 1951 – 2024

LIFE MEMBER

## BRIAN ANDREW MCCRORIE

CANTERBURY CRICKET ASSOCIATION 1939 - 2023

HONORARY MEMBER

## **PETER MOODY**

CENTRAL DISTRICTS CRICKET ASSOCIATION 1933 – 2024

**CHAIR & LIFE MEMBER** 

## HENRY (HARRY) ALAN MORGAN

WELLINGTON CRICKET ASSOCIATION 1938 – 2024

FORMER FIRST-CLASS CRICKETER

## **RAY PROCTER**

OTAGO CRICKET ASSOCIATION

FORMER FIRST-CLASS CRICKETER

## CATHARINE DOROTHY SHIELDS

WELLINGTON CRICKET ASSOCIATION 1961 – 2023

VICE PRESIDENT

## **BRIAN TUTTY**

CANTERBURY CRICKET ASSOCIATION 1939 - 2024

PATRON & PRESIDENT OF CANTERBURY REGIONAL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

### **LES WATSON**

CANTERBURY CRICKET ASSOCIATION 1956 - 2024

FORMER FIRST-CLASS CRICKETER



## KIRIKITIKI TÄWÄHI INTERNATIONAL

## **WHITE FERNS SEASON HIGHLIGHTS**

**SUZIE BATES** 

**CAREER INTERNATIONAL MATCHES** 



**YOUNGEST NEW ZEALAND WOMEN'S PLAYER TO SCORE A T201 HALF CENTURY** (AGED 19)

## **SUZIE BATES**

**150 T20 INTERNATIONAL APPEARANCES 10,000 INTERNATIONAL RUNS** (THIRD WOMAN EVER)

4,000 T20 INTERNATIONAL RUNS **150 ODI APPEARANCES** 

## **MELIE KERR**

NAMED IN 2023 ICC ODI & T201 TEAMS OF THE YEAR

AWARDED WOMEN'S NZCPA PLAYERS' CAP

## **SOPHIE DEVINE**

**100 CAREER ODI WICKETS** 3.000 CAREER T201 RUNS **200 CAREER INTERNATIONAL WICKETS** 

## LEATAHUHU

NAMED IN 2023 ICC ODI TEAM OF THE YEAR **100 ODI WICKETS** 

## **WORLD RANKINGS**

ODI:

## BLACKCAPS SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

## 100 TESTS

TIM SOUTHEE & KANE WILLIAMSON

**240** 



## **RACHIN RAVINDRA**

HIGHEST EVER MAIDEN TEST CENTURY FOR NEW ZEALAND

100 T20I

MITCHELL SANTNER,
TRENT BOULT & ISH SODHI

**3-0** 

LOCKIE FERGUSON CLAIMS THE BEST T20 WORLD CUP FIGURES OF ALL-TIME WITH FOUR MAIDENS FROM FOUR OVERS AGAINST PAPUA NEW GUINEA IN TRINIDAD

## 10,000 RUNS

TOM LATHAM BECOMES THE EIGHTH NEW ZEALAND PLAYER TO SCORE 10,000 INTERNATIONAL RUNS ACROSS ALL THREE FORMATS

**SOUTHEE** 

BECOMES THE HIGHEST T20I APPEARANCE-MAKER FOR NEW ZEALAND

WILLIAMSON

NAMED IN 2023 ICC TEST TEAM OF THE YEAR

BECOMES THE FIFTH NEW
ZEALAND PLAYER TO SCORE A
CENTURY IN EACH INNINGS OF A
TEST MATCH

**MITCHELL** 

NAMED IN 2023 ICC ODI TEAM OF THE YEAR & CRICKET WORLD CUP TEAM OF THE TOURNAMENT

**CHAPMAN** 

NAMED IN 2023 ICC T201 TEAM OF THE YEAR

9-93

BEST TEST MATCH FIGURES ON DEBUT - WILL O'ROURKE 137

HIGHEST-EVER T20I SCORE FOR NEW ZEALAND - FINN ALLEN

## **WORLD RANKINGS**

NO J

NO ODI:

NO T201:



Tim Southee and Kane Williamson became the fifth and sixth BLACKCAPS respectively to play 100 Test matches in March.

The pair followed in the footsteps of Stephen Fleming, Daniel Vettori, Brendon McCullum and Ross Taylor, bringing up the milestone in the first Test against Australia at Hagley Oval. Captain Southee and former captain Williamson entered the series as New Zealand's second all-time leading Test wicket-taker and all-time leading Test run scorer, respectively.

Having progressed through the Northern Districts pathway and represented New Zealand together at Under 19 level, the pair reached the milestone having also played their 50th Tests together, in 2016 against Zimbabwe.

Southee also followed Ross Taylor, Virat Kohli and David Warner as just the fourth player in history to have played 100 matches in each individual format.

## **100 TEST CAPS FOR NEW ZEALAND**

ROSS TAYLOR 112

DANIEL VETTORI 112

STEPHEN FLEMING 111

BRENDON MCCULLUM 101

TIM SOUTHEE 100

KANE WILLIAMSON 100

(at time of publication)











"TIM AND KANE CONTINUE TO BE
BRILLIANT SERVANTS OF THE GAME IN
NEW ZEALAND AND INFLUENTIAL FIGURES
IN THE BLACKCAPS ENVIRONMENT.
THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS AT TEST LEVEL SPEAK
FOR THEMSELVES AND THEY ARE UNDOUBTEDLY
TWO OF THE GREATEST PLAYERS TO HAVE
EVER WORN THE NEW ZEALAND TEST SHIRT."

## **BLACKCAPS HEAD COACH, GARY STEAD**





## KAMAU TE WEHI SUZIE BATES

Seventeen years after Suzie Bates' esteemed international career began, she took the field for the 300th time in an ODI in Durban, becoming the first WHITE FERN to reach 300 international appearances for New Zealand.

That same tour Bates reached another major milestone and became the first woman to notch 4,000 T201 runs, leap-frogging Virat Kohli to become the world-leading T201 run scorer.

Since debuting for the WHITE FERNS at the age of 18 against India in Lincoln, Bates has captained the side more than any other player (76 ODI, 66 T20I) and has eclipsed numerous records with the bat. She holds the world record for the most T20I fifties (28) and second most ODI hundreds (13).

Her record-setting career was formally recognised on New Zealand shores as NZC renamed University of Otago Oval 'Suzie Bates Oval' when the team hosted Pakistan in Bates' hometown Dunedin in December.

Joined by her family, friends, current and former teammates, and coaches, Bates' career was celebrated as she continues to be a trailblazer for the women's game.

Bates went on to achieve another memorable milestone later that same summer, becoming the first New Zealand women's player to amass 10,000 international runs

- joining Charlotte Edwards and Mithali Raj as the only women's players to achieve the feat.





"IF I HAD SAID THAT WHEN I WAS 18 I WAS GOING TO PLAY 300 GAMES I WOULDN'T HAVE BELIEVED IT.
THERE'S BEEN TIMES THAT I THOUGHT I WASN'T GOING TO KEEP PLAYING BECAUSE OF THE LANDSCAPE, SO TO HAVE ACHIEVED 300 GAMES AND SEEN THE INCREDIBLE STRIDES THAT THE WOMEN'S GAME HAS MADE IN NEW ZEALAND ALONG THE WAY IS FANTASTIC."





## COMMEMORATING TANGIWAI

The most poignant chapter in the long history of New Zealand and South African cricket was officially recognised with the unveiling of the Tangiwai Shield in February.

The trophy was unveiled ahead of the Tegel Test series between the BLACKCAPS and the Proteas to commemorate the tragic events of 1953, when 151 people on the overnight express from Wellington to Auckland on Christmas Eve – including Nerissa Love, the fiancée of New Zealand fast bowler Bob Blair, lost their lives in the country's worst rail disaster.

The tragedy was particularly relevant to the New Zealand and South African teams of the day as it coincided with the second Test at Ellis Park, Johannesburg, where Blair was opening the bowling for his country.

Just 21, he was woken in the early hours of the second morning of the Test to be told he'd lost the love of his life. He stayed at the hotel grieving as his teammates resumed the match, with the flags of both countries lowered to half-mast.

Blair's unexpected appearance out of the players' tunnel after New Zealand lost its ninth wicket stunned the knowledgeable Ellis Park crowd into silence, and left players from both sides in tears.

Today, Blair's story of tragedy and courage, and the manner in which the South African team, board and public rallied around to support him and his team-mates, remains one of the defining chapters of New Zealand sport.

The Shield, created by carver David Ngawati (Ngāti Hine), is made from New Zealand native timber puriri, and includes an inlaid mere made from pounamu sourced from the Tangiwai region.

The BLACKCAPS would go on to lift the Tangiwai Shield for the first time, beating the Proteas 2-0 in the two-Test series to claim New Zealand's first ever Test series victory over South Africa.











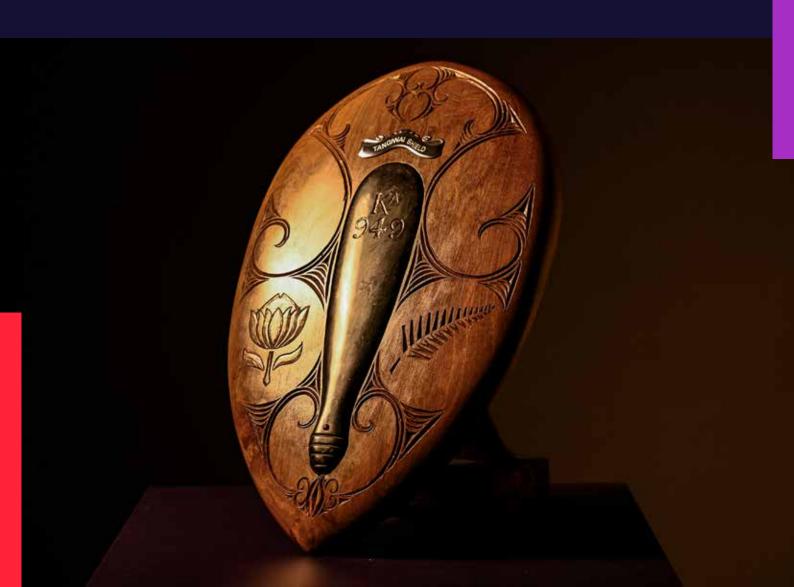




"THE BACKGROUND TO THIS TEST MATCH IS ONE OF THE MOST SAD AND MOVING AND HEART-BREAKING STORIES IMAGINABLE.

IT'S ALSO AN UPLIFTING STORY OF INCREDIBLE COURAGE AND RESILIENCE, AND IN TERMS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN TEAM AND PUBLIC, GREAT COMPASSION AND EMPATHY."

**NZC CEO SCOTT WEENINK** 





## NGA MIHI, WAGS

In February, Neil Wagner called time on his illustrious 64-Test career for the BLACKCAPS.

Wagner ended his international career fifth on the list of New Zealand's top Test wicket-takers with 260 wickets, at an average of 27.

His strike rate of 52 is only bettered by the great Sir Richard Hadlee (50) of New Zealanders to have taken more than 100 Test wickets.

Wagner won 32 of his 64 Tests and claimed 143 wickets at an average of 22 in those victories.

Born in South Africa, he moved to Dunedin to play domestic cricket for Otago in 2008, before moving north to his current home in Papamoa in 2018 to play for Northern Districts. The left-armer debuted for the BLACKCAPS in 2012 and was a key member of the side during their ascent to the number one ICC Test world ranking and victory in the inaugural ICC World Test Championship in 2021.

"It's not easy to step away from something you've given so much to and got so much out of, but it's now time for others to step up and take this team forward.

"I've enjoyed every single moment of playing Test cricket for the BLACKCAPS and am proud of everything we've been able to achieve as a team.

"The friendships and bonds built over my career are what I'll cherish the most and I want to thank everyone who's played a part in where I am today. "My teammates have always meant the world to me and all I've ever wanted to do was what was best for the team - I hope that's the legacy I will leave.

Alongside lifting the World Test Championship Mace in Southampton in 2021, Wagner cited blocking out for a draw and a Test series win against England at Hagley Oval in 2018, and the one-run victory over the same opposition at the Cello Basin Reserve in 2023, among the top highlights of his sparkling career in the Black Cap.

Wagner was suitably acknowledged at the Cello Basin Reserve during the first Test against Australia – his last in the BLACKCAPS playing group and was further celebrated at the ANZ New Zealand Cricket Awards in Christchurch in March.

## HELLO WORLD!

## RACHIN RAVINDRA'S BREAKOUT YEAR

The 2023-24 season belonged to BLACKCAPS allrounder Rachin Ravindra who announced himself to the world in a breakthrough summer across all formats.

Ravindra shone at the ICC Cricket World Cup in India, finishing as the competition's fourth leading runscorer with 578 runs at 64, scoring three centuries and two half-centuries, including an unbeaten 123 in the tournament opener against England in Ahmedabad.

Those performances were recognised in January when he was named as the recipient of the prestigious ICC Emerging Player of the Year award.

Ravindra's achievements catapulted him to worldwide stardom, beating the likes of Lionel Messi, Cristiano Ronaldo and Kyrie Irving to finish 8th on Google's Top Trending Athletes for 2023. Ravindra continued his meteoric rise in the Test arena, registering New Zealand's highest-ever maiden Test century with 240 during the first Test against South Africa at Bay Oval, and playing a key role in the BLACKCAPS first-ever Test series victory over South Africa.

He also shone on the T20 international stage, featuring in 9 of the BLACKCAPS' 26 T201 matches over the season and scoring a blistering 68 from 35 balls in the first T201 against Australia at Sky Stadium.

Ravindra's performances were rewarded at the ANZ New Zealand Cricket Awards in March where he became the youngest ever recipient of the men's supreme award - the Sir Richard Hadlee Medal.







## ICC MEN'S CRICKET WORLD CUP 2023

Four years on from the heartbreak of the ICC Cricket World Cup 2019 final at Lord's, the BLACKCAPS found themselves squaring off against England once again, this time in the opening match of the 2023 tournament in India

No Super Over would be required on this occasion at the colosseum-like stadium in Ahmedabad, as a new-look BLACKCAPS side missing injured captain Kane Williamson roared to a commanding nine-wicket victory on the opening night of the tournament.

An unbeaten 273-run second-wicket partnership by Wellington Firebirds teammates Devon Conway (152\* off 121) and Rachin Ravindra (123\* off 96) spearheaded the emphatic victory, the pair recording the fourth-highest partnership in the history of the World Cup.

The blazing bats of the two left-hand openers and Daryl Mitchell were backed-up by front-line bowlers Matt Henry, Trent Boult, Lockie Ferguson and Mitchell Santner as the BLACKCAPS marched through the first half of the tournament unbeaten.

Kane Williamson's remarkable recovery from ACL surgery six months before the tournament saw him return in game three against Bangladesh only to be hit by an errant throw while batting, suffering a broken left thumb which would rule him out until the penultimate round-robin game against Pakistan.

Narrow losses to India and Australia in Dharamshala, despite more runs for Ravindra and Daryl Mitchell, was followed by a heavy defeat to South Africa in Pune.

That left the BLACKCAPS needing at least one more win from their final two games of the tournament and without the services of star pace-bowler Matt Henry who tore his groin against South Africa and was ruled out of the remainder of the tournament.

A high-scoring and rain-affected DLS loss against Pakistan was followed by a clutch final win against Sri Lanka to book the BLACKCAPS in for a blockbuster semi-final against hosts India in Mumbai.

A searing hot Wednesday at the Wankhede stadium saw India win the all-important toss and proceed to plunder a formidable total of 397, with Virat Kohli clocking his 50th ODI hundred to break Sachin Tendulkar's record - to the delight of the raucous home crowd.

The BLACKCAPS would give the unlikely chase a good shake thanks to a magnificent 134 off 119 from Daryl Mitchell who combined with Williamson for a 181-run third wicket stand as the visitors threatened to do the unthinkable, before being bowled out for a valiant 327 in the 49th over.















## **CHAPPELL HADLEE REVAMPED**

The famous Chappell-Hadlee Trophy was revamped to include both ODI and T201 cricket ahead of the KFC T201 series against Australia in February.

Launched in 2004-05 as the symbol of trans-Tasman supremacy in men's ODI cricket, the decision was made by NZC and Cricket Australia, and approved by both the Chappell and Hadlee families, to be contested over both 50-over and T20I formats to increase its exposure and profile.

The amended rules of engagement for the Trophy included exempting it from ICC World events and establishing a points structure for times when the T20I and ODI series are played back-to-back – to avoid the potential for it to be swapped back and forth within days.

Australia went on to claim the Chappell-Hadlee Trophy under its new structure, winning the three-match KFC T201 series  $\frac{1}{2}$  O

"It means all games will continue to be relevant, and that the trophy will remain on the line for a longer period - plenty to play for." - Sir Richard Hadlee

"I'm a great believer in promoting young players through the pathways and national system and it will be particularly pleasing to see some young Australian players competing with their Kiwi counterparts for the trophy in years to come." -Greg Chappell





## KIRIKITI KI TAIWHENUA DOMESTIC



## DOMESTIC OVERVIEW

It was another domestic season full of regional rivalry and finals drama as the best domestic cricketers across Aotearoa competed to lift the five NZC domestic titles.

The Wellington Firebirds will look back on the red-ball season with pride as they pipped Northern Districts in a tight race to claim the coveted Plunket Shield. The Auckland Aces returned the men's Dream11 Super Smash to the City of Sails for the first time since 2016, while Canterbury achieved 50-over success, lifting the Ford Trophy. The Wellington Blaze continued their dominance of the women's Dreaml1 Super Smash, lifting the title for the fifth time in the last seven seasons, while the Otago Sparks won the Hallyburton Johnstone Shield.

The Dream11 Super Smash, New Zealand's premier domestic cricket competition, was played over the peak summer months and followed the usual structure of 32 double-header fixtures played at the best domestic and international grounds across New Zealand. This season had the added exposure of free-to-air cricket, with all 64 games broadcast live and free on TVNZ 1, TVNZ DUKE and TVNZ+, showcasing the best domestic cricket talent to fans across New Zealand.

The Auckland Aces had a T20 season to remember as they topped the men's ladder to claim Grand Final hosting rights on the hallowed Eden Park turf. The Auckland weather would end up spoiling the occasion - the final against the Canterbury Kings abandoned after 14 overs, seeing the Aces lift the men's domestic T20 title for the fifth time.

Melie Kerr took the women's competition by storm, topping the wicket-taking and run-scoring charts with 20 wickets and 437 runs, including back-to-back five-wicket bags as the Wellington Blaze topped the women's ladder. They would go on to lift the title in a nail-biting final at Eden Park, winning by a solitary run as they defended 89 in a final-over thriller against the Central Hinds.

It was Canterbury who won their 16th 50-over title as they lifted the Ford Trophy in February. Robbie O'Donnell led the run-scoring charts, scoring 635 runs, the third highest individual Ford Trophy run total of all time. The Auckland Aces skipper notched four half-centuries and two centuries leading his side to the Grand Final against Canterbury at Hagley Oval. But it would be the Canterbury captain Cole McConchie who would have the final say, scoring an unbeaten 74 in the final to lead his team to the trophy in a low-scoring final in Christchurch.

Otago Sparks bowler Emma Black was in fine form throughout the Hallyburton Johnstone Shield campaign, taking a competition-high 24 wickets and helping the Sparks win the women's 50-over title. The Sparks topped the competition ladder and faced their familiar foes the Wellington Blaze in the Grand Final for the third straight season. And while the Blaze were able to take the title last season in Queenstown, it was the Sparks who took the bragging rights this time round, beating the Blaze by four wickets in the final, despite a well-made 64 from Jess McFadyen who led the competition runscoring charts with 390 runs.

The Wellington Firebirds lifted the Plunket Shield for the second time in five seasons in a four-day season that took until the final day of play in April to be decided. Nathan Smith led the Firebirds bowling attack throughout the campaign taking 32 wickets, while youngster Gareth Severin had a season to remember scoring 657 runs, including four halfcenturies and two centuries, only bettered by Otago's Dale Phillips who topped the run-scoring charts with 686 runs. Michael Bracewell marked his return from a lengthy achilles injury with a career-best and competition-best 8-41 as the Firebirds claimed an innings victory over the Otago Volts. The penultimate round victory set up an effective Grand Final against Northern Districts at Seddon Park in the final round of play. Sitting on top of the ladder and needing to avoid defeat to become four-day winners, the Firebirds were crowned champions after rain blocked any chance of a result on the final day's play.

## DREAMII SUPER SMASH HIGHLIGHTS



1.42M

KIWIS TUNED INTO A MATCH

4.2M

VIDEO VIEWS ON SOCIAL MEDIA (DOUBLE 2023-24)

12.1M

**IMPRESSIONS ACROSS SOCIAL MEDIA** 

115K

**DIGITAL FANS** 

**MOST RUNS** 

MELIE KERR 437 HENRY NICHOLLS 317 **HIGHEST SCORES** 

TIM ROBINSON 139 Melie Kerr 88

**MOST WICKETS** 

MELIE KERR 20 Danru Ferns 18 BACK-TO-BACK FIVE-WICKET-BAGS!

MELIE KERR (5-10 & 5-13)



## NORTHERN DISTRICTS

Sam Clode, Snehith "Lucky" Reddy and Ewald Schreuder selected in the New Zealand Men's Under 19 squad for the ICC Men's Under 19 Cricket World Cup in South Africa

Snehith "Lucky" Reddy scores the highest innings of the ICC Men's Under 19 Cricket World Cup with 147 not out

Northern Brave Women sign Sri Lankan international superstar Chamari Athapaththu for the Dreamll Super Smash campaign

Artist David Ngawati (Ngāti Hine) created taonga for the three Northern Māori annual awards: McCaw Lewis Northern Māori Tāne Player of the Year; McCaw Lewis Northern Māori Wāhine Player of the Year; and Northern Māori Rangatahi Player of the Year





NORTHERN BRAVE WOMEN MAKE THE DREAMII SUPER SMASH ELIMINATION FINAL FOR THE FIRST TIME



MARAMA DOWNES TAKES NORTHERN DISTRICTS' FIRST EVER T20 FIVE-WICKET BAG (5-12 AGAINST AUCKLAND HEARTS), WHILE KAYLEY KNIGHT CLAIMS RECORD NORTHERN DISTRICTS LIST-A WOMEN'S FIGURES (7-35 AGAINST CENTRAL HINDS)





GLENN SCHACHE RECOGNISED AS COMMUNITY OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR AT THE ANZ NEW ZEALAND CRICKET AWARDS



AUCKLAND ACES WIN THE DREAMII SUPER SMASH AND FINISH FORD TROPHY RUNNERS-UP



THREE COMPETITION WINS OUT OF FOUR FOR AUCKLAND IN THE NATIONAL AGE GROUP TOURNAMENTS (UNDER 17 AND UNDER 19 MEN AND UNDER 19 WOMEN)



MARTIN GUPTILL'S INCREDIBLE CAREER WAS
CELEBRATED WITH MARTIN GUPTILL DAY DURING THE
DREAMII SUPER SMASH DOUBLE-HEADER BETWEEN
AUCKLAND AND WELLINGTON ON AUCKLAND
ANNIVERSARY DAY AT MARTIN GUPTILL OVAL



## AUCKLAND

Robbie O'Donnell led the 2023-24 Ford Trophy run scoring charts with 635 runs at 70.55

Danru Ferns - Dream11 Super Smash Men's Player of the Year

Jordan Sussex claims 8-71 in the Plunket Shield against Canterbury – the best ACES bowling figures in 12 years

Four Super Smash matches, including the Grand Final double-header, played on Eden Park No. 1

A refreshed women's club competition structure rolled out with huge success

A full season of club and community cricket taking place with few weather interruptions

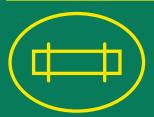
17,000 school students engaged in a variety of school programmes delivered across Auckland







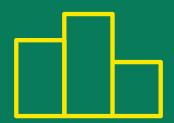
EMMA MCLEOD SCORES THE FIRST TWO GILLETTE VENUS CUP T20 CENTURIES AS SHE LEADS WAIRARAPA'S ST MATTHEW'S COLLEGIATE SCHOOL TO THE NATIONAL TROPHY



INTERNATIONAL CRICKET RETURNS TO NELSON FOR THE FIRST TIME IN FIVE YEARS, SAXTON OVAL ALMOST SELLING OUT FOR THE BLACKCAPS ODI AGAINST BANGLADESH



HASTINGS HOSTS THE NEW NZC WÄHINE MÄORI NATIONALTOURNAMENT



CENTRAL HINDS REACH THE DREAMII SUPER SMASH GRAND FINAL FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 2016



## CENTRAL DISTRICTS

Undefeated, the first Central Districts Māori women's team lifts the Rona McKenzie Taonga

Dane Cleaver becomes the Stags' most successful all-time first-class wicketkeeper, breaking Bevan Griggs' Plunket Shield career dismissals record in Napier

Mikaela Greig and Josh Clarkson make their international debuts for the WHITE FERNS and BLACKCAPS respectively

The Hawke Cup spends the 2024 winter locked away at Nelson Park after Hawke's Bay wins back the cup then defends it in four Challenges

Six Central Districts representatives are selected in the inaugural Aotearoa Māori Women's squad, including captain/kāpene Kerry Tomlinson

Plunket Shield captain Greg Hay receives his 100th first-class Stags cap and becomes the Stags' most successful first-class captain





CRICKET WELLINGTON INC.

## WELLINGTON

Connecting with clubs! Twenty two school teams took part in the new 'club youth' initiative, connecting college-age kids with their community clubs

Nathan Smith awarded Men's Domestic Player of the Year at the **ANZ New Zealand Cricket Awards** 

Eight Wellington teams participated in the inaugural Māori Cricket Festival

Seven BLACKCAPS and five WHITE FERNS who featured on the international stage during the 2023-24 season came from the Cricket Wellington pathway system

Fifteen new female coaches developed through the Cricket **Wellington Women and Girls Coaching** Course

Pathways success! Six out of eight new Firebirds and Blaze contracts came through the Cricket Wellington pathway system

Four Wellington players selected in the New Zealand U19 Men's squad for the ICC Men's Under 19 Cricket World







RACHIN RAVINDRA AND MELIE KERR NAMED THE BEST MEN'S AND WOMEN'S PLAYERS - CLAIMING THE SIR RICHARD HADLEE MEDAL AND DEBBIE HOCKLEY MEDAL RESPECTIVELY ATTHE ANZ NEW ZEALAND CRICKET AWARDS

PEOPLE ATTENDED A WORLD-FIRST KILIKITI FESTIVAL AT A FIRST-CLASS VENUE - THE CELLO BASIN RESERVE

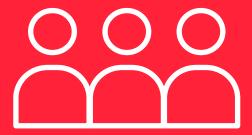


**CRICKET WELLINGTON BECAME THE FIRST REGIONAL** SPORTS ORGANISATION TO BE AWARDED THE 'RAINBOW TICK' FOR A COMMITMENT TO RAINBOW COMMUNITIES



## SOLD OUT!

SELL OUTS AT HAGLEY OVAL FOR TWO BLACKCAPS V PAKISTAN T20IS AND THE BLACKCAPS TEST MATCH AGAINST AUSTRALIA



A SOLD OUT CROWD AND THE DREAMII SUPER SMASH'S HIGHEST ATTENDANCE OF THE SEASON FOR THE DOUBLE-HEADER AGAINST AUCKLAND AT HAGLEY OVAL

## CHAMPIONS

CANTERBURY MEN WIN THE FORD TROPHY, CANTERBURY UNDER 17 WIN THE NATIONAL UNDER 17 TOURNAMENT AND CHRISTCHURCH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL WIN THE GILLETTE CUP

## MNZM

AMY SATTERTHWAITE RECEIVES AN MNZM FOR SERVICES TO CRICKET IN THE KING'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS LIST



## **CANTERBURY**

Trudy Anderson wins the prestigious Bert Sutcliffe Medal at the ANZ New Zealand Cricket Awards

Daryl Mitchell and Lea Tahuhu named in the 2023 ICC ODI Men's and Women's Teams of the Year

Will O'Rourke claims New Zealand's best Test match figures on debut (9-93) in a Player of the Match performance against South Africa at Seddon Park

Matt Henry picks up Player of the Series figures of 7-67 against Australia at Hagley Oval

A new Game Development Officers delivery model successfully implemented across the region

Canterbury coming up trumps in the NZC Community Awards – winning five major awards including Club of the Year (Old Boys Collegians) and Volunteer of the Year (Kath Clark)





## OTAGO

Emma Black named Domestic Women's Player of the Year at the ANZ New Zealand Cricket Awards after equalling the Otago HBJ Shield season wicket-taking record and topping the national wicket-taking charts with 24 wickets

Saffron Wilson scores her maiden List-A century with 109 against the Central Hinds in Round 3 of the Hallyburton Johnstone Shield

Dale Phillips tops the Plunket Shield run-scoring charts with 686 runs at an average of 49, with two centuries and four half-centuries

Fifteen-year-old Hugo Bogue scores a century for Otago in both the Under 19 and Under 17 National Tournaments, becoming the youngest player to have ever scored a century at the Under 19 tournament

Zac Cumming and Mason Clarke named in the New Zealand U19 Men's squad for the ICC Men's Under 19 Cricket World Cup in South Africa

NZC rename University of Otago Oval 'Suzie Bates Oval' for the second T201 between the WHITE FERNS and Pakistan to celebrate 300 international matches for Suzie Bates



THE OTAGO SPARKS LIFT THE HALLYBURTON JOHNSTONE SHIELD FOR THE SECOND TIME IN THREE YEARS

## DEBUT

DEAN FOXCROFT MAKES HIS INTERNATIONAL DEBUT FOR THE BLACKCAPS IN THE THIRD T201 AGAINST THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES IN DUBAI

465

JACOB DUFFY BECOMES OTAGO'S ALL-TIME LEADING WICKET-TAKER TAKING HIS 465TH WICKET, SURPASSING STEPHEN BOOCK'S RECORD WHICH HAD STOOD FOR OVER 30 YEARS



## MAJOR ASSOCIATION PLAYERS OF THE YEAR













**MARAMA DOWNES** 



**ROSEMARY MAIR** 



ROBBIE O'DONNELL



**BRETT HAMPTON** 

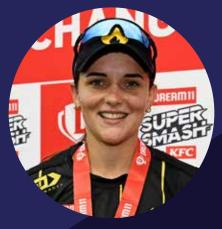


**BLAIR TICKNER** 













**MELIE KERR** 

LEA TAHUHU

**EMMA BLACK** 







**NATHAN SMITH** 

MITCH HAY

JACOB DUFFY



# NGĀ HOA KAIPAKIHI OUR PARTNERS

## **NZC PARTNERS AND SUPPLIERS**

## **ACCOR HOTELS**

Official Hotel Supplier for NZC

## **ASAHI BEVERAGES**

Official Beer, Cider, Wine & Coffee partner of NZC Official Partner of the BLACKCAPS & WHITE FERNS

## ANZ

Major Sponsor of NZC, BLACKCAPS, WHITE FERNS & Men's U19 Cricket Team Exclusive Official Financial Services Provider to NZC Exclusive Official Bank of NZC

## CANTERBURY OF NEW ZEALAND

Official Team Supplier to NZC
Official Apparel Sponsor of NZC
Official Apparel Sponsor of the BLACKCAPS, WHITE
FERNS & NZ Representative Teams

## COCA-COLA EURO PACIFIC PARTNERS LTD

Official Soft Drink of the BLACKCAPS & WHITE FERNS Coca-Cola Zero, Official Soft Drink of the BLACKCAPS & WHITE FERNS

Powerade, Official Sports Drink of the BLACKCAPS, WHITE FERNS

Pump, Official Bottled Water of the BLACKCAPS & WHITE FERNS

Coca-Cola, Official Sponsor of the BLACKCAPS & WHITE FERNS

## **DREAMII**

Official Fantasy Game of the Dream11 Super Smash
Official Partner of the BLACKCAPS
Official Fantasy Game of NZC
Official Overseas Broadcast Partner of the Dream11 Super
Smash

Official Dream11 Super Smash Title Partner

### **DULUX**

Official NZC Partner
Official Partner of the BLACKCAPS & WHITE FERNS
Official Paints & Protective and Woodcare Coatings
Supplier to NZC

## **DYNASTY SPORT**

Official Team Clothing Supplier to Major Associations senior men's & women's representative teams

### **ECO PORTAL**

Official Provider of Health & Safety Software

## **FORD NEW ZEALAND**

Official Vehicle Provider to NZC Naming Rights Partner of the Ford Trophy

## **GILLETTE & GILLETTE VENUS**

Official Super Smash Partner

Official Partner of the BLACKCAPS & WHITE FERNS
Official Grooming Partner of the BLACKCAPS &

WHITE FERNS

Official Oral Care Partner of the BLACKCAPS & WHITE FERNS

Official U19 Competitions Partner

## **G.J. GARDNER HOMES**

Official Domestic Umpire Partner
Official Community Umpire Partner
Signage Partner

### **HERTZ**

Official Rental Car Supplier to NZC

## **LIFE DIRECT**

Official Partner of the BLACKCAPS

Team Partner of the BLACKCAPS

Naming Rights Partner of WHITE FERNS T20 Series

## **LES MILLS**

Official Gym of NZC
Official Gym of the BLACKCAPS & WHITE FERNS

## **MONSTAVISION**

LED Signage Provider

## NEW ZEALAND COMMUNITY TRUST

Funding Partner

## **NZC TOURS**

Official Tour Partner

## **NZME**

Official Audio Partner of NZC

## PALS

Official NZC Partner
Official RTD Partner of NZC
Official Partner of the BLACKCAPS & WHITE FERNS

## **PHOTOSPORT**

Official Photography Partner

## **PITCH INTERNATIONAL**

International Broadcast Rights Partner

## **QRIOUS**

Official Data Analytics & Data Solutions Partner

## **RESTAURANT BRANDS (KFC)**

Official NZC Partner

Official Partner of the BLACKCAPS & WHITE FERNS

Official Super Smash Presenting Partner

Official WHITE FERNS Presenting Partner

## SENZ

Official Audio Partner of NZC
Official Radio Broadcast Partner of NZC

## **SPARK**

Official Telecommunications and Technology Partner of NZC, BLACKCAPS, WHITE FERNS & Super Smash

## **SPORT NEW ZEALAND**

Sports Development and High Performance Partner

## TAB

Sports Betting Partner

## TCM SPORTS MANAGEMENT

International Rights Partner

## **TEGEL**

Official Partner of the BLACKCAPS and WHITE FERNS

Official Naming Rights Partner of the BLACKCAPS Test Series

## **TICKETEK**

**Ticketing Partner** 

## **TVNZ**

Official Broadcast/Transmission Partner of NZC, BLACKCAPS, WHITE FERNS & Super Smash



# NGĀ PŪRONGO PŪTEA OUR FINANCIALS

#### **OUR FINANCIALS**

The net surplus (before foreign exchange valuation adjustment) for the year ended 31 July 2024 (FY24) was \$8.0m, against a forecasted surplus of \$5.3m and a prior year surplus of \$10.7m.

Having delivered a record operating surplus in FY23, in preparing the FY24 Budget and Business Plan, NZC was in a strong financial position and FY24 was expected to post back-to-back surpluses to continue to build a resilient base of long-term reserves.

NZC delivered a full summer of cricket and outbound tours to meet FTP commitments including a well-attended series against the Australian men's side. In doing so, NZC was able to deliver on commercial obligations for both domestic and international cricket.

Revenue from broadcast, sponsorships and ticketing all delivered year-on-year growth as new partnerships were formed, both domestically and offshore, including the marquee deal reached with Sony as our broadcast partner in the India sub-continent from 2024-2031.

The final wash-up payment from the previous 8-year ICC cycle was received in March 2024 which slightly exceeded previous forecasts. The first year of the new 4-year ICC member distributions cycle then followed and delivered steady revenue growth compared to the average of the previous cycle; however the majority of the uplift is expected to be distributed towards the end of the cycle in year 4.

A continued focus on operating efficiency was required across the year, specifically discretionary and centralised NZC spend to offset the significant additional costs to deliver the home summer and to meet outbound tour commitments and participation in ICC World events, whilst also enabling the achievement of NZC's FY24 Business priorities.

FY24 was the second year of the 5-year collective Master Agreement with the Players. The Master Agreement governing the professional and semi-professional men's and women's game (2022 to 2027) is based on a proportion of revenue model, through which the players will receive a proportion of revenue generated from professional cricket. Player pool expense is recognised in the profit or loss when the relevant revenue from professional cricket has been recognised as defined in the Master Agreement. Player pool expense due to the players in FY24 reached \$25.9m, an increase of \$1.8m on FY23.

NZC significantly increased funding levels to the cricket network through year 2 of the 5-year NZC Cricket Network Investment Framework.
Funding to the Major Associations including payments to domestic players reached \$26.3m for the year to 31 July 2024, an increase of \$2.3m from 2023 which was on the back of a further increase of \$4.3m from 2022. Investment in the redevelopment of Bert Sutcliffe Oval as a first-class facility contributed \$1.5m of strategic infrastructure to the network.

Beyond 2024, the overall outlook remains positive despite a forecasted deficit of \$6.8m in 2025, with a record base of reserves to support new revenue opportunities, strategic investment priorities, and with ICC distributions expected to remain in line with 2024 throughout the distribution cycle until at least 2027. NZC has ended the 2024 financial year with sufficient reserves to meet its obligations, as and when they fall due and no adjustment is required to the carrying value of assets and liabilities at 31 July 2024.

While the NZC result shows an operating surplus of \$8.0m, the final result after adjusting for the valuation of our foreign currency hedging held at 31 July 2024, is a retained surplus of \$5.6m. The value of the foreign currency hedging at 31 July 2024 is a net liability of \$2.4m (2023: net liability \$47k) . The foreign exchange contract valuation adjustment of \$2.4m represents the unrealised movement in the fair value of the exchange contracts on hand at 31 July 2024 compared to 31 July 2023.

As an Incorporated Society, NZC has no current obligation to prepare financial statements that comply with generally accepted accounting practice. NZC has continued to prepare its financial statements on a basis consistent with prior years, with no changes in accounting policy, and they are therefore special purpose financial statements.

REVENUE FROM BROADCAST, SPONSORSHIPS AND TICKETING ALL DELIVERED YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH AS NEW PARTNERSHIPS WERE FORMED, BOTH DOMESTICALLY AND OFFSHORE, INCLUDING THE MARQUEE DEAL REACHED WITH SONY AS OUR BROADCAST PARTNER IN THE INDIA SUBCONTINENT FROM 2024-2031



# NEW ZEALAND CRICKET INC. SUMMARY STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

	2024 \$′000	2023 \$′000
Operating Revenue	97,245	96,485
Other Income	1,157	579
Total Revenue and Other Income	98,402	97,064
Expenditure:		
Contractors and Service Providers	3,698	3,423
Depreciation and Amortisation	1,022	758
Financing	99	20
Grants, Levies and Royalties	100	150
Marketing & Community Development	3,561	3,325
Match and Tour Expenses	5,975	5,638
Other	7,540	7,000
Player Pool	16,793	16,247
Player Digital Engagement Rights	2,383	4,980
Team Preparation and Player Support	199	327
Travel	10,556	9,575
Remuneration	12,210	11,624
Total Expenditure	64,136	63,067
Net Operating Surplus before Distributions and Foreign Exchange	34,266	33,997
Less Association Grants and Domestic Player Payments		
General and Other Grants	17,171	15,541
Domestic Player Payments	9,094	7,800
	26,265	23,341
Net Surplus for The Year before Foreign Exchange	8,001	10,656
Unrealised (Loss) / Gain on Foreign Exchange Contracts	(2,389)	4,896
Total Comprehensive Surplus for the Year	5,612	15,552

#### NEW ZEALAND CRICKET INC. SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 JULY 2024

	2024 \$′000	2023 \$′000
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	33,881	17,513
Trade and Other Receivables	5,271	9,671
Prepayments	477	282
Inventory	589	731
Derivative Financial Instruments	355	1,193
Total Current Assets	40,573	29,390
Non-Current Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment	8,372	6,784
Intangible Assets	749	1,061
Derivative Financial Instruments	539	2,418
Investment Fund	7,328	6,727
Total Non-Current Assets	16,988	16,990
Total Assets	57,561	46,380
Current Liabilities		
Trade and Other Payables	10,110	11,384
Employee Entitlements	325	296
Income in Advance	8,979	1,837
Derivative Financial Instruments	1,916	2,890
Total Current Liabilities	21,330	16,407
Non-Current Liabilities		
Derivative Financial Instruments	1,414	768
Total Non-Current Liabilities	1,414	768
Total Liabilities	22,744	17,175
Net Assets	34,817	29,205
Equity	34,817	29,205

For and on behalf of New Zealand Cricket Inc. who authorised the Summary Financial Statements for issue on 16th October 2024:

Diana Puketapu-Lyndon

Chair

Sukstage B

Bill Birnie Director

# NEW ZEALAND CRICKET INC. SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

	Retained Earnings \$'000	Total \$'000
Balance at 31 July 2022	13,653	13,653
Net Surplus for the Year	15,552	15,552
Total Comprehensive Surplus for the Year	15,552	15,552
Balance at 31 July 2023	29,205	29,205
Net Surplus for the Year	5,612	5,612
Total Comprehensive Surplus for the Year	5,612	5,612
Balance at 31 July 2024	34,817	34,817

# NEW ZEALAND CRICKET INC. SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

	2024 \$′000	2023 \$′000
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Cash was provided from:		
Receipts from Sponsorship, Grants and Other Activities	107,482	83,973
Interest Received	556	299
Exchange Gains	<u> </u>	72
	108,038	84,344
Cash was applied to:		
Payments to Suppliers and Employees	(63,063)	(57,134)
Grants to Associations and Payments to Domestic Players	(26,265)	(23,341)
	(89,328)	(80,475)
Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities	18,710	3,869
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Cash was applied to:		
Purchase of Property, Plant, Equipment & Intangible Assets	(2,342)	(2,838)
Investment Fund	<del>-</del> -	(3,000)
Net Cash Outflow from Investing Activities	(2,342)	(5,838)
Net Increase / (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	16,368	(1,969)
Add Opening Cash Brought Forward	17,513	19,482
Ending Cash Carried Forward	33,881	17,513
Cash Balances in Balance Sheet		
Cash at Bank	145	88
Short Term Deposits	33,736	17,425
Ending Cash Carried Forward	33,881	17,513

### NEW ZEALAND CRICKET INC. NOTES TO THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024





#### REPORTING ENTITY

New Zealand Cricket (Incorporated) (NZC) is domiciled in New Zealand and is a New Zealand incorporated society under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908. NZC is the governing body for the sport of cricket in New Zealand and is recognised as such by the International Cricket Council, of which NZC is a full member. NZC's principal activity is to promote and administer the sport of cricket in New Zealand.

#### **BASIS OF PREPARATION**

The summary financial statements are extracted from the special purpose financial statements of NZC for the year ended 31 July 2024 which were issued by the Board of NZC on 16 October 2024. The special purpose financial statements received an unqualified audit opinion dated 16 October 2024. The special purpose financial statements of NZC have been prepared in accordance with NZC's Accounting Policies and to comply with member reporting requirements. As an incorporated society, NZC has no current obligation to prepare general purpose financial statements that comply with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in New Zealand.

NZC has reported an operating surplus (net surplus for the year before Foreign Exchange) of \$8,001k (2023: \$10,656k), with the final result after adjusting for the valuation of our foreign currency hedging held at 31 July 2024, a retained surplus of \$5,612k (2023: surplus of \$15,552k). The value of the foreign currency hedging at 31 July 2024 is a net liability of \$2,436k (2023: net liability of \$47k). The foreign exchange hedging valuation adjustment of a \$2,389k loss

(2023: gain of \$4,896k), represents the unrealised movement in the fair value of the exchange contracts on hand at 31 July 2024 compared to 31 July 2023 (refer Note 16 of the full special purpose financial statements).

The contractual relationship with the players is governed by a Master Agreement, covering the five-year period from 1 August 2022 and includes both the men's and women's professional environments for the first time. The agreement was agreed by NZC, the New Zealand Cricket Players Association (NZCPA) and the Major Associations. In this landmark agreement, professional women's and men's cricketers will receive the same match fees for the same work on the same day. The improved pay and conditions are part of an agreement calculated on the professional players receiving 29.75% of all NZC forecast commercial revenue over five years (\$349m), expected to amount to \$104m in player payments.

Player pool expense is recognised in the surplus or loss when the relevant revenue from professional cricket has been recognised as defined in the Master Agreement. Player Pool expense recognised in the financial statements is \$25.89m (2023: \$24.05m) and player payments paid or accrued were \$24.81m (2023: \$20.44m), resulting in player payments owing (Variation Ledger Balance) of \$4.69m (2023: \$3.61m) (Note 12 and Note 20 of the full special purpose financial statements).

Revenue from Digital Engagement Rights (Non-Fungible Tokens, fan tokens and mobile gaming) is excluded from commercial revenue for calculating player pool expense. Instead, NZC and the Players share equally in the digital engagement rights revenue. The gross revenue from this arrangement is recognised in Operating revenue and the amount due to the players is recognised in Player Digital Engagement Rights in operating costs (Note 12 and Note 20 of the full special purpose financial statements). The balance in respect of Player Digital Engagement Rights of \$2,383k (2023: \$4,980k) will be paid by NZC once certain activities are completed.

The financial statements have been prepared using the going concern assumption on the basis that the level of ICC member distributions will be as forecast and given the revenue to be received from contracted broadcast and commercial partnerships over the next few years. NZC has sufficient reserves to meet its obligations, as and when they fall due.

The summary financial statements do not include all disclosures provided in the full financial statements and cannot provide as complete an understanding as the full special purpose financial statements which are available on request from NZC, PO Box 8353, Newmarket, Auckland, 1149. There have been no changes in accounting policies or restatements to amounts presented in prior years.

#### FUNCTIONAL AND PRESENTATION CURRENCY

The financial statements are presented in New Zealand Dollars, which is NZC's functional currency. All amounts have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars, unless otherwise indicated.











#### **BASIS OF MEASUREMENT**

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis, except for derivative financial instruments and the investment fund which have been measured at fair value.

#### **RELATED PARTIES**

Details relating to transactions with related parties are fully disclosed in Note 19 of the full special purpose financial statements. These predominantly relate to the Major and District Associations which are the members of NZC as provided for in the NZC Constitution. During the year NZC accounted for expenses of \$26,265k (2023: \$23,992k) to Major and District Associations. This included \$16,367k (2023: \$15,541k) in Major and District Association General and Other Grants, \$9,094k (2023: \$7,800k) for domestic player payments, \$792k (2023: \$435k) for service and hosting fees and \$12k for the reimbursement of costs incurred on behalf of NZC in the construction of fixed assets (2023: \$215k).

#### SUBSEQUENT EVENTS AFTER BALANCE DATE

There were no material subsequent events which occurred after balance date requiring disclosure in the financial statements.





#### Report of the independent auditor on the summary financial statements

To the members of New Zealand Cricket (Incorporated)

The summary special purpose financial statements (the summary financial statements) comprise:

- the summary statement of financial position as at 31 July 2024;
- the summary statement of comprehensive income for the year then ended;
- the summary statement of changes in equity for the year then ended;
- the summary statement of cash flows for the year then ended; and
- · related notes.

#### **Our opinion**

The summary financial statements are derived from the audited special purpose financial statements (financial statements) of New Zealand Cricket (Incorporated) (NZC) for the year ended 31 July 2024.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements in accordance with FRS-43: *Summary Financial Statements* issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board.

#### **Summary financial statements**

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures made in the audited special purpose financial statements. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements and the auditor's report thereon. The summary financial statements and the audited financial statements do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial statements.

#### The audited financial statements and our report thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial statements in our report dated 16 October 2024.

That report also includes an emphasis of matter paragraph, which describes the basis of accounting, in that the financial statements were prepared as special purpose financial statements to assist NZC in complying with its member reporting requirements and that, as a result, the financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose.

#### Responsibilities of the Directors for the summary financial statements

The Directors are responsible, on behalf of NZC, for the preparation of the summary financial statements in accordance with FRS-43: *Summary Financial Statements*.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with International Standard on Auditing (New Zealand) 810 (Revised): Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

Our firm carries out other services for NZC in the areas of treasury advisory services and tax and legal services in relation to the hosting of the 2028 ICC T20 World Cup. The provision of these other services has not impaired our independence as auditor of NZC.

#### Who we report to

This report is made solely to the members of NZC, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state those matters which we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than NZC and the members of NZC, as a body, for our audit work, for this report or for the opinions we have formed.

PricewaterhouseCoopers 16 October 2024 Auckland

Pricewaterhouse Coopers, PwC Tower, 15 Customs Street West, Private Bag 92162, Auckland 1142 New Zealand T: +6493558000, www.pwc.co.nz





# BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE (AS OF JULY 2024)



**DIANA PUKETAPU-LYNDON - 7 CHAIR** 



**SARAH BEAMAN - 7 DIRECTOR** 



**BILL BIRNIE - 7 DIRECTOR** 



**ANNA CAMPBELL - 7 DIRECTOR** 



**MIKE DEVONSHIRE - 5 DIRECTOR** (APPOINTED 2023 AGM)



**KEVIN MALLOY - 6 DIRECTOR** 



**REBECCA ROLLS - 2 DIRECTOR** (RETIRED 2023 AGM)



**ALI SHANKS - 5 DIRECTOR** (APPOINTED 2023 AGM)



**MARTIN SNEDDEN - 7 DIRECTOR** 



**ROGER TWOSE - 7** DIRECTOR

- 1. August 2023
- 2. September 2023 3. December 2023
- 4. February 2024
- 5. April 2024
- 6. May 2024
- 7. June 2024

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THE NEW FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN IS A STATEMENT OF INTENT, ONE THAT LOOKS TO MAXIMISE THE POTENTIAL OF OUR ENTIRE NETWORK BY HARNESSING THE POTENTIAL OF ONE SYSTEM, REMAINING ALERT TO THE EBBS AND FLOWS OF THE CRICKETING ENVIRONMENT, AND READY FOR THE ROAD AHEAD.















# HEKĒMUMŌTEKATOA, HEKĒMUORANGAROA

# AGAMEFORALL, AGAMEFORLIFE



#### NZC

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NZC.NZ