



**19th Annual Report & Balance Sheet**  
**2023 - 2024**

Presented to Members at the Club Rooms  
Cnr Ian Parade & Wellbank Street  
Concord 2137

Sunday, 23rd February 2025

Briars at Greenlees Ltd ABN 71 001 029 545

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# Office Bearers 2023/24

Briars at Greenlees Limited



<b>Past Patrons</b>	C D Walker	2019-2021	D A Walker †	2005-2015
	K Free †	2005-2019		
<b>Life Members</b>	T Cribb			
	P Doherty			
	M Weber			
	J Price			
<b>Past Life Members</b>	G Price †			
<b>Chairman</b>	B Howle			
<b>Board of Directors</b>	B Howle		M Jaroszewicz	
	A Boyter		M Moffitt	
	J Price		K Norris	
	S. O'Brien		R Cilona	
<b>General Manager</b>	J Parle			
<b>Treasurer</b>	M Moffitt FCA			
<b>Auditor</b>	Harley, Russell and Day			
<b>Solicitors</b>	P Mattick & Associates, Turner Freeman			
<b>Sports Management Committee</b>	D Price		<i>Briars Senior Cricket</i>	
	G Dunn		<i>Briars Senior &amp; Junior Hockey</i>	
	M Nelson		<i>Briars Senior Rugby</i>	
	M. McGrath		<i>Briars Junior Rugby</i>	
	D Lannan		<i>Briars Women's Rugby</i>	
	A Thomas		<i>Briars Senior &amp; Junior Squash</i>	
	B March Ali		<i>Briars Junior &amp; Senior Netball</i>	
	C Arnold		<i>Briars Junior Cricket</i>	
	R Cilona		<i>Greenlees Park Men's Bowls</i>	
	G Bonett		<i>Greenlees Park Women's Bowls</i>	
R. Cilona		<i>Greenlees Park Junior Bowls</i>		

# Club Honour Boards

## Briars Sports

Honour Board | *Founded 2005*



<b>Past Chairmen</b>	I Blair	2010-2016	M Weber	2005-2006
	B Huttly	2006-2010		

## The Briars Sporting Club

Honour Board | *Founded 1918*



<b>Patrons</b>	C D Walker	2018-2021	R B Clark BEM	1972-1994
	D A Walker	2005-2015	H G Whiddon	1969-1972
	D V Prowse	2000-2005	E J Siddeley	1956-1965
	H C Ford	1995-2000	H W Whiddon	1935-1956
<b>Past Presidents</b>	M Weber	2002-2005	E Watt	1948-1953
	P G Mattick	1999-2002	H G Whiddon	1943-1948
	J F Threlfo	1996-1999	R W May	1942-1943
	C R Hickey	1991-1996	E J Siddeley	1939-1942
	R I G Richard	1988-1991	R W May	1936-1939
	P D Richardson	1985-1988	J E Holmes	1935-1936
	I G S Blair	1983-1985	R G Herford	1933-1935
	J H Edmonds	1980-1983	H W Whiddon	1932-1933
	C K Dennis	1976-1980	E J Siddeley	1931-1932
	D A Walker	1973-1976	R W May	1929-1931
	R D Vanderfield	1972-1973	E J Siddeley	1928-1929
	H C Ford	1969-1972	H W Whiddon	1926-1928
	H G Whiddon	1967-1969	E Love	1925-1926
	B U Williams	1965-1967	E J Siddeley	1924-1925
	W A Elder	1962-1965	H W Whiddon	1921-1924
	R J Thomson	1960-1962	J C Meeks	1920-1921

<b>Past Life Members</b>	A J Land	1957-1960	H W Whiddon	1919-1920
	R S Jones AOM	1953-1957	J H Stone	1918-1919
	C K E Dennis	2004	D A Walker	1987
	C G Jones	2004	H C Ford	1985
	J Balmforth BEM	2002	E G Stockdale	1970
	P D Richardson	1996	R B Clark BEM	1958
	J Alford	1996	H G Whiddon	1958
	D V Prowse	1995	R W May	1947
	I R Vanderfield AO OBE	1995	E J Siddeley	1947
	R S Jones AOM	1994	H W Whiddon	1947
P C Murray CBE	1993	S Hipwell	2019	
R I G Richard	2022			
<b>Life Members</b>	I G S Blair	W F Hooker	J F Threlfo	
	C R Hickey	C D Walker		
<b>Vice - Presidents</b>	R Anstey	C J Jones †	G Price †	
	J F Crockart †	K R Kable	J Price	
	P England	H W Lennartz	G Rolleston	
	G Heggarty	P Mansford	S Schomberg	
	M Howell	P G Mattick	J Staniforth	
	G Ireland	R Pontifex	K E Wearne	

## Greenlees Park Bowling Club

Honour Board | *Opened 1950*

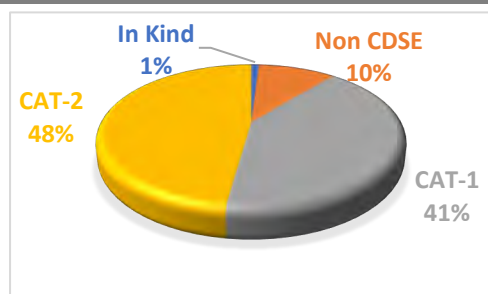


<b>Patrons</b>	J Sneddon	2019-Current	G Durie	1974
	R Buchanan	2014-2018	R Toogood	1970-1973
	K Free OAM	2006-2013	N Lowe	1968-1969
	K Gordon	1994-2005	C London	1966-1967
	J Jackson	1993	A Giblett	1965
	A Huttly	1989-1992	F Billyard	1964

	A Billyard	1982-1988	A Giblett	1963
	J Spargo	1981	C London	1960-1962
	T Murphy	1979-1980	E Hinks	1950-1959
	G Durie	1976-1978	C House	1975
<b>Chairmen</b>	B Huttly	2003-2005	R Buchanan	1993-1996
	R Skehan	2001-2002	R Skehan	1991-1992
	R Crew	1997-2000	B Fumberger	1988-1990
<b>Presidents</b>	R Cilona	Current	C Piercy	1977-1978
	M Laws	2014-2019	J Spargo	1975-1976
	W Allen	2013-2014	C House	1974
	B Huttly	2011-2012	G Durie	1971-1973
	D Coleman	2008-2010	T Murphy	1969-1970
	A Cribb	2005-2007	R Toogood	1968
	R Arnold	2002-2004	N Lowe	1965-1967
	S Lesslie	1999-2001	C London	1963-1964
	R Arnold	1996-1998	A Giblett	1960-1962
	C Pratt	1994-1995	R Wiggins	1959
	A Lee-C Pratt	1993	J Henderson	1958
	J Vale	1992	C London	1957
	A Lee	1979-1991	W Dunlop	1950-1956
<b>Life Members</b>	L Coleman	R Skehan	B Huttly	
<b>Past Life Members</b>	J Jackson	A McLeod	R Riley OAM	
	E Knight	J Arantz	J Vale	
	C House	A Lee	A Fleeton	
	R Wiggins	N Tozer	M Davis	
	L Barry	H Wicks	K Free OAM	
	R Buchanan			

# Briars Sports in the Community

## 2023/24 Community Support Programs



Briars Sports provides financial support annually to organisations and services within the local community, which include local schools, sporting groups and community organisations.

Support is provided through the Club GRANTS scheme, non CDSE donations and in-kind donations.

**TOTAL AMOUNT DONATED IN 2023/24: \$46,070.00**

## ClubGRANTS

Category 1 | Supports community welfare and social services.

<b>Stewart House</b>	<b>Support for vulnerable public-school children in the Canada Bay LGA to attend Stewart House.</b>	<b>\$8,180.00</b>
	Support for 2 disadvantaged, disengaged and at-risk children enrolled in Canada Bay public schools to attend the Stewart House 12-day health and wellbeing program in 2024/25.	
<b>NFP Village Works</b>	<b>Futureproof Youth Drop in and Jam sessions</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
	A regular monthly free youth 'drop in and jam' session will provide a supervised safe space enabling young people across Canada Bay from 12 - 18 to gather and connect through music making and listening, art and creative activities.	
<b>Sydney Catholic Schools Ltd, as trustee for Sydney Catholic Schools Trust on behalf of the Catholic Education Foundation</b>	<b>Emergency Food Relief Program</b>	<b>\$2,320.00</b>
	It has been evident that the rising interest rates and the increase in cost of living have affected many students and their families in the City of Canada Bay LGA.	
<b>The Sydney Cancer Survivorship Centre at Concord Hospital.</b>	<b>Additional Day Per Week Exercise Physiologist at Sydney Cancer Survivorship Centre</b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>
	Concord Hospital is dedicated to help cancer survivors and families better manage their treatment beyond its acute diagnosis and care. Modifying lifestyle risk factors can decrease recurrence and improve cancer outcomes, however most survivors do not achieve these goals unassisted.	

## ClubGRANTS

Category 2 | Provides funding for general community development and support activities.

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Briars Junior Hockey	\$5,280.00
Briars Junior Cricket	\$5,280.00
Briars Junior Netball	\$5,280.00
Briars Junior Rugby	\$2,200.00
Briars Junior Squash	\$1,980.00
Yaralla Cricket Club	\$2,000.00

## Non CDSE

### Donations

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<b>Inner West Minis</b>	The Inner West Minis Competition provides an opportunity for young Boys and Girls to learn and play Rugby Union on a weekly basis in a safe and family friendly environment. The competition is open to children from Under 6 through to Under 9s.	\$2,500.00
<b>Concord Touch Football</b>	Briars Sports sponsors Concord Touch Football who has over 100 participants from the age of 16 years to 50 plus, playing touch during the summer months at Greenlees Park, Concord.	\$1,100.00
<b>St Marks Primary School</b> Easter Fete	The fete is an important event on the St Marks Primary School calendar, bringing together students, families, staff, and friends to celebrate, have fun and raise valuable funds for the school.	\$500.00
<b>St Patricks Primary School</b>	St Patrick's Primary School is hosted their Annual Party with a Purpose to raise funds to renovate the church hall with new facilities and to upgrade the disabled access area, for all to enjoy.	\$500.00

## In Kind

### Donations

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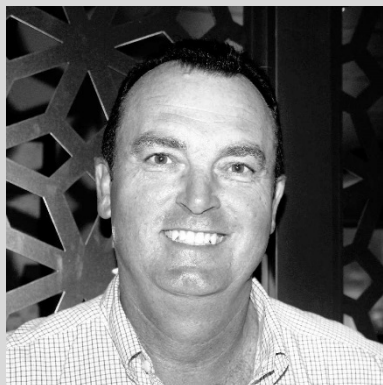
<b>Concord Junior Soccer Club</b>	Towards a lucky door prize during their 100 <sup>th</sup> year gala night celebration.	2 x \$100 Gift Voucher
<b>Rosebank College</b>	Annual Trivia Night Fundraiser, online auction.	1 x \$200 Gift Voucher
<b>Derek's Place</b> Fundraising movie night Raffle	Derek's Place fundraising movie night raffle prize	1 x \$100 Gift Voucher
<b>Dementia Carers group</b>	Briars Sports supports the Dementia Carers Group by offering in-kind room hire for their	



monthly meetings, held on the second Thursday of each month.

**Gaye Pietracci's Weely  
Watercolour Class**

Briars Sports offers in-kind room hire for Gaye's weekly watercolour class ON A Friday morning.



On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present this 19<sup>th</sup> Briars Sports Annual report to members for the period ending 30 September 2024.

After starting in 1918 and now with 107 years of existence, this past year has represented yet another year whereby Briars Sports has remained true to, and continues to build upon its core value, being the promotion and playing of amateur sport within our local community. Our 6 sports of cricket, rugby, hockey squash, bowls and netball have continued their success from previous years and provide well administered and well-respected sporting opportunities for boys and girls and men and women alike. As a community club we aim to be the club of choice in providing relevant and welcoming experience for all our members and guests.

Financially, the club has recorded a profit of \$189,612, compared to \$297,714 in 2023. This is a very pleasing result in terms of the current general economic environment and the recent introduction of a competitive impact. The club achieved an EBITDA of \$1,142,639 (2023: \$1,166,820), highlighting a strong trading performance. The Board is pleased with this result, especially given the factors previously mentioned. For a more detailed analysis of the club's financial performance, please refer to the Treasurer, Matina Moffitt's report.

This strong result allowed Briars Sports to provide our sports with a total of \$131,100 in grants during the year. These grants allow our sports many options, including to pay for coaches and equipment as required, and most importantly, to subsidise sporting fees, especially for our juniors' sports. The aim being to reduce the financial burden upon parents and to encourage juniors to take up or keep playing in their sports.

Additionally, the wider community also received grants totaling \$26,100 to various community organisations to allow them to continue to do what they do. Further details on this are detailed elsewhere in this report.

On the club front, it was a quiet year in terms of any major projects. Some minor works including the installation of a large TV screen to the outside play area and minor upgrades to the gaming area as required by legislation. That said, the Board is always looking forward and planning for future projects to enhance the experience for members and guests. Our General Manager Jason Parle provides greater detail on club matters over the last 12 months in his report.

Our sporting achievements during the year were many and varied as follows.

- Senior Cricket: Secured their 12<sup>th</sup> successive club championship and 2 premierships.
- Junior Cricket: Close to 40 sides competing and several premierships together with a significant and growing presence of female cricket.
- Senior Rugby: Best year for some time with a first-grade nail biting loss in the final. Make 2025 better again.
- Junior Rugby: Continues to grow and go from strength to strength.
- Women's Rugby: Another successful year with competitive results in their 7s competitions in various exotic locations worldwide.
- Hockey: A good if not overly successful year but with big things hoped for next year with planning well underway.

- Squash: Another successful year for our squashies, based at Thornleigh with plenty of successful results.
- Men's Bowls: A Pennants victory for one of the sides so it doesn't get better than that.
- Ladies Bowls: Always going well with pleasing numbers.
- Netball: A successful year with strong participation and results.

I encourage you to review the detailed sporting reports for a comprehensive overview of our individual sports results.

The success of both our club and our sports is a jigsaw of many pieces. However, an integral part of that jigsaw is our General Manager Jason Parle and his dedicated senior staff of Monique and Ben. Jason and his entire team are to be commended for their commitment to the success of our club and their ongoing work to ensure Briars Sports remains at the forefront of all our endeavors, be it on or off the field.

The core of the success of our sports rests with the respective Chairmen or Chairwomen that dedicate their volunteering efforts to the running of their sports. It is the efforts of these individuals and their executive team that make our sports the success they are. My sincere thanks to them for their efforts and to all the other volunteers that assist in the running of our sports. "Many hands make light work" is that old saying and the more people we have involved in the organisation of our sports the greater the chances of success and growth.

Our sports sponsors also play a critical role in the ongoing vitality and viability of our sports. Their commitments are greatly appreciated, and we thank them all for their ongoing contributions.

Canada Bay Council are a significant stakeholder in our existence and success. As one of the greatest sporting users of council facilities, during both summer and winter, our sports are most grateful for the quality of the fantastic facilities and sporting fields provided. We work closely with the council on many fronts and enjoy a progressive and productive relationship with the various council officers that our sports deal with and I thank them for their support.

Richard Davies as proprietor of our bistro "The Backyard", together with his staff are to be thanked for their contributions during the year. In challenging times Richard and his team have provided a consistently outstanding food offering for our members and guests.

My condolences to the families of those members that we lost during the year including David Young, Wayne Comber, Martin Watts, Ken Williams, Carole Pomroy, Kevin Bolger & Giuseppe Migliaccio.

I would like to acknowledge and thank my fellow Directors for their time and dedication during the year. Obviously, challenges, be it financial, sporting, volunteering or economic are ever present, however with an experienced team of directors we are always looking to the future to see how the club and our sports can be benefited and improved. I thank them all for their service in this regard.

Lastly, I wish to express my sincere appreciation and thanks to both our club members and sporting players for their continued support of our club during the last 12 months. Our club exists for your benefit, and we look forward to your ongoing support in the years ahead, so I look forward to seeing you in the club or on the sporting field sometime during the year ahead.

## Treasurer's Report

Matina Moffitt | FCA - Treasurer



It is with great pleasure I present to you the Treasurer's report for the year ended 30 September 2024.

The profit for the year was \$189,612 compared to the prior year result of \$297,714. The total net assets of the club remain healthy at \$7,288,096 as of 30 September 2024.

We continue the improvements for the club premises with \$238,000 spent in 2024. Our objective is to ensure we remain relevant to our members, and they can enjoy their time at the club.

In addition, the 2024 financial year profit does not include the profits made by the sports, which was \$260,625. These amounts are carried forward to 2024 to assist the sports with their upcoming seasons. The club continues to support our sports with grants of \$120,000 for the year.

Further details can be found in the summary financial report included in this annual report.

I would like to acknowledge our club members for their continued support. Also, a big thank you to all the volunteers who worked tirelessly to ensure that the sports were able to take the field.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Jason Parle, our General Manager, the Briars management team Ben and Monique and my fellow directors for their huge contribution throughout the year that has seen the club continue to perform well in the current economic conditions.

## General Manager's Report

Jason Parle



I am pleased to present this report as Club Manager for the fiscal year ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024. Over the past year, our club has continued to thrive, navigating the challenge of a new Club opening in our community yet continuing to trade very well.

To all the Sports within the Briars family, congratulations on your achievements throughout 2024, and thank you to our volunteers! Your dedication is what makes Briars the preferred Sports Club for both adult and junior participants.

The essence of our Club thrives through our sports, as we stand by each other in unwavering support.

### Operational Highlights:

Facility Upgrades: The following upgrades were completed throughout the year:

- New display cabinet in the Ted Stockdale lounge
- Stage built in the Ted Stockdale lounge for the pulpit
- The pulpit was refurbished and placed on the stage in front of the new display cabinet
- Parkside decking area had greenery placed around it
- New high bar tables purchased for Parkside

- New bar stools purchased for Parkside
- Ceiling fans installed on Parkside
- 6 x new Gaming machines were purchased
- Constant game conversions to keep the gaming room relevant

The Board of the Club undertook to tackle rising energy costs and, in September, a 99.44KW solar system was installed on the Club roof. This is forecast to save \$25,000 per annum with a payback of 3.5 years.

- The Club successfully applied for a \$25,000 energy efficiency grant. These funds were used to:
- Preventative maintenance of all refrigeration equipment
- New evaporator for glass chiller
- New condensing unit kitchen cool room
- New condensing unit keg cool room
- New condensing unit main bar
- New fans x 2 kitchen cool room
- Cool room door repairs including seals

#### Acknowledgments:

I extend my sincere gratitude to the Board of Directors who comprise representatives from each Sport that play under the Briars and Greenlees Park banners. Your Board continually strives to ensure that Briars is the Club of choice for all who wish to play sports in the local community and that the registered Club continues to evolve.

To Ben, Monique and Club Supervisors Kim, Aiden, Sam C, Sam R and Paige, thank you so much for your hard work! To our casual staff of Ben, Kaz, Blake, Maks, Zet, Milly, Flynn and Ryan, thank you for helping the Club make members, their guests and those who visit feel welcome.

To Richard and his team in the Backyard, thank you for all your efforts throughout the year.

#### Looking Ahead:

As the Club moves forward, the focus remains on continual improvement and innovation. Your Board is dedicated to enhancing member experiences, exploring new opportunities for growth, and adapting to evolving trends to ensure your club remains a premier destination for our community.

In conclusion, I would like to pass on my sincere condolences to the families of those members who passed away during the year.

## Vale Notices

### Wayne Comber



It's with great sadness that Wayne Comber passed away quietly on Monday 16th December 2024. He fought his cancer bravely and suffered quietly for many years.

All members at the Club will miss his tireless work organising bowls days, selling raffle tickets, yelling out on the green and just being at the club to have a chat with.

For those that really knew Wayne Comber well, found him to be a very personable man with a unique charm about him. He mostly listened to others speak about themselves and asked how they were going. The only time Wayne Comber really promoted himself was when it came to his bowling prowess and no one can really argue with that, he was a good tough competitor.

Wayne was what you would also call a great club man who supported his fellow club members. Each new person that walked into Briars was met by Wayne and made to feel comfortable especially if he could talk them into playing bowls.

Everyone that knew our little mate has the fondness of memories that will live on with us all forever. The following are just a couple of memories that make us smile and or perhaps have a little tear.

The ol' look over his glasses and pulling out the little red card when someone cheekily remarked how tall he was or wasn't.

When bowling he'd stick out his tongue while concentrating to deliver his bowl with a little flick of his hand and proceed to walk across the adjoining rinks next to him and watch it land on the jack. After he got the shot, he'd do a little turn and have a wry smile on his face.

Some at the Club knew that Wayne Comber was a "one of" in life.

Wayne would drink a schooner of Tooheys New with a large dash of lemonade!

He'd wear a beanie, a cranky ol bowler cap and a Greenlees jacket when it was 28 degrees outside. Wayne supported Manly of all clubs to support.

At peace now.

## David Young

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We sadly lost a great Briar and champion bloke recently with the passing of David Young aged 64. Youngy was a wonderful family man, he was a beloved husband to Sue, father, grandfather, son, brother and friend to many.

Dave played for the Briars for some 21 seasons, across the top 4 grades between 1975/76 - 1991/92 and then 5 seasons of Masters between 2002/03-2007/08. Dave's dad Noel and his uncle Ray were prominent Briars during the 60s and 70s and his brothers Matt and Geoff were also popular players during the 80s and 90s.

Dave was a hard hitting left handed batsmen and a 'partnership breaking' medium pacer. He won 2nd grade premierships at the club and scored 2,724 runs @ 21.96 across the top 4 grades with nearly half of those in 2nd grade, he took 34 wickets @ 21.38 and also took 46 catches.

We will miss Youngy, he was a wonderful guy and our thoughts and prayers are with the whole Young family.

## Martin Vaughan Watts

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It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of one of our esteemed long-time members, Marty Watts. *(The photo included is of Marty Watts in his Briars basketball days)*

Marty, unlike many of his Trinity Grammar school mates, joined Briars Sports a few years later to play cricket. By his own admission he was not the best cricketer, but thoroughly enjoyed playing with the Briars cricket, mainly in the C&S but also spent some time playing in third grade.

Marty played with the club from 1975 until 1991 and was always someone who could be relied upon to turn up on time, every time properly attired and ready to play in whatever role he was given. In that time, he scored 633 runs, took 3 wickets and 13 catches.

He was always willing to help in all club activities and was a great supporter of volunteering multiple days at the golf tournaments every year. He also supported the social functions and never missed an annual dinner until his later years. Marty was just proud to be called a Briar.

Marty will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him. May his legacy of camaraderie and devotion continue to inspire us all.

## Ken Williams

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It is with great sadness that we share news of the passing of Ken Williams who played rugby union for Briars. Our condolences to all of Ken's family, friends and teammates.

Ken played 749 matches for Drummoyne Rugby before leaving the club in 1994 to play for Briars. He played a further 201 games for Briars. Ken also played 55 games for the police force, which was a little-known fact. By the time Ken hung up his boots he had played a total of 1,005 games.

## Carole Pomroy

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It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of our esteemed women's bowls member, Carole Pomroy.

Carole joined Greenlees Park Women's Bowling Club in October 2017, following the closure of her beloved original club, Concord RSL Bowling Club. From the outset, Carole immersed herself in our club, serving as both a lead bowler and a valuable member of our Management Committee.

## Kevin Bolger

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It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Kevin Bolger on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February. Kevin was a cherished member of Greenlees Park Bowling Club. His presence will be profoundly missed.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Kevin's family and friends during this difficult time.

## Giuseppe (Pino) Migliaccio

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It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Pino, a cherished member of Greenlees Park Bowling Club. His presence will be profoundly missed.

# Burwood Briars Cricket



## Chairman's Report

Damian Price



### Season Summary

*1<sup>st</sup> Grade continue their run of grand finals and take out the premiership this season against Georges River. Four grand finals in a row are a fantastic achievement.*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Grade unfortunately fell short at the final hurdle, finishing runners up to Georges River. The third grand final in a row for this side.*

*3<sup>rd</sup> Grade had a back-to-back premiership win this season defeating Warringah, after dominating the finals series.*

*4<sup>th</sup> Grade put up a great fight in the semi-finals only to fall 4 runs short to eventual runners up Epping.*

*5<sup>th</sup> Grade had a tough season falling short of the finals but provided a pathway for many players to compete in the higher grades.*

It is an honour to be writing this report as Chairman of Burwood Briars, especially after another successful season on and off the field, as we continued our run of Club Championships to 12 in a row, combined with Premierships for 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade. It amazes me that we consistently achieve the results we do but being able to see all the work that goes on behind the scenes, and the passion and dedication of so many, it doesn't surprise me. 1 club championship is a great achievement, to be able to do it 12 years in a row is an amazing result.

A big thankyou to Anthony Clarke, who stepped down from the role as Chairman this season and was a massive support to me in my first year in the position. The work that he has put in for this club, alongside Brett Howle as Treasurer and Declan Kennedy as Secretary, has put this club in a very strong position and we look to continue the success for many years to come. A quick note to highlight the amazing effort by Clarkey to be able to get 5 Briars games onto the field in Round 9 against Pennant Hills after 2 of their grounds were shut. The result was a clean sweep to Briars, meaning a big jump in club champs points and individual team points in the run into finals!

Congratulations to Max Squire and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade who were able to continue their run of grand finals and take out the premiership this season against Georges River. Four grand finals in a row are a fantastic achievement.

Declan Kennedy and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade side unfortunately fell short at the final hurdle, finishing runners up to Georges River. The third grand final in a row for this side.

Congratulations to Alex Favotto and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade on back-to-back Premierships, defeating Warringah after dominating the finals series.

Mark Smyck and the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade side put up a great fight in the semi-final only to fall 4 runs short to eventual runners up Epping.

Michael Taberner and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade had a tough season falling short of the finals but providing the opportunity for many players to take the field and provide a pathway into the higher grades.

We had 3 Chappelow Cup sides representing Burwood Briars, and a thank you to Asita Galapatti (Brothers), Simon Thorne (Gold) and Luke Antoniadis (Maroon) for leading their respective teams. Brothers finished in the top 8 but were unfortunately knocked out in week 1 of the finals. Our Gold and Maroon team provided an opportunity for many new players to represent Burwood Briars, with the bulk of Simon's team, Concord Briars juniors taking the step into senior cricket for the first time. This should ensure that we have future success as these players develop and move up the grades.



The individual winners of the annual awards were:

David Walker Trophy	<i>Services to Cricket</i>	Declan Kennedy
Ted Watt Trophy	<i>Best New talent</i>	Harry Pounds
Richard Tregeagle Trophy	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Grade Players Player</i>	Brenton Wright
Gerard Price Trophy	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Players Player</i>	Harry Lee
Anthony Clarke Trophy	<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Players Player</i>	Jack Benchoam
Peter Mansford Trophy	<i>4<sup>th</sup> Grade Players Player</i>	Sanjiv Khalkho
Will Hood Trophy	<i>Chappelow Cup</i>	Luke Antoniadis
	<i>5<sup>th</sup> Grade Players Player</i>	Patrick Roach
Paul Price Trophy	<i>Under 24's Players Player</i>	Harry Lee
Bill Hooker Trophy	<i>Masters / Classics Player</i>	Matt Turner

## 1st Grade | Premiers

Max Squire | Captain

I want to congratulate and thank all supporters and followers of Briars Cricket. You have all played a role in our clubs' incredible achievement this season. Whether you're a player, administrator, or supporter, you have all contributed to our success and should be very proud of yourself. I would also like to thank all our



great captains. You have all done an excellent job, and a special mention goes out to Luke, Simon, and Tabsy for their terrific job trying to nurture the next crop of Briars. The committee was brilliant once again, and I would love to take a moment to congratulate Damian on the brilliant job he did in his first year as chairman. The transition felt seamless for me, which says a lot, as Clarkey did such a great job.

I would also like to thank PP, Charlie, and Clarkey for their outstanding support of our team. We appreciate what you do for us;

your work mustn't be taken for granted. Clarkey almost single-handedly delivered us this club championship with his remarkable efforts to get five home games in a day or two turnarounds.

I would love to thank Debbie Holmes, Paul Roper, and Graeme Durrant. Debbie was a welcome addition to the team, and Paul and Graeme continue to do a fantastic job for the club.

To my mate Fav and his fantastic team, congratulations to you all. To go back-to-back is a remarkable achievement, although you had Burks and Poundsy, so you're blatantly cheating, and there needs to be an asterisk on your trophy for this season

I am so unbelievably proud of my team. Over the past four seasons, we have played in 4 grand finals and now won 2 of them. That equates to a lot of wins but also some devastating losses, none more so than the public execution we suffered in last season's grand finale at the hands of our mates Strathfield and Sydney Shires Umpires and Scorers Association. This loss was so soul-destroying that it left 11 grown men crying in the corner of a karaoke room in the middle of the CBD at 3 in the morning whilst we tried our hardest to celebrate the 2nd and 3rd-grade premierships. A loss so devastating that Jamie and Diren were deported from the country, Burty is still under house arrest, Ropes... well, that's still under investigation, and Kova has basically had a full-time career since he said... and I quote, "I'm gonna drive off the Iron Cove Bridge".

Our team is tough, yes, we may have some questionable characters.....but our character cannot be

questioned. This premiership makes me incredibly proud, but it does not surprise me.

Our team was built on enthusiasm and commitment, with our main goal being to enjoy every weekend we have with one another whilst we set out to play disciplined and skilful cricket.

Our regular season was littered with highlights and some solid performances, but there were a few reasons why we won the comp.

First and foremost, as mentioned, is our character, I continuously stress that our primary goal is to enjoy every day we play together; if we do that, the results will take care of themselves. A considerable part of that is having AJ return for an entire season. AJ has now won 5 1st grade premierships, and in each season, he has played an integral part, whether through his performances, tactical decisions or his ability to say the right thing at the right time to set our team off in the right direction. That character leads us to play a brand of cricket that can maximise our ability. We may not be the most skilled batters, but we are the toughest. Each week we would do enough as a batting unit, and throughout the season, every one of the top 7 or 8 had put in at least one innings where they could say we got 6 points off the back of their performance. This mindset always carries over to our fielding, where we continuously make our opposition fight for every run.

Another reason is our Bowling attack. After they blew out a few cobwebs Kova and Benny were back to their brilliant best and they were bolstered by the incredible addition of Cameron Holmes. If the opposition got through the three of them, then they would have to deal with BJ and sometimes Xavier and Ash. Alex Vendrasco was also incredible for us earlier in the season before a couple of bad injuries prevented him from forcing me to make some complicated selections.

Another reason why we won the comp is simple. We have BJ. I cannot speak highly enough of this guy. He is obviously the best player in the comp, yet he is so much more than just a great player. He is genuinely a remarkable Briar.

So basically, toward the season's back end, the team started to peak at the right time, and we had the perfect combination to win games. If there was anything in the wicket, we will bat tougher than you and our attack will blow you away - see a truly bizarre Qualifying final against Lane Cove. If that doesn't work, then the best player in the comp will pull out a performance to make you cry and then quit; see the semi-final v Strathfield Cricket Club.

As we all predicted, the Grand Final was as predictable as ever, With BJ taking no wickets and Tim Rose batted River into submission. Job done! We will be close again next season!

#### Burwood Briars 1st Grade Statistic - Season 22/23

Max Squire	460 Runs @ 35.4 - 7 Catches
Andrew Jalalaty	174 Runs @ 24.9 - 14 Catches and 2 Stumpings
Xavier Tregeagle	198 Runs @ 18 - 7 Wickets @ 18.4 - 5 Catches
Tom Moffitt	227 Runs @ 15.1 - 3 Wickets @ 9 - 5 Catches
Tim Rose	214 Runs @ 19.5 - 2 Catches
Aidan Gardner	281 Runs @ 25.6 - 2 Wickets @ 59.5 - 4 Catches
Brenton Wright	433 Runs @ 33.3 - 29 Wickets @ 10.62 - 2 Catches
Jack Kovacic	18 Wickets @ 14.5 - 2 Catches
Ben Van den Nieuwenhof	22 Wickets @ 19.5 - 72 Runs @ 24 - 6 Catches
Alex Vendrasco	10 Wickets @ 12.9
Cameron Holmes	32 Wickets @ 8.8 - 90 Runs @ 10 - 5 Catches
Ash Squire	11 Wickets @ 6.1 - 104 @ 26
Simon Nardo	44 Runs @ 22

## 2nd Grade | Runners-Up

Declan Kennedy | Captain

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Season 2023/24 for Second grade was another successful one which saw us finish minor premiers and runners up, with many individual and team highlights. Thank you to everyone who contributed throughout



the season on and off the field. Special mention to Damian Price on your first year as Chairman, bringing the Club Champs back home yet again! Also, massive congratulations to Maxie and Fav on your premierships. Max, you're a true leader and inspiration for all briars and seeing you succeed brings happiness to us all. Fav, you are a truly great competitor, and your success comes as no surprise given your hard work and determination, can't wait to see what you do with this lot next season!

Harry Lee and Peter McKell were our spearheads all year, taking a combined 71 wickets. Harry finished with 39 wickets and Pete 32. The lethal left arm attack proved key in our victories. Both also contributed with the Bat and made skippering the side much easier having such versatile players throughout the order!

It is no surprise both these players featured in the game of the season which saw us take on Penno at St Lukes after both Pennant Hills grounds were washed out. Pete took 6 wickets meaning we had 165 runs to get. We fell to 7/48 and then 8/70 before Harry Lee and Jimmy Threlkeld combined for a 90-run 9th wicket partnership to see us home. Jimmy was outstanding on the day and has proven to be quite the handy lower order batsmen when called upon.

Karl Vendrasco put in another outstanding season finishing second grade's leading run scorer. The highlight of his season came against Lane Cove, where he made light work of their attack, belting 105 including 13 fours and 2 sixes. Karl also topped the competition's run tally in second grade, a terrific achievement.

John Papathanasiou debuted in second grade this season, taking 5fa on his debut against NW Sydney at Kanebridge Oval. Pap showed great signs of maturity and skill throughout the year and can't wait to see where he goes in the years to come!

Hugh Sims had another great year, amassing over 300 runs including three 50's at the top of the order. Sam Cullen impressed with the gloves and stood tall with the bat, despite edging a beamer to the keeper in the granny and being given out! DK had 1 good innings of 148 against Warringah. The return of Simon Nardo was inspirational to all who played with him, so good Max took him for the finals! Sanket keeps proving he's young at heart and Daws has bigger and better years ahead of him! Damian Price put together another solid season, even with bigger things on his mind, he continually stepped up and put his best foot forward on the field.

In total we had 26 players contribute to our season, and I thank every one of you for doing so. Although I couldn't mention all of you by name, please know your efforts don't go unnoticed and I look forward to seeing you develop and prosper in the years to come!

Congratulations again to everyone involved this season and bring on 2024/25!

## Batting

Player	M	I	AVG	R's	NO's	50's	100's	0's	HS	4's	6's
Vendrasco, Karl	14	15	35.69	464	2	3	1	0	105	54	4
Sims, Hugh	13	16	22.07	309	2	3	0	0	58	29	4
Kennedy, Declan	12	13	25.42	305	1	1	1	2	148	31	5
McKell, Peter	11	11	17.55	193	0	1	0	3	66	20	5
Karkare, Sanket	11	12	15.33	184	0	0	0	0	37	15	0
Lee, Harrison	11	10	36.6	183	5	0	0	0	47*	19	1
Tregeagle, Xavier	2	2	80	160	0	1	1	0	108	19	0
Nardo, Simon	8	7	36	144	3	1	0	1	59*	16	0
Price, Damian	13	9	14.86	104	2	0	0	3	33	8	1
Dawson, Adrian	6	8	17.4	87	3	1	0	0	52*	2	0
Threlkeld, James	9	5	86	86	4	1	0	0	57*	5	0
Cullen, Samuel	8	6	18.5	74	2	0	0	0	22	5	1
Roper, Matthew	6	5	17.75	71	1	0	0	2	35	4	2
Peters, Alexander	3	3	22	66	0	0	0	0	48	9	0
Peters, Harry	5	5	14.25	57	1	0	0	1	37*	6	0
Cullen, Douglas	5	4	13.75	55	0	0	0	0	30	6	0
Barton-Bissaker, Kale	3	4	10.33	31	1	0	0	0	16*	1	0
Papathanasiou, John	7	6	7.25	29	2	0	0	0	15	1	0
Kovacic, Jack	3	1	12	12	0	0	0	0	12	1	0
Maxwell, Philip	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Vendrasco, Alex	4	1		1	1	0	0	0	1*	0	0
Lee, Joshua	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Metcalfe, Greg	2	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sims, Will	2	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Davis, Stephen	1	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arnold, Ned	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

## Bowling

Player	M	W	R	Ovrs	5Wis	BB	Avg	Strike Rate
Lee, Harrison	11	39	424	182	2	5\36	10.87	28
McKell, Peter	11	32	406	162.4	1	6\24	12.69	30.5
Dawson, Adrian	6	17	186	93	0	4\17	10.94	32.82
Papathanasiou, John	7	14	214	97.3	1	5\16	15.29	41.79
Price, Damian	13	13	353	147.5	0	3\14	27.15	68.23
Roper, Matthew	6	11	178	74.5	1	5\9	16.18	40.82
Threlkeld, James	9	11	259	101	0	2\21	23.55	55.09
Tregeagle, Xavier	2	5	64	35	1	5\43	12.8	42
karkare, sanket	11	5	100	43	0	2\13	20	51.6
Sims, Hugh	13	4	17	7.5	0	2\4	4.25	11.75
Kovacic, Jack	3	3	62	20	0	3\62	20.67	40

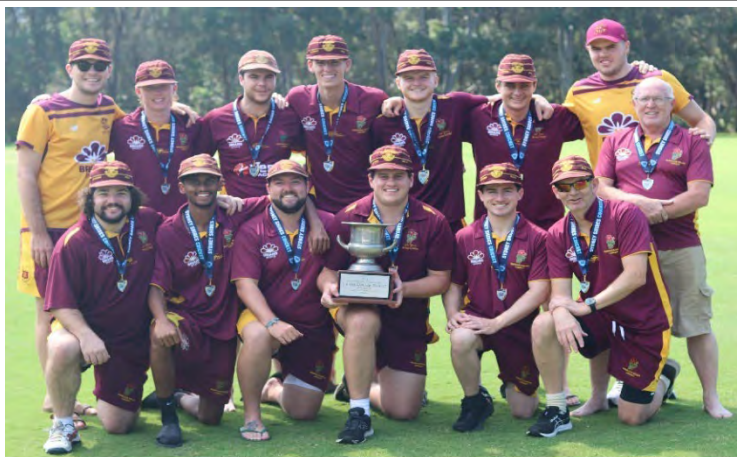
Vendrasco, Alex	4	3	73	20	0	2\31	24.33	40
Arnold, Ned	5	2	118	41	0	1\23	59	123
Vendrasco, Karl	14	1	13	4	0	1\13	13	24
Davis, Stephen	1	1	33	15	0	1\33	33	90
Metcalfe, Greg	2	0	33	12	0	0\9		

### Fielding

Player	Catches	Runouts	Stumpings
Cullen, Samuel	12	5	2
Kennedy, Declan	9	1	0
Price, Damian	8	1	0
Threlkeld, James	7	0	0
Vendrasco, Karl	7	4	0
Sims, Hugh	6	2	0
Peters, Harry	6	0	0
Lee, Harrison	5	0	0
McKell, Peter	4	0	0
Roper, Matthew	3	0	0
Cullen, Douglas	3	0	0
Nardo, Simon	3	0	0
Papathanasiou, John	2	0	0
Karkare, Sanket	2	1	0
Barton-Bissaker, Kale	2	0	0
Dawson, Adrian	1	1	0
Tregeagle, Xavier	1	0	0
Vendrasco, Alex	1	0	0
Peters, Alexander	1	0	0
Metcalfe, Greg	1	0	0
Arnold, Ned	0	1	0

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade | Premiers

Alex Favotto | Captain



Firstly, I would like to say thank you to all the incredible people we have at our club that make it so special. Our club is so successful because of the people we have volunteering their time to make all the cogs turn. Damian, Anthony, Brett, my fellow captains, and of course all the players, thanks for your contribution this season, and congratulations to everyone on achieving a record 12<sup>th</sup> Club Championship, and to First Grade on their dominating premiership.

Third grade had the difficult task of defending our premiership from last season, and boy oh boy did we deliver. At the end of the season, we finished third on the table, but it probably was not a fair reflection on our season. We only lost one match during the regular season and were withheld from pushing further up the ladder with three frustrating draws. When we played, we were dominant, particularly in the one-day games where we won three games with a bonus point. Our bowling was particularly strong in the regular season with a couple of breakthrough seasons for Jack Benchoam and John Papathanasiou regularly leading the attack, both registering 20+ wicket seasons in Third Grade. We consistently bowled teams out for low totals and consequently there weren't many opportunities for our batsmen to shine. There were a few crucial contributions with the bat from Alex Peters with 100\* vs Lindfield, Sam Cullen with 74 vs Balmain South Sydney and Zoya Thakur with 58 vs Strathfield which drove us to results.

In the final's games, we were simply dominant. In the qualifying final we batted Strathfield out of the game taking advantage of our higher place on the table. Strathfield gave up when we were 6-304 halfway through day two with sensational performances from Harry Pounds (85), Peter Burkhart (81\*), and Vrish Pendyala (56 off 249!). Bowling first against Northwest Sydney in the semi-final, James Threlkeld dominated with 4-17 to see the Hurricanes all out for 103. In reply, we were 2-211 when the Hurricanes gave up with our batsman Alex Favotto (105\*) and Peter Burkhart (51\*) not giving the Hurricanes a sniff.

The final against Warringah was the match-up that was meant to be, with the two best teams reaching the pinnacle of the season. Bowling first we knocked over Warringah for 168 with Jack Benchoam and Vrish Pendyala both taking four wickets each in fantastic spells. In reply, we were again just too good. Michael Hannelly was sent in as a nightwatchman but showed his class with a fantastic 38, including hitting the winning runs (not forgetting his five catches behind the stumps in the bowling innings). The real grand final superstar was Harry Pounds with 102\* who never looked like getting out and was deservedly awarded man of the match honours. Despite only having four innings in Third Grade, Harry ended up with the second most runs in the season, simply outstanding and certainly due for a permanent visitation to First Grade next year!

There were five players from this team that went back-to-back – Alex Peters, James Threlkeld, Douglas Cullen, Phil Maxwell, and me. It was fantastic to have Peter Burkhart around the club this year. His experience and cricket nous were invaluable, but more importantly the relationship he has with all the players despite his standing in the NSW cricket community was remarkable. Thank you to my ever-reliable insurance policy and great mate Phil Maxwell, your support throughout the season as a second captain is a huge reason why we have gone back-to-back.

#Theresonlyone

## Batting

Player	M	I	AVG	R's	HS
Alex Favotto	13	14	33.15	431	105
Harry Pounds	5	4	85.33	256	102
Peter Burkhart	8	8	61.75	247	81
Vrish Pendyala	13	12	20.56	185	67
Sam Cullen	5	4	39.25	157	74
Phil Maxwell	11	6	28	140	40
Kale Barton-Bissaker	6	5	33.75	135	64
Alex Peters	8	5	32.5	130	100
Adrian Dawson	4	4	34	102	61

## Bowling

Player	W's	M's	Overs	5fa	Best Bowling Figures
Jack Benchoam	29	26	145.3	1	6\26

John Papathanasiou	21	12	61.1	0	4\16
James Threlkeld	13	25	77	0	4\17
Phil Maxwell	12	21	80	0	4\8
Ned Arnold	12	25	89.2	0	3\32
Adrian Dawson	10	14	36	0	3\6
Neeraj Arora	9	2	40.1	0	3\21
Vrish Pendyala	8	15	63.2	0	4\41
Lloyd Andrews	4	5	15	0	2\11

## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade | Semi Finalists

Mark Smyck | Captain

What another amazing season for this club. Premiers in 1<sup>st</sup> Grade & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, Runners up in 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade and a 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive Club championship! A phenomenal effort from everyone involved, from 1<sup>st</sup> grade all



the way down to Chappelow Cup. We all work & train together to make each other better for the current season and into the future.

For 4<sup>th</sup> grade, it was another season of what could have been.

The season started with another disappointing loss against Auburn, that's two years in a row to the same club. But with that result being the only loss before the Christmas break, we put ourselves in a great position on the ladder. Losses in rounds 10 and 11 put us in a precarious position as the fight

for the top 6 heated up as teams fought for a finals berth. Wins in the final 2 rounds secured our 4<sup>th</sup> place position, but it was our win against top placed Warringah in the final round that secured the club's 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive Club championship.

The team finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the standings, we were unable to get passed Epping in the Qualifying Final with some less than proficient umpiring helping their cause. 1<sup>st</sup> placed Strathfield lost their match against 6<sup>th</sup> placed NW Sydney by 1 wicket and were dismissed 1 run past their total. This result meant we were unable to progress through to the semis as the lowest ranked team.

Throughout the season, there were many highlights:

- Peter Burkhart winding back the clock and showing everyone that he's still got it, scoring 276 runs in 4 innings before making his way up to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.
- Watching many young players having the opportunity to play 4<sup>th</sup> grade showing the potential they possess such as Will Sims, Ali Smith, & Harry McCarthy. Looking forward to seeing how they go in the future.
- Anthony Clarke making a return to 4<sup>th</sup> grade after several years and still displaying a high level of control with the ball that made him such an important player for the team.

Well done to all the captains and the effort that has been put in all season long, both on and off the field. The work put into selecting teams, finding availabilities at short notice, the communication that is constant and ongoing 7 days a week. Congratulations to Max Squire and your Grand final redemption for 1<sup>st</sup> grade.

Congratulations to Alex Favotto and another 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade premiership. And a massive well done to Declan Kennedy and his 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade team for finishing runners up.

Thank you to all the other contributors that work behind the scenes to continue the success and momentum this club has continued to show. They include the committee, everyone involved in our social media posts and updates; Our scorers Paul Roper, Graeme Durrant & Deb Holmes; Paul Price, Brett Howle, Declan Kennedy and Anthony Clarke with all their crucial work when it comes to all the important smaller details, i.e. financials, sponsorships, uniforms, shires sub-committee duties.

I'd like to thank Anthony Clarke once again, as he filled in as 4<sup>th</sup> grade skipper for a couple games. With a 100% record, of course. But his knowledge and insight when it came to several match incidents that had occurred during the season, taught me plenty and assisted in my pursuit for some vindication. But his advice and positivity on the field made it a very enjoyable season, for me and the rest of the team. Your work as Briars Cricket chairman in recent years and the Shires sub-committee is done without celebration but should be applauded and recognised by everyone. Thank you mate.

But a massive thank you and congratulations to Damian Price who, prior to season, told me of his intention to put his hand up and step up as cricket chairman. I supported his decision, knowing many others also backed him and were ready to support him towards our charge for another Club championship. And I'm glad we were able to achieve this and continue the run of Club Championship success that was started by his father, Gerard.

Theres only One Burwood Briars!

### Batting

Player	M	I	NO's	50's	100's	0's	4's	6's	HS	RUNS	AVE
Burkhart, Peter	4	4	1	2	1	0	27	1	104*	276	69
Andrews, Lloyd	6	4	1	2	0	0	17	0	55	156	52
Smyck, Mark	11	9	0	0	0	0	11	0	29	134	14.89
Hannelly, Michael	7	7	2	0	0	1	11	1	41*	127	18.14
Sims, Will	6	7	0	1	0	0	16	0	69	125	17.86
Pounds, Harry	5	4	1	1	0	1	7	4	70*	114	28.5
Smith, Ali	2	5	2	1	0	0	8	0	71*	104	34.67
Harrington, Matthew	5	6	0	0	0	1	7	0	34	94	15.67
Khalkho, Sanjiv	9	6	3	1	0	0	15	0	72*	94	15.67
Roach, Patrick	6	7	1	0	0	1	5	0	44	88	14.67
Smith, Chris	6	2	0	1	0	0	4	0	57	68	34
McCarthy, Harry	5	5	1	0	0	1	3	1	27*	57	11.4
Doyle, Henry	6	5	2	0	0	0	3	0	17*	42	8.4
Thakur, Zoya	3	3	1	0	0	1	1	0	35*	38	12.67
Powell, Keegan	5	3	2	0	0	0	1	0	12*	32	32
Gordon, Michael	5	4	1	0	0	1	1	0	19*	30	7.5
Clarke, Anthony	11	4	1	0	0	1	3	0	10	26	6.5
Warpe, Amar	9	5	1	0	0	0	2	0	14	23	4.6
Wright, William	5	3	1	0	0	2	0	1	10*	10	5

### Bowling

Player	M	Overs	M	R	W	5Wi	B/B
Khalkho, Sanjiv	9	93	30	193	24	1	5/19



Clarke, Anthony	11	103.1	34	253	22	0	4/18
Warpe, Amar	9	112	35	219	17	1	5/17
Doyle, Henry	6	92.5	28	216	14	0	3/24
Metcalfe, Greg	3	48.1	15	97	8	0	4/29
Wright, William	5	40	7	115	7	0	3/25
Pounds, Harry	5	24	7	53	5	0	3/11
Powell, Keegan	5	27	5	93	5	0	3/26
Martin, Zac	3	42	7	133	4	0	3/51
Papathanasiou, John	2	28	7	73	4	0	2/32
Pendyala, Vrish	2	16.1	3	52	4	0	3/14
Andrews, Lloyd	6	8	2	24	3	0	3/24
Roach, Patrick	6	15	0	72	3	0	2/43
Smyck, Mark	11	22	5	72	3	0	1/7
Thakur, Zoya	3	29	8	66	3	0	2/18
Gordon, Michael	5	10	3	36	1	0	1/19

## Fielding

Player	Catches	Runouts	Stumpings
Doyle, Henry	9	0	
McCarthy, Harry	7	0	1
Smith, Ali	6	1	4
Gordon, Michael	5	0	
Burkhart, Peter	4	1	
Andrews, Lloyd	3	0	
Clarke, Anthony	3	0	
Hannelly, Michael	3	0	
Pounds, Harry	3	0	
Warpe, Amar	3	1	
Harrington, Matthew	2	0	
Khalkho, Sanjiv	2	0	
Smyck, Mark	2	0	
Thakur, Zoya	2	0	

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Michael Taberner | Captain

In a season that saw only 4 wins, superficially non-Briar's season in many aspects, my immediate thought was that the less said the better. I was not buoyed when the download file from PlayHQ measured only 8.7kb!

On some reflection, we know this game of cricket is a funny one. And stats do not always tell the story, although some do help paint the picture. The one statistic to help describe our season the best would be that 51 players in total represented the Briars in 5<sup>th</sup> grade in 19 matches. 18 of those 51 players were new

to the club this year. As a result, selections were tough, coordinating covers repetitive (we only played 2 away games!), and remembering everyone name slightly awkward at times.

The opportunity to step in as 5<sup>th</sup> Grade skipper was one that I relished, and getting to continue with the guys I had seen come through the Chappelow grades in previous years. I thank Damian Price for the opportunity to do so.

Grant Croft, Peter Warne, Luca Paoella and Chris Smith – the “stalwarts” of 5s played more than 10 games were ever reliable and lots of fun to play with.

A big thank you to club stalwarts such as Paul Pannutti, Scott Brennan, Michael Towells, Lloyd Andrews,



Matt Turner, Sanjiv Khalko and Anthony Clarke who gladly imparted some knowledge and applied their skills when playing in 5s, albeit on a temporary basis.

A big thank you to guys such as Michael Hannelly, Harry McCarthy, Matt Harrington, Amar Warpe and John Ppathanasiou who helped in odd weeks and split availability and were happy for the game.

I tried my best to convince other skippers that the likes of Harry Pounds and Peter Burkhart “could use one more game in 5s” at various times. I was

fortunate enough to get the chance to play with these guys.

We saw the further development of many of our Chappelow guys coming through the ranks, and while results didn’t necessarily go our way, were much better cricketers by the end of the season. Guys like Will Sims, Ali Smith, Zac Guthrie, Zach Thorne, Luca Paoella, Josh Harrold, Zac Martin, Will Wright, Jack Harris and Daniel Boyd all have big futures in our club in higher grades if they want it.

I loved playing with every single player and would happily do so again.

The best moment? It would be hard to beat getting that message from the “Cordon” confirming that we had secured our latest Club Championship while we were playing against Warringah, a rewarding confirmation that the effort to help the club get the best XI on the field in higher grades was all worth it.

### Top Batters

Player	Mat
Croft, Grant	149
Taberner, Michael	125
Smith, Ali	105
Roach, Patrick	102
Khadse, Gaurav	87
Powell, Keegan	76

### Bowling

Player	Wickets	Avg
Roach, Patrick	15	11.13
Paoella, Luca	13	15.23

Warne, Peter	13	21.92
Macic, Adam	8	12.5
Iqbal, Ibrahem	7	12
Martin, Zac	7	14
Towells, Michael	7	9.71
Gordon, Chris	7	13.14

Statistics for those that played but not listed above can be found on Play HQ.

## D.C. Cup - Gold

Simon Thorne | Captain

The 2023/24 season for most of the Chappelow Gold team was their first full season of Seniors Cricket and whilst our final position on the table was towards the bottom, it is not reflective of the effort, commitment



and developing talent in the team. For most of the season, 10 of the team were aged 17 or under and except for maybe 3 games the guys pushed the opposition in every match. Despite their age, each player had matches where their individual performances significantly influenced the momentum of the game.

Throughout the season, this team consistently showed belief and energy, confident in their ability to turn any game around. They frequently challenged several of the top teams, earning praise from opposition captains and umpires for their performance,

regardless of the final scores.

As mentioned, everyone made valuable contributions throughout the season, but a few standout performances deserve special recognition, especially considering that some of these players were only 15 at the season's start.

### Batting

- Josh Harrold 242 runs (opening),
- Hamish O'Brien 223 runs (opening),
- Haris Malik 195 runs.

### Bowling

- Josh Harrold 22 wickets, including 4 for 0 on 1 occasion and 4 for 12 on 2 occasions.

### Fielding

- Ben Ronan was outstanding in the field with 9 catches and Hamish O'Brien 7 catches as wicket keeper.

There were many individual highlights this season, but as a team, putting the undefeated Burwood Briars Brothers on the ropes truly showcased the energy and potential of this young squad. The belief that, if not

for the rain, they could have pulled off an upset speaks volumes about their spirit and talent, foreshadowing an exciting future for the club.

Regular contributions from Zach Thorne, Raff Kitching, and Jamal Tuman, often stepping in at short notice, were invaluable. In a couple of matches, the younger players also benefitted from the experience and guidance of Grant Croft and Adam Macic.

At 52, this was my first season with Briars, and I'm grateful for the opportunity—not only to play but to have the privilege of captaining this young side. A big thank you to the Club, as well as to the other captains and committee members, for their support and shared knowledge throughout the season.

**The Team:** *Harris Malik, Ben Ronan, Luke Strmecki, Josh Harrold, Harry Walsh, Dylan Grainger, Josh Hardiman, Ness Vasa, Zac Guthrie, Owen Healy, Simon Thorne, Zach Thorne, Raff Kitching, Jamal Tuman, Grant Croft & Adam Macic.*

## D.C. Cup - Maroon

Luke Antoniadis | Captain

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The Briars Maroon 2023/24 season had its up and downs. My main objective for the season was to have



our players improve week on week which I could say we achieved that. My captaincy style was to put the onus back onto the players, get them thinking about their plans with the bat and ball. We struggled to stay consistent throughout the entire season, which was expected as most of the boys were in their first few years playing senior cricket. We started off strong, winning 3 of our first 4 games before slipping off after Christmas which got us finishing in 11<sup>th</sup> place. Special mention must go out to Eugene Morozoff who helped me out with the team. This was my first time

captaining any side, so having an experienced player like him went a long way.

### Individual Standouts

- **Yahiya Arshad Mehar:** Yahiya continued his development with the bat with several good performances, highlighted by his 64 vs Briars Gold. Ending the season with 225 runs, the 17-year-old could bowl accurate off-spin which provided a point of difference to our deep bowling line-up.
- **Manfred Besier:** His first season at the club, Manfred is a dangerous opening bowler who never let the batsmen off the hook with his consistent line and length. Manfred did not play our first 3 games but still ended up taking the most wickets with 20 @ 10.5, with a PB of 4-4. He also can in handy with the aggressive batting style and chipped in some much-needed runs in the tail.
- **Jack Eccleston:** The talented all-rounder proved to be a handful all season. Opening the batting, and being our first change bowler, Jack was a crucial member of our team. Ended the season with 195 runs @ 19.5 and 12 wickets.
- **Matthew Morozoff:** The youngster was in his first season in senior cricket and provided life to our team with his random outbursts and noteworthy advice. Matthew bowls consistent line and length and improved dramatically with the bat from the start of the season to the end. His best performance was 33\* vs Pennant Hills.
- **Daniel Boyd:** Another player in his first season of senior cricket, Daniel demonstrated great technique with the bat, spun a web at times throughout the season. Although his fielding still needs work, he has a bright future at this club.

## Season Highlights

Round 1 – vs Strathfield Black – Chasing 160, our openers Cooper Adaimy and Yahiya Arshad Mehar withstood their opening bowlers before Grant Croft came in and made a quickfire 41. But this game was the breakout party for Luke Antoniadis, who was captaining his first game ever, and was the leader force for the victory with 44 not out.

Round 4 – vs Briars Gold – Another great performance from Luke Antoniadis, who finished with 50 (41) not out, but Yahiya Arshad Mehar scored his first ever 50 in men’s cricket and was our leading scorer with 64, on our way to a total of 144. All our bowlers were very consistent, and our fielding was faultless as we won comfortably, bowling them out for 104.

Round 5 – vs Bankstown – In his second game opening, Jack Eccleston produced a brilliant batting display as he chalked up 64. Bankstown’s batting lineup provided no match for our very deep bowling attack, restricting them to 116 chasing 160.

Round 9 – vs Auburn Gold – Our English import Chris Gordon was the star of the show, knocking up a remarkable 140 (66), which included 12 4’s and 10 6’s, on our way to a total of 259 off 40 overs. The very inexperienced Auburn Gold side had no hope, falling short with 126.

Round 10 – vs Strathfield White – Winning the toss and bowling first on an overcast day was not such a good idea, as Strathfield posted a total of 212 off their 40 overs. In the run chase, another English import, Harry Pounds demonstrated great poise with the bat and scored an elegant 94, which was the first great score of many he produced for the season. Unfortunately, no one else could hang with him and guide us to the win as we fell short with 153.

Round 11 – vs Auburn Eagles – Chasing 162, we started off poorly at 3-8, before Eugene Morozoff’s (56) and Luke Antoniadis’ (45) resilience 106-run partnership, was the confidence boost the rest of the team needed. The chase was finished off with a clutch 27\* from Daniel Boyd, as we scraped home 7 down. I consider this our best win of the season as we were missing some of our regulars.

Round 14 – vs Georges River – Winning the toss and bowling first on a 40° day. ARE YOU MAD??? That nearly seemed to be a masterstroke, as we got off to an unbelievable start with 4-0 off the first 2 overs, before their middle order batters got settled in and they finished with 113. The chief destroyer was Ismail Arshad Mehar, who had figures of 5-25 off 6. The boys ran out of gas and got bowled out for 58. One that got away.

Round 19 – vs Pennant Hills Pumas – Stand-in captain Eugene Morozoff led the team to a dominant win in our last game of the season. Bowling first, the 5<sup>th</sup> placed Pumas had no answer for our opening bowlers Manfred Besier and Riley Pengilly who took the first 5 wickets in the first 12 overs, before our first changers Chris Gordon and Jack Eccleston cleaned up the last 5 wickets in the next 5 overs, bowling them out for 30. This was chased down in 9 overs. A great end to end the season.

## D.C. Cup - Brothers

Asita Galappatti | Captain



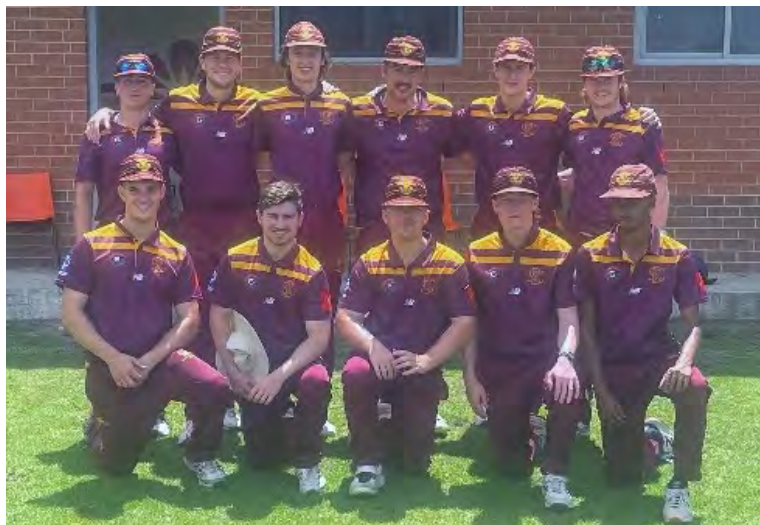
Brothers had a strong regular season, finishing as Minor Premiers with 14 wins from 18 games. Unfortunately, they went down in a tight Quarter Final, with the Chappelow Cup finals system being elimination from week 1, preventing them a second chance.

## Under 24's | Semi Finalists

Harry Lee | Captain

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The Under 24s season for 2023/24 was a year filled with many highs and lows and can be summarised by



our Round 1 performance against Balmain. On a wet, rainy day somehow Jubilee Oval stood up to allow us a limited 37 overs match for our opener. There was not a single debutant in our round 1 side, however Michael Gordon must have broken some sort of record with a 7 year wait between his 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> game in Frank Gray Shield.

The writing looked on the wall early, with Jimmy 'Spiro' Threkeld doing the early damage, and myself feasting on the tail end to roll Balmain for a measly 75. Of course, in true Briars fashion, we collapsed early and only chased down

the total, 7 wickets down in the last over. Superman Adrian Dawson rallied the troops batting 6 scoring 20\* that was worth 100.

In Round 2, we lost the toss and were bowling on a road at Airey Park against Strathfield. Unfortunately, for not the first time in the season, an overseas player played a flawless innings for Strathfield and led them to a solid score of 208. Debutant John Papathanasiou was brilliant with the ball taking 5/35. We once again were in a little trouble early with the bat, but talisman Aidan Gardner scored a brave 91 battling an unforeseen case of 'cramp'. He was supported in the middle order by Threkeld and debutant Harry McCarthy but ultimately, we fell 11 runs short.

With every game must-win from now, we faced a fresh Georges River side, and we weren't entirely convincing. We once again were in trouble with the bat; however, some late order tail wagging and Xavier Tregeagle's 48 allowed us to post a competitive 192. Our bowling and fielding were far too classy for the River side, rolling them for just 100 with John Paps the star again taking 4/21.

The final round of the season was against old rivals Auburn, and we welcomed a new but rather familiar face in Joshua Lee making his debut for Under 24s. We once more established ourselves as an extremely strong bowling and fielding attack, defending 165 on a road at Rothwell Park. Xavier Tregeagle was just that guy, scoring 59, taking 3/17, and took a ripping catch off a Vrish Pendyala soda pop.

We would now finish 2<sup>nd</sup> in our division and lock away a home final against familiar opponents... Auburn.

Just to prove the first time was not a fluke, we now decided to bat even worse and set a total of 128 for Auburn to win. Hugh Sims was the only highlight scoring 37 in what looked to be a tough total to defend. However, once again we proved ourselves to be a side that could fight and find a way with the ball, destroying Auburn's batting order to send them home for just 98. We were heading into our 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive semi-final in Frank Gray Shield full of confidence and belief in our side as a unit... if only we could make it a bit easier by batting to our potential!!

A 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive semi-final against Warringah would dawn upon us at Weldon oval. Our batting once more let us down, with early wickets crumbling, only saved late by a flawless 32\* by Joshua Lee allowing us to at least post a competitive 142. For this first time in the season, we were then unable to capitalise on a great start with the ball, leading to a comfortable victory to Warringah once more. An all too familiar sinking feeling around the group, leaving everyone with many 'what ifs'.

Looking back, I am so incredibly proud to have been able to have led such a wonderful group of brothers (biological and not) which I will never forget. So many times in such a short season we could have dropped or given up, however in true Briars style that was never the case.

Great teams are built around great people, and the group was so privileged to be managed by Alex Favotto and Richard Tregagle. Both these guys always put the team and the club before themselves, going out of their way weekly to optimise team performance and manage admin as well as selections during the week. The support and guidance from Max Squire as a sounding board for myself as well as always making indoor net sessions available for the group to further enhance our game as a unit was invaluable. To our scorer Graeme Durrant, your work scoring our games weekly as well as keeping me in check from an admin view, I could not be more thankful for. It would be remiss of me not to thank club legend Jason Harris. From when I was just 19 starting off in the squad, Jason always believed in me as a person and a player and was the main inspiration for me to become a leader in this group. I know I am just one of the few under 24s players Jason has had a positive impact on over the years. Thank you also to our chairman, Damian Price, for as always supporting the program. Damo was and continues to be an inspiration for all in our group on what it means to be a Briar.

For Matt Harrington, Sam Cullen, Michael Gordon and myself, our pursuit for greatness ends in Under 24s, however the future already looks so bright. A debut season from John Papathanasiou with 13 wickets is something that cannot be overlooked, and with the rest of the group still very young around the ever-present pillars of the team, the club could not be better placed moving into 2024/25 season. To Aidan, Xavier and all the boys playing on next season, I wish nothing but the best for the group in your own pursuits of greatness as a team.

## Briars Masters

Luke Magee | Captain

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The Masters team plays 11 one-day matches each season, every second Sunday, with each team allotted 40 overs. Bowlers are capped at 9 overs, while batters must retire upon reaching 40 runs but can re-enter if the rest of the lineup is dismissed. This often leads to an entertaining scenario where tired openers, now stiff and cold, are called back in the 38th over needing 30 runs to win.

The 2023/24 season saw Burwood Masters struggling for numbers as the stalwarts had graduated to the 50's and 60's and for a while we were considering our options. In the end the association introduced us to some floating players who didn't have a ground or a team, so we welcomed them with open arms. The Briars Sports newsletter also prompted a couple of wives to send their husbands out to play cricket and get out of the house, so we started the season with a lot of fresh talent.

During this season, David Abood stepped down from his captaincy role, with Matt Turner generously taking on the task of leading the new team. It proved to be a challenging season, with 2 wins, 1 tie, and 8 losses. Due to injuries and availability, 30 different players took the field, some in their late 50s, showing up week after week—thank you all for your commitment.

Batting honours go to Matt Turner, who scored an impressive 218 runs at an average of 43, while also taking 9 catches behind the stumps. Ewan Sutton earned bowling honours, claiming 19 wickets at an average of 19. Special mention goes to Nathan Williams for his outstanding 60 not out, though we didn't get as much game time from him as we hoped.

Thanks to everyone for your efforts. It was great to see new talent emerge, and I'm confident we'll hit our stride in the 2024-2025 season!

## Briars Classics

Luke Magee | Manager

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The Classics play 11 one-day matches each season, every other Sunday, with each team allotted 40 overs. Bowlers are limited to 9 overs, and batters must retire at 30 but can return if the rest of the lineup is

dismissed. This often results in exhausted openers being called back in the 38th over, needing 30 runs to win—a scenario that never fails to entertain.

In the 2023/24 season, Burwood Classics fielded 25 different players, reflecting the camaraderie, generosity, and occasional susceptibility to injury within the squad. Despite a slow start, finally clinching a win by Round 4, the team wrapped up the season with 4 wins, 6 losses, and 1 washout, securing a solid 5th place on the table.

Charlie DeGuara led the batting, scoring 248 runs at an average of 41. Special mention goes to Greg Dunn, who boasted an impressive average of 43, as he was never dismissed. Nic McGilvray had a standout season with the ball, taking a 6-wicket haul and finishing with 20 wickets at an average of 9. Steve Rous, as always, set the tone for the team with his leadership and all-around contributions.

One of the most unforgettable games was the “heatwave game” in Campbelltown, where John Menzies suffered from heat stroke, the opposing team was reported for dissent by the umpire, and we faced a tribunal that felt more intense than Toby Greene’s infamous AFL tribunal appearance after his karate kick incident.

Looking forward to season 2024/2025!

## Briars Vintage

Douglas Lato & David Trewin | Captains

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In 2023-24, Burwood Briars joined forces with the Strathfield Cricket Club to enter a team in the Sydney Vintage (Over 60s) competition for the first time, with matches held at both Burwood and Strathfield grounds. The Vintage team proved competitive in this challenging league, earning the prestigious ‘Spirit of Cricket Award’ for their sportsmanship and fair play throughout the season.

Although the Vintage side finished 9th out of 12 teams, there were notable victories against De La Salle Ashfield Old Boys (6/110 vs 109) and Castle Hill (6/149 vs 107). The team also held their own against the top sides, including the eventual champions, Cricketers Club of NSW. In that match, the Vintage team limited them to 154 from 40 overs, scoring 110 in response.

Mark Ridge was named the Vintage ‘Player of the Season’ for his consistently authoritative batting, finishing with 112 runs at an average of 22, including two retirements at 30 not out. Other standout batters included Sadanand Karmakonda, known for his hard-hitting style, who scored two 30 retired not outs, with a rapid 30 off 28 balls against De La Salle. Captain Douglas Lato also made two scores of 30 retired not out. The season’s top bowling performance came from Stuart Lind, with an impressive 4/34 from 7 overs against Lindfield.

Overall, 2023/24 was an enjoyable and successful season for the Burwood/Strathfield 60s team. We played quality cricket and embraced the spirit of the Veterans’ game, thanks to the support from both Burwood and Strathfield clubs for providing facilities and backing us throughout the season.



# Concord Briars Cricket

Presidents Report  
Cameron Arnold



Concord Briars Junior Cricket had a great season with 440 players registered in 2024/25. Our players enjoyed participating across all formats offered under the Junior Cricket Pathway.

15 teams participated in Grand Finals with 6 winners. Horwood Nolan provided ongoing financial support, and we thank them for their vital contribution. I would also like to thank Cricket 360 Academy for their ongoing coaching support.

## Premier teams

- U10 Mixed Concord Briars Yellow
- U10 Mixed Concord Briars Black
- U11 Mixed Concord Briars Blue
- U13 Mixed Concord Briars White
- U13 Girls Concord Briars Gold Summer
- U15 Girls Concord Briars Gold Summer

## Jnr. Cricket Blast U8 Black

Lincoln de Mello & Yvette Douglass | Coach & Manager

The Briars U8 Black 2023/24 team saw 8 boys bond, develop friendships and play in a cricket team for the very first time. Within a few weeks of coaching, training and game day action, the boys drastically improved their skills. From learning to bowl, timing their batting strokes, calling runs between wickets and fielding effectively as a team, they all put in a solid performance to finish the 2023/24 cricket season almost undefeated with many convincing wins. The boys in the team have been bitten by the 'cricket bug' and are very keen on playing cricket again next season.



**The Team:** Alex de Mello, Axel Romano (Most Improved), Ben Douglass, Freddie Coward, Keeran Kanagaratnam, Thomas Cassidy, Ollie Kanagaratnam, Ryan Chowdry.

## Jnr. Cricket Blast U8 Maroon

James Kazaglis & Matthew Simpson | Coach & Manager

It was a very enjoyable and successful season for the u8 Maroon team. Some players started off the season with a good understanding of cricket and others were very new but everyone had a lot of fun and progressed extremely well. There were some great individual and team performances that everyone should



be proud of. Also great friendships were formed. Everyone gave it their best throughout the season and developed their batting, bowling and fielding week by week and finished the season on a high. Well done U8's Maroon!

**The Team:** *Hamish Calder, Jacob Kazaglis, Angus Miller, Alexander Sarlas, Zoe Scott, Conor Simpson, Bradley Tan & Hugo Hall.*

## Jnr. Cricket Blast U9 White

Jack Obaid & Janice Feld | Coach & Manager



**The Team:** *Hamish Brown, Harry Eagleson, Aidan Fitzgerald, Lucas Kukavica, Maeve Nicoll, Colette Obaid, Ryan Smith, Cristian Welsh & Luca Zarantonello.*

Congratulations to the U9 whites for a really good season that saw the kids develop their skills and competitiveness. We are especially proud of the enthusiasm to turn up for training and game day every week and playing with a lot of spirit and respect. All the kids showed improvement at their own pace and standards which is important as they transition to next year's more competitive format. Whilst all the kids displayed different strengths in bowling, batting and fielding, I felt one child managed to tick all the boxes of skill, competitiveness, enthusiasm and attitude. That was Harry Eagleson and he is a deserved winner of our player of the

year award. Thank you to our team manager Janice Feld and all the parents who helped with training sessions and scoring to make my job a lot easier. My hope is that all the kids learn to love the game of cricket even more after this season and can't wait to come back again next year. It's that passion to play and that will keep them in this great game for years to come.

## Jnr. Cricket Blast U9 Maroon

Angus White & Courtney Cutcliffe | Coach & Manager



U9 Maroons embraced a fantastic spirit of learning and fun this season, building on last year with gusto! It was always great to have the families so involved, and to see some of excellent cricket. Thank you in particular to Courtney, Ed and Andy for keeping the season rolling.

**The Team:** *Roman Black, Jaideep Cherukoori, Arlo Cutcliffe, Nicholas Lazar, William Obaid, Rafael Santow, Aarav Shah, Miles White.*

## Jnr. Cricket Blast U9 Black

Ewan Sutton & Kate Wiggins | Coach & Manager

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**The Team:** Joel Agudo, Dhilan Chalasani, Zachary Elliott, Ethan Lissa, Ayaan Mishra, Ethan Sharma, Rocky Smith, Rhys Stewart & Eleanor Sutton.

The 2023/24 season saw the Briars' Under 9 Black family welcome three new players and their families to the team. Unfortunately, we also had to say farewell to Ayaan and his family. We will miss his enthusiasm and the fun he brought to every training session and game. Each training session allowed players to work on explicit skills, which enabled them to grow in confidence, both as individuals, and each as valuable members of the team. As far as results go, the Under 9 Blacks had a successful season, winning most of our games. Each player was able to progress their game as the season progressed, while learning how to contribute as a member of a team. Most importantly, we had FUN!

## Jnr. Cricket U10 Black | Premiers

Chintan Shah & Rebecca McLachlan | Coach & Manager

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The Concord Briars Cricket Team, comprising players meeting for the first time, faced initial challenges in the tournament. With some players experiencing club-level cricket for the first time, the team endured a shaky start, suffering three consecutive losses. However, these setbacks served as a learning curve, fostering team bonding and cohesion. Despite the early losses, the players remained positive, enjoying each other's company and training diligently.



Their perseverance paid off as they embarked on a remarkable turnaround, winning their next nine games consecutively, securing a spot in the semifinals. Continuing their winning streak, they comfortably clinched victory in the semifinal, advancing to the finals. Displaying grit and character, the team maintained their momentum, ultimately emerging triumphant in the finals.

Their fairy tale journey culminated in bringing home the trophy and pride to the Concord Briars Club, creating cherished memories for both players and their families. It's a testament to their hard work, resilience, and unity as a team.

**The Team:** Devrasingh Parmar, Flynn Rennie, Aariv Shah, Danish Sharma, Aditya Trehan, Max Long & Jacob Watson.

## Jnr. Cricket U10 Green

Luke Scott & Dominic Mooney | Coach & Managers

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The Under 10 Green side had an excellent season this year. We had eight returning players from last year with one new player joining us this year which was great to see. Also new to us this year was having wins, losses and statistics tracked which brought about some additional competitive spirit.

We started the year with four straight wins to shoot to the top of the ladder. This matched our total number of wins from last year's entire season! We then followed this with two very close losses, and then two great wins to head into the Christmas break with six wins and two losses, good for second on the ladder.

It truly was a tale of two halves this season, as we came back in 2024 with one good win to start the new year off and then followed with four straight losses which unfortunately put us just outside of semi-final contention. Our last game of the year was against a very good Pirates side who were running first in the

competition and in true Briars Green style, we had an excellent win to finish off the year and finished fifth which is an outstanding result!

To finish the year with eight wins was an outstanding effort from a team that won four games in total last season. A true reflection of our competitiveness throughout the year was the fact that five of our seven losses were by a margin of 19 runs or less. Another impressive feat for the team is the fact that we beat both sides who ended up competing in the grand final, showing that our team are capable of competing and winning against any side! Wins and stats aside, the best measure of success is the improvement witnessed from each and every player throughout the year. This is a great bunch of kids who always show up day in day out to training and games with enthusiasm, a willingness to listen and learn and a desire to play in the true spirit of cricket which is the most important thing to me as the coach. A massive thank you



to Dominic for doing a great job of managing the team again this year and also to Tim for stepping in for me as coach when I wasn't available I'd like to thank all of the players and parents for another great year.

It truly is a pleasure to coach this group of kids. Lastly, I'd like to give a special shout out to Konrad who had a truly remarkable year this year. He finished the year leading the team in both runs (237 – also lead the whole competition) as well as wickets (21 @ 4.19 – second in the competition) to go along with 8 runouts and 4 catches, well done on a fantastic season!

**The Team:** *Isaac Gibson, Campbell Guthrie, Aariz Hyder, Edward Morser, Alexander Nicoll, Clarissa Nicoll, Elizabeth Noyes, Konrad Scott & Morgan Sinclair-Kydd.*

## Jnr. Cricket U10 Blue

Paul Miller & Michael Sunderland | Coach & Manager

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"The Mighty U10 Blues had another great season. We welcomed a new player in Alexia to the team and to watch her and all the others develop, grow & have fun is what coaching is all about.



We won more games than we lost and just missed out on the finals. All the players should be very proud of themselves.

Henry Sunderland picked up the Coaches Award, Thomas Miller picked up Most Runs & Siddharth Laha picked up most wickets. a special mention to Angus Miller from the U8's who filled in admirably on a number of occasions and took 4 wickets for the season!

**The Team:** *Alexia Kanagaratnam, Siddharth Laha, Thomas Miller, Ella Nixon, Amrith Rao, enry Scott, Riyaan Shah & Henry Sunderland.*

## Jnr. Cricket U10 Yellow | Premiers

David Leaper & Chris Nelson | Coach & Manager

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The mighty U10 Yellow cricket team have been together for three years now, and this season has been our toughest and our best, finishing top of the league in a very dramatic final round. Throughout the season the boys played magnificently as a team, the boys learning the value of taking quick singles with their

partner and backing each other up in the field. It was a pleasure to see them developing their skills as the season progressed.



With so many impressive performances, any one of the boys would be worthy of the award & everybody in our team is a winner. In the end, the coaches chose Leo for his impressive improvement, positive team-first attitude and contributions over the season.

Hope to see you all next season.

**The Team:** *Konstantinos Andreatidis, Elliot Davies, Leo Germain, Viraj Singh Jamwal, Raghav Kaivaram, Liam Leaper, Hugo Nelson, Nivrith Dhruv Pulla & Nisanth Siddhu*

## Jnr. Cricket U10 Maroon

William Hood & Mai Lenthén | Coach & Manager

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The U10 Maroon had a very exciting season. Most of the matches were decided by less than 10 runs. The team performed brilliantly especially considering that it was the first season for most of them. The bowling was particularly impressive for our team, every player contributed to that area. Most importantly they enjoyed each other's company and had a lot of fun at training and the games. They are a fantastic group of kids. Well done Briars Maroon!

**The Team:** *Kasper Edwards, Declan Guardascione, Dorothy Hall, Michael Hood, Daniel Lenthén, Yashi Mahla, Hugo Robertson & Maxwell Ryan.*

## Jnr. Cricket U11 Blue | Premiers

Innes Smith & Sam Tejani, Chintan Shah | Coach & Managers

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**The team:** *Michael Biasi, Jake Maiden, Raphael Mesiti, Ayaan Shah, Riaan Shrestha Gurung, Lucas Smith & Rohan Tejani.*



I had the pleasure of coaching the U11 blue team for the second season. Last year we made the Grand Finale narrowly losing to the swashbucklers who had been the only team to beat us all season, this year we faced them early in the season and won on the last ball with Lucas Smith blasting the winner and it was a springboard for an unbeaten season.

We once again faced the swashbucklers in the finals and this time played the best cricket of the year losing only one wicket

and winning the grand finale by 75 runs! Stunning performance with Riaan Shrestha Gurung scoring an

unbeaten 46, closely followed by Rohan Tejani on 38. Lucas smith started things off bowling 2 clean wickets in the first over and the team never let their foot off the gas.

Mikey Biasi received the coach's player award; he was top scorer over the season with outstanding batting in every game - Mr consistency.

Most improved was Raphael Mesiti, best bowler was Lucas smith and Aayan Shah was team player of the season playing well in every game.

Riaan was our super reliable 'reps' player - a challenge for every bowler and batsman and man of the match in the grand finale.

Finishing with Jake Maiden who proved a lethal bowler taking 5 wickets in one game and always a challenge for the batsmen who faced him.

U11 Blue had as close to the perfect season as you can get.

## Jnr. Cricket U11 Gold

Kevin White & Carla Pearson | Coach & Manager

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The U11 Gold team enjoyed a wonderful 2023/2024 season. With a combination of seasoned cricketers



and players new to the game, every member of the team played their part in some excellent outcomes. Unfortunately, the second half of our season was hindered by the commitments of several members of the team to their Saturday school cricket, with 5 of our 8 players either unavailable or only available for a portion of their club game.

I would like to thank the boys and their families for their significant efforts to get as many players as possible to their club games and our Manager Carla, for all her work in getting a team on the field each work. Although the season did not end as we had hoped, the contributions of each member of the team was valued and every play grew in ability through the season.

**The Team:** Harvey Baker, Liam O'Connell, Thomas Pearson, William Pearson, James Pisani, Sebastian Sauran, Kabir Suriya & Luca White.

## Jnr. Cricket U11 Green

James Holtsbaum, Simon Howard & Daniel Brandon | Coaches & Manager

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**The Team:** Phoebe Brandon, Ashton Holtsbaum, Charles Holtsbaum, Will Howard, Jax Lee, Riley Tran & Mitchell West.

The U11s Greens should be proud of the season they have had. Their enthusiasm, willingness to learn and sportsmanship has been a real joy to watch. The team has made great progress throughout the season and built on their strong base of cricket skills from previous seasons. This has resulted in each and every player making strong contributions throughout the season and shining with strong individual performances at different stages of the season. They are well placed to continue their cricketing journey particularly as they move beyond unlimited dismissals.

It has been my absolute pleasure to coach such a great bunch of kids, and I look forward to seeing them play again next season.

## Jnr. Cricket U11 Maroon

Abhi Shah & Kylee Young | Coach & Manager



A magnificent season for the U11 Maroon team. We had 6 kids returning this season and 1 new recruit. These kids are eager learners, keen to apply their consistently improving skills on game day. They've played in the spirit of the game, with little regard to the outcome. Their willingness to never give up and always work as a team, is the reason they have made the playoffs (2 years in a row). Looking forward to another great season with them.

**The Team:** *Lachlan Brincat, Frederick Hillerstrom, Hayden Hong, Max McKiernan, Owen Qin, Viaan Shah & Tyrone Young.*

## Jnr. Cricket U11 White

Daniel Backhouse & Daniel Hall | Coach & Managers



The U11 White team enjoyed another season filled with fun, with most of the players competing in their fourth season together. Although they didn't achieve the same level of success as in previous years, they continued to develop their cricketing skills and maintained their love for the game.

Congratulations to the team.

**The Team:** *Felix Backhouse, Jake Hall, Max Halliday, Travis Hunt, Jack Johnston, Flynn Mihaljek, Ethan O'Neill & Martin Verschuer.*

## Jnr. Cricket U12 Black

Abhik Sengupta & Michael McGrath | Coach & Manager

**The Team:** *Archie Di Donato, Alexander Hamilton, Jacob McGrath, Benjamin McKiernan, Tye Middleton, Brandon Robinson, Shohaam Sengupta, Elijah Tan, Aiden van Asperen & Ilaan Vishaal.*



U12 Black gelled well on and off the field despite being merged from two separate teams. These genuine all-rounders made good progress on skills and mindset, leading to a sequence of dominant wins pre-xmas. The second half of the season was marked by strong individual performances, however the team wasn't quite able to challenge for the finals. Ben McKernan was the standout with the bat, well supported by Archie Di Donato and Tye Middleton. Shohaam Sengupta and Jake McGrath opened the bowling and provided some aggression in the middle order. Eli Tan and Ilaan Vishaal showed

tenacity and flashes of brilliance with both bat and ball. Alex Hamilton made rapid progress in his first season, including taking 4 wickets for none in the space of 8 balls in one game. The youngest member of the team, Aiden van Asperen, opened the batting with application and strong technique, while still managing to top the bowling stats. Another newcomer, Brandon Robinson, the deserved winner of the coaches award for his positive attitude, persistence with his bowling and true grit with the bat.

## Jnr. Cricket U12 Gold

Andrew Champion & Catherine Rogerson | Coach & Manager

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The U12 Gold team saw quite a few departures from the group that had played together for several years and had won last year's title. This presented an opportunity to bring some new members into the team, including some newcomers to organised cricket. The first half of the season was challenging, but the whole team put in a great effort every week. The second half of the season showed a much-improved side, with



the Golds coming close on several occasions against some of the stronger teams in the comp. It wasn't until the penultimate round of the season that the team achieved their first and only win, which was wildly celebrated. The longstanding members of the gold squad such as Ryan Camarda, Aarav Mirzan, and Jack Champion demonstrated some great leadership and maturity throughout the season, and really helped the less experienced players develop their cricketing abilities.

**The Team:** *Hunter Beaumont, Ryan Camarda, Jack Champion, Lucas Hammond, Aarav Mirzan, Benjamin Murone, Alexander Rogerson, Aariv Sharma, Shahan Siddique & William Symonds.*

## Jnr. Cricket U13 Maroon (Saturday)

Jeffrey Broadbent & Michelle Gaskin / Daniel Collard | Coach & Managers

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**The Team:** *William Broadbent, Jack Cleave, Samuel Collard, Leo Goldsworthy, Hugo Hackett, Oscar Halliday, Isaac Hood, Ben Hooker & Charlie Rudman.*

This was my first season coaching these amazing boys. While the team had its ups and downs throughout the season, they had a lot of fun along the way.

They're a fantastic group who always supported one another. I'm already looking forward to next season with them!

## Jnr. Cricket U13 Black (Saturday)

Praneil Narayan / Michael Amparo & Lara Sarlas | Coaches & Manager

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What an outstanding effort from the U13 Black team. In order to keep the team together, the boys had to play up an age group to accommodate school sports. We always knew it was going to be tuff coming up against older opponents and also older rep players. Nevertheless the boys competed at every level, winning two games and just falling short of winning other games by close margins. Although we finished at the bottom of the ladder, the boys never gave up, always playing hard and within the spirit of the game.

I am extremely proud of this team. Bring on next season!!





**The Team:** Joshua Amparo, Cooper Brincat, Byron Calder, Ethan Dang, Jacob Davies, Koby Gibson, Samuel Miller, Max Narayan, Johnny Sarlas & Cole Tucker.

## NDC A Jr. Cricket U13 Gold (Saturday)

Scott Nixon & Nigel Hahnel | Coach & Manager



It was the most successful year yet for the U13 Gold Sat PM team. After making the semi-finals last season, it was always our goal to go one step further this season. With 4 new faces to the team, we knew we had a good shot.

Our team motto is Fun comes First, as it is our belief that if you are enjoying cricket, runs, wickets and success will follow. We also pride ourselves on our conduct and I'm proud to say the boy's sportsmanship shines every week. The support and encouragement they show each other makes for a well gelled playing group.

After finishing top of the table with only one loss to our name, we did make the grand finale, however we were outplayed by the very disciplined Briars White team who went one better than last season themselves. Congratulations to them. They deserved the win!

We thoroughly enjoyed our cricket this season, have learned a lot and are looking forward to next season! Special mention to Ranveer Minocha (6 matches) and Ryan Camarda (4 matches) for filling in this season.

**The Team:** Toby Chan, Alexander Crothers, Tom Evans, Marcus Hahnel, Jayden Jamil, James Kavadias, Finlay Kitching, Joshua Nixon, Aarav Sharma & Fergus Smith.

## Jnr. Cricket U13 White (Saturday) | Premiers

Peter Locke / Kieren McDonald & Caleb Showyin | Coaches & Manager



**The Team:** Joshua Bartle, Rohan Chandramouli, James Cook, Theo Kav, William Locke, Lachlan Maiden, William McDonald, Mason Showyin, Aaya Tejani & Adhvay Upath Naramprambath

The U13 white team had another competitive year of cricket with all players showing a genuine love of the game, excellent sportsmanship, comradery and a willingness to learn. As a team we have focused on playing the game in the right spirit and upholding the

standards of the game within a fun and positive environment. This approach, in combination with the boys' passion and unity, resulted in the team developing individually and as a cohesive unit throughout the season. The coaches intent was to galvanise their relationship and their understanding of "team function" and to the boys' credit they were able to translate these learnings into the performances they put on the field. This was very pleasing to see.

Over the course of the season the balance of the team and their ability to work as a unit resulted in continual improvement in their performances. Finishing second in the general season, they went on to perform strongly in the semi finals to earn themselves a deserved Grand Final berth. It was extremely pleasing to witness them piece together their strongest performance of the year in the field to take a hold of the Grand Final in the first innings. They were good enough to close out the game and were deserved competition winners.

Our congratulations to the boys on a fantastic season. We are extremely proud of their performances.

## Jnr. Cricket U13 Black (Sunday)

Daniel Sherer & Tim Guthrie | Coach & Manager

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Another great season for the Briars Black U13's with some new faces joining the existing core team.

We started off with a shaky start in the spring Division 1 competition which led to a restructuring for the summer competition in Division 2. Solid performances and player development saw the boys gain greater traction in the closing part of the season finishing second on the ladder with a grand final berth. Congratulations for a gutsy effort by all, the parents for their commitment to their boy's love of sport and the supporters who joined each week to cheer them on.

**The Team:** *Andre Alesci, Nathaniel Anastasovski, Samuel Champion, Mirza Dalvi, Liam Guthrie, Hayden Howard, Caleb Hulland, Runjeet Khara, Arjan Kooner, Campbell McCrostie, Harry Nathanson, Conor Scullion, Bradley Sherer & Emmanuel Velkou.*

## Jnr. Cricket U13 Girls Gold | Premiers

Craig Armour / Luke Campton & Jo Buckman | Coaches & Manager

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**The Team:** *Sana Aji Benedict, Madison Allen, Scarlett Armour, Elizabeth Barry, Mikaela Campton, Alexis Kav, Sriza Sharma, Arya Singh, Emelia, Watson & Emma Whitton.*

The U13 Girls Gold Sixers league have performed extremely well in both the Spring and Summer version of the competition making it to the Grand Finals in the summer comp. I have witnessed continual improvement and fantastic team spirit amongst the group.

The standout performer this year has been Madison Allen outstanding performances with both bat and ball and her first hat trick!

A notable mention Alexis Kav returning from injury and being a constant over achiever with the bat. The most improved player award goes to Arya Singh in her first cricket season.

## Jnr. Cricket U14 Black

Adam Whitton & Laura Ronan | Coach & Manager

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The U14 Concord Black team had another wonderful season, winning the majority of their games to make the semi-finals for the third year in a row.



Angus and Toby joined the team this year and both performed extremely well, with solid contributions in all games. Every player contributed to the team and turned the course of games in our favour through their spectacular batting, accurate bowling or sharp fielding.

**The Team:** *Toby Chan, Sameer Gupta, Aaryen Kalia, Ari Mansford, Harry Miller, Angus O'Connor, Adhvik Rao, Thomas Ronan, Vihaan Shah, Siddharth Siby Babu, Daniel Whitton.*

## Jnr. Cricket U14 Gold

Jimmy Giannone / Anthony Grant & Litsa Cremen | Coaches & Manager

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The Under 14 Gold team showed tremendous character and fighting spirit considering that we only had 10



registered players from the start of the season. Injuries occurred throughout the season which made our task a lot more difficult. Even though with all the adversity, we still manage to win several games and only fell short of making the finals.

Special Achievements: Naya Modi was leading wicket taker with 23 Dismissals and Peter Giannone took most catches with 9 for the season.

**The Team:** *Nathan Carvalho, Alexander Cremen, Peter Giannone, Riley Grant, Arham Iqbal, Fraz Iqbal, Thomas Lyon, Navya Modi, Dimitri Paleologos & Veraj Singh.*

## Jnr. Cricket U14 Maroon

Luke Foley & Arjun Minocha | Coach & Manager

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**The Team:** *Peter Caccavari, Aarav Chaudhary, Yuveer Dawar, Patrick Foley, Leo Giannichronis, Sachin Kanagasundaram, Zain Kazmi, Daksh Kumar, Oliver Maxwell, Ranveer Minocha & Matthew Wright.*

The U14 Maroon team competed in the Thunder Cricket League (Northern District Junior Cricket Association). Our boys stepped up to the top division this season and the challenge of 50 over a side matches, played over two days. They handled this well, progressing all the way to the Grand Final, Congratulations!

## Jnr. Cricket U15 Maroon (Saturday)

John Allen / Luke Campton / Keiron Devlin & Julie Bell | Coaches & Manager

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The Under 15 Maroon team faced a challenging season, playing home games at Edwards Park, but their hard work ultimately led to a Grand Final appearance, which could be one of the last for some of the players in junior cricket. Throughout the season, there were many standout individual performances. Aaryn Jamwal finished strongly with 301 runs, including an impressive 51 not out in the Grand Final. Wickets were shared across the team, with Hamish McLeay and Achyuth Arunraj leading the way.

The Coaches' Award went to Luca Di Pasquantonio, who excelled as a fielder, took wickets, scored runs, and put in consistent effort at training. One of the most rewarding aspects of the season was the team's improvement in fielding and the positive spirit with which the boys competed against all their opponents.

**The Team:** Guinness Devlin (Captain), Jack Allen, Riley Campton, Jack Edwards, James Hendry, Oliver Lockington, Lorenzo Luzzani, Hamish Malone (co-captain), Andrew Morozoff, Ryan Scullion & Hamish Turner.

## Jnr. Cricket U15 Black (Saturday)

Steve Maronese & Cate Vardanega | Coach & Managers

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The Under 15s Black team played a year above their age group this season and performed considerably well making the finals. We welcomed Zachary Marando and Jack Brandon to the team and both players provided valuable contributions throughout the season. All our team from the previous years improved dramatically as we were facing older boys in the competition. Beau Brown, Kyle Camarda, Hamish Ellston, Seamus O'Connell, Christian Pereira, Matthew Sarlas, Jack Trad, Oliver Vardanega, Luke Maronese and Flynn Grainger played pivotal roles throughout the season.



Again, thanks to all the parents who made the season so enjoyable.

**The Team:** Jack Brandon, Beau Brown, Kyle Camarda, Hamish Ellston, Flynn Grainger, Zachary Marando, Luke Maronese, Seamus O'Connell, Christian Pereira, Matthew Sarlas, Jack Trad & Oliver Vardanega.

## Jnr. Cricket U15 Gold (Saturday)

William Knight & Matthew Turner | Coach & Manager

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**The Team:** Finn Bannan, William Goldsworthy, Charlie Halliday, Phoebe Hancock, Joshua Hannan, Harry Horwood, Thomas Knight, Lucas Lang, Aryan Mirzan, Navya Modi, Eamon Turner & Roman Urbano.

The Under 15s Gold had a fun and fruitful 2023-24 season. A talented, motivated, proud and determined team, they played a quality brand of cricket throughout the season. All of them were faced with tough challenges, ensuring they developed their skills and temperament as cricketers and people while also bringing them closer as team members and further forging their love of the game.

The Gold team qualified for the semi-finals, losing in a tight contest to the eventual premiers. It was a joy to coach this side and look forward to seeing a lot of them next season at Briars.

## Jnr. Cricket U15 Black (Sunday)

Charlie Viola & Simon Hurlll / Tony Kelly | Coach & Managers

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Both the Spring and Summer seasons were the tale of what could have been. In what was a rather disjointed couple of competitions with players coming and going for representative duties, we had our chances to make the final in both competitions. A couple of extremely close losses in both seasons hurt us, but we console ourselves with the fact we could have made it.

In the spring seasons we finished with the same number of wins as the top 2 and had beaten the top 2 teams. In the summer season we had a super close loss to one finalist and beat the other, with a final washout crueiling our chances of making the Grand Final. In defeat we managed to learn some good lessons about patient cricket and grinding out a result, it was great to see the maturation of the group over the season.



I feel honoured to coach this group of young men. In all my years of being involved in cricket and junior sport, I have never met a better bunch. Their level of camaraderie and support for each other was truly heartwarming. It was an absolute joy to be involved.

We have some excellent cricketers in this group, that will go on be very good senior cricketers.

**The Team:** *Rahil Ahmed, Alexander Conoplia, Thomas Henry, Alex Hurlll, Liam Kelly, Alexander Kountouris, Sean Lauren, Aaron Patel, Ethan Toemoe, Henry Toemoe, Emerson Urbano & Christian Viola.*

## Jnr. Cricket U15 Gold (Sunday)

Nick Jones & Patris Fudeh | Coach & Manager

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The U15 Gold Summer Div 3 team enjoyed fantastic season in a newly formed team that displayed strong camaraderie from day one and played entertaining, competitive cricket to win all games except one and get to the Grand Final where we unfortunately fell short on the day.

A Huge thanks to Patris, Dom, David, Jamie, Julie and James for helping with managing, scoring, umpiring and dealing with all the goings on of cricket during the week and the games themselves. And to all the parents for turning up and supporting the team.



**The Team:** *Ned Forde, Athan Fudeh, Jordan Fudeh, Joshua Jones, Claudio Luzzani, William McNamara, Nicholas Ortado, Ishan Venkat Padmanesan, Hayden Reeves, Matthew Tydd, Harshil Vora, Patrick Wood & Alex Tsirimiagos.*

## Jnr. Cricket U15 Maroon (Sunday)

Robert Wodson | Coach



U15 Maroon had a great 23/24 year finishing the minor round as the top placed side in both Spring and Summer seasons. Unfortunately neither resulted in a grand final win with Leichhardt proving to be an equally talented team on both occasions. The summer season also featured 2 nail-biting tied games. Maroon had many talented boys, with 6 boys also playing representative cricket for Inner West, or other associations. Special mentions to Lachlan for his leadership, Nirav for his all round excellence with both bat and ball, and Riley for his hat trick and 5-11 vs Easts Jets after declaring early in the season at

training, that because he was a wicket keeper, "he didn't bowl".

**Team list (Spring):** Lachlan Wodson (c), Rahil Ahmed, Tiger Bocking, Riley Campton, Jack Edwards, Athan Fudeh, Jordan Fudeh, Zack Kristallis, Oliver Lockington, Nick Ortado, Aidan Scullion, Ryan Scullion, Nirav Sharma, Hamish Turner, Matthew Tydd, Kian White.

**Team list (Summer):** Lachlan Wodson (c), Jack Allen (vc), Tiger Bocking, Riley Campton, Jack Edwards, Zack Kristallis, Aidan Scullion, Ryan Scullion, Nirav Sharma, Alex Stewart, Kian White.

## Jnr. Cricket U15 Girls Gold | Summer Premiers

Ian Smith & Kristy Chan | Coach & Manager

**The Team:** Sana Aji Benedict, Anna Chan, Maithri Karthikayan, Tara McCall, Anique Michel, Kiana Mitchell, Sai Naga Jhansika Peddada, Sri Lakshmi Suryanashika Peddada, Matilda Ryan, Tully Smith, Caitlin Collins



"In the 2023-2024 season saw the Sixers competition split into a Spring season (Oct – Dec) & then a Summer season (Jan – March). In the Spring season, the girls got off to a great start after having a bye in the first week of competition. The girls faced up against Marrickville who had knocked us out of the semifinal the previous season & the girls managed to get a great win under their belts which really set the

standard & tone for the rest of the year. The girls finished the Spring season undefeated with 4 wins but thanks to 2 x washouts & 2 x byes allocated, the girls finished second on the table behind Marrickville by 0.1%. Unfortunately for the girls, on the day of the final we then encountered Temperatures over 40 degrees which saw the game abandoned. The girls were declared runners-up by default.

The summer competition saw a re-allocation of team numbers which removed the bye & gave the girls the opportunity to play more cricket. The girls really did set the standard in the competition & proceeded to win all of their 7 games to convincingly finish on top of the table. This saw us then matched to play against our other u15 Concord Maroon team who had managed to finish in second place. It was great to see 2 x u15 Concord teams battle it out for the summer premiership & thankfully the Gold team managed to get the win on the day & finish as the summer premiers. A big congratulations to all of our u15 Briars Girls but a really

big congratulations to my mighty Gold team who went through the Spring & Summer seasons undefeated. Again, we had some standout

performances during the season, but a lot of our games were won due to a consistent & combined team effort. The team was once again well led by Captain Tilly Ryan & also our deputy in JJ. We were certainly blessed to have such a wonderful group of girls who could all bowl which was really our main weapon. Congratulations to Tara McCall, Anique Michel, JJ (Sai Naga Jhansika Peddada), Maithri Karthikayan, Tully Smith & Kiana Mitchell who all played a mixture of Peden & Representative cricket during the season. Anna Chan, Caitlin Collins & Sri Lakshmi Suryanashika Peddada also provided many special contributions throughout the season also.

It is fair to say that the Under 15 Gold girls' team is made up of all incredible girls, each with fantastic parents that continue to support the team each week. The girls have been a joy to coach and are an absolute credit to themselves, their parents, and the Briars Club. The batting award in Spring went to Tilly Ryan and the bowling award went to Tully Smith. The batting award in Summer went to JJ (Sai Naga Jhansika Peddada), the bowling award was tied between Tara McCall & Anna Chan. My coaches award for the Spring & Summer competition goes to Anique Michel.

My sincere thanks must also go out to Kristy Chan who took on the team managers role and kept us all on track. Well done girls and Go the mighty Golds!

## Jnr. Cricket U15 Girls Maroon

Andrew McFarland & Paul Carr | Coach & Manager

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The U15 Girls Maroon team was newly formed, comprising players with diverse levels of experience and skills and also included a few new players and coach.



The season was marked by remarkable growth, new friendships, and an abundance of fun-filled moments. The team had an amazing season, where they ended second in the Summer competition. Only to face the formidable Under 15 Girls Gold Briars team in the grand final. Olivia Velkou received the Coaches Award in recognition for her outstanding effort and significant improvement through the season. Olivia's dedication and progress across the season set a commendable example for her peers, embodying the spirit of our team. I would also like to call out Iris Arnold, the team captain (and minister of Fun !) for her dedication and leadership throughout the season.

I would like extend my appreciation to every player, parent and supporter who contributed to the successful season for the U15 Girls Maroon team.

The Team: *Iris Arnold (C), Lily Car, Misah Sengputa, Olivia McGahan (wk), Addsion McFarland, Olivia Velkou, Tanisha Lee Young and Sophia Catton.*

## Jnr. Cricket U17 Girls Briars / Leichhardt

Kristin Hancock & Luke Foley | Coaches & Manager

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In the sun-drenched fields of summer, the U17 Girls Cricket Team, a dynamic alliance of talent from Briars and Leichhardt, took the season by storm. Playing 13 electrifying matches, they claimed victory in 10, showcasing a blend of skill, spirit, and sportsmanship that became the envy of their rivals. Despite their

valiant efforts, the finals proved just beyond reach, with the team finishing as the noble runners-up in both Grand Finals, each time a mere 20 runs shy of glory.

The season was illuminated by standout performances that set the pitch ablaze. Hayley Zauch emerged as a batting powerhouse, amassing 233 runs with an astounding average of 77.7, while Alice Calov, with her impeccable average of 136, proved to be an indomitable force, scoring 136 runs. Not to be outdone, the team's bowlers wove spells of their own. Aoife Foley, with 13 wickets at an enviable average of 7.31, and Ashley Simpson, claiming 8 wickets at 14.38, led a bowling and fielding spectacle that stifled oppositions, allowing them to score over 100 runs on only two occasions.

Beyond the numbers, the season was a story of unity and growth. The team, a fusion of talent from Briars and Leichhardt, gelled into a formidable unit, crafting memories and bonds poised to last well beyond the



cricket pitch. As we applaud their accomplishments and reflect on the summer's journey, we bid farewell to those stepping up to Premier Cricket. Their legacy within the U17 team is one of excellence, determination, and camaraderie, setting a benchmark for the seasons to come. Here's to our cricket stars, may your future be as bright and promising as your performances have been this summer.

**The Team:** *Lola Arnold, Holly Barnett, Alice Calov, Aoife Foley, Violet Forde, Lily Hancock, Anna Healy, Harriet Hood, Allegra Park, Josey Riley, Ashley Simpson, Jasmin Simpson & Hayley Zauch.*

## Senior Men's Team

Matthew Whitting | Senior Men's Coordinator

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The seniors fielded 2 teams this season in C-Grade. Last year, the Black team was able to reach the grand final and this year it was the Maroon team's turn to do the same out of the 12 teams playing. Finishing 2nd on the ladder, the Maroons had a strong semi finals showing chasing down 217 to win on the 2nd last ball with a fine 59 to Abhi and Ashton 51no and Dave 41no closing out a fine chase.

In the preliminary final, the Maroons defended 201 with 4 wickets to rising star Jackson Cleary after a well made 81 by Ali and 51 by Ashton.

Alas, the Maroons kept their worst for the Grand Final against the Iron Cove Tigers and posted a paltry 60 with nerves getting the better of them in ideal conditions for their lowest score in 2 seasons . However, great pressure was brought to bear and it was a close game at 6/35 after 18 overs. Yet, no more wickets fell and the Maroons succumbed by 4 wickets after an excellent season distinguished by very positive play and a well balanced side with everyone contributing throughout the season.

Special callouts to (Black team) - Mitch Lowry with 101 not out and 6/18, (Maroon team) Ely Corliss with 7/19 and Sanket Paradkr with 5/30.



# Briars Senior Rugby

Chairman's Report  
Mark Nelson



## Season Summary

- *First Grade – 2<sup>nd</sup> (6 wins 4 losses)*
- *Second Grade – 7<sup>th</sup> (3 wins 10 losses)*
- *Third Grade – 7<sup>th</sup> (1 win 10 losses)*
- *Fourth Grade – 5<sup>th</sup> (6 wins 5 losses)*
- *Colts – 7<sup>th</sup> (1 win 12 losses)*

“Unfinished Business.”

This is the tagline going into season 2025 as we came so close to 2024 being an absolute pearler of a season but just finishing so close to the glory. The year started earlier than usual as we took an opportunity through our coaching staff to line up some sevens teams to complement our highly successful women's team in late 2023. This culminated in two big events at the start of 2024 – the Sevens by the Sea on the central coast and a trip to Borneo for an international sevens tournament. A slew of new players helped win the Sevens by the Sea competition, and we finished a valiant third place in an exceptionally difficult competition in Borneo. These results helped drive players to want to be a part of Briars full season in 2024 and we saw immediate success in round 2, knocking off Petersham, a former div 1 club. Meanwhile, outside of first grade, Briars sought an increase in our playing numbers and our colts were starting to put some good numbers together, although results on the field weren't quite there. Our second and third grade came together but lacked expertise and went through several injury concerns meaning connections between players was difficult to finalise. Our fourth grade was set up to help the three clubs who nominated a fourth grade at the start of the year, only to have the other clubs in the division do the same to create a full comp and the Bin Chickens didn't disappoint- becoming somewhat of a cult team within the club.

We ended up the season finishing fifth in the club championship table – a good effort considering two powerhouse teams dropped into the division and higher than last year's seventh place.

Next year's focus will be the build up our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teams as well as colts to help leapfrog into the top half of the club champs or even higher. There were some pleasing results for the lower grades over the

year including good wins for the Colts over Colleagues in the final round to ensure they finished seventh on the ladder, fourth grade getting 2 wins against Petersham and a final round win over Hills almost put them in finals if it wasn't for the bizarre, cancelled round implications. Third grade's highlight would have to be the round 1 win over Epping. Second grade, their final round win over Hills had some fantastic tries, or their win over eventual champions, Epping.

However, it was the performance of the first-grade team that had some of the memorable wins. As mentioned earlier – the two wins over Petersham were both



*First grade backrower, Peter Kosmas, celebrating a round 2 win over former Division 1 club, Petersham.*

hard fought and special, final play win over Hills at Hills was exciting but perhaps the huge major semi-final win at Rothwell Park in front of a huge crowd with a last ditch try was the highlight. The grand final was a spectacle for the ages with both Briars and Newport putting on a show for the huge crowd at Concord Oval, with many old boys remarking how it's the best they have ever seen Briars play. Despite leading for the full 80 minutes, Newport were able to return the last play heroics and deny Briars our first Barraclough Cup in 28 years.



*Huge crowds at the grand finale at Concord Oval.*

We go again though. We look towards 2025 as a year of unfinished business as we try to correct the wrongs and go one better. I would like to thank Briars Sports, particularly Jason Parle, for their efforts in supporting Briars Rugby. The sponsors who make it all possible – primarily Five dock Physio and Matt Wehbe, Gage Roads Brewing and Paul Rathborne, Tony Kerle and Kerle Constructions, and PK Metal Polishing and the Kosmas family for their support. My committee, in particular Adam Muderis, Mitch Warner, Anthony Deep, and Jack Rathborne for all their help this year. All the coaches who were fantastic once more as well as the executive – Aaron Boyter, John Slender, David Lannan and Mick McGrath. And finally, a callout to our

player leaders including Club Captain Ned Churchyard who did a fantastic job in 2024 and stepped up to the all-important role.

## Briars 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

Finau Makamaka | Coach



*First grade 2024*

First grade this season had a great year, making the big dance but failing to put the cherry on top of the season by winning the Grand Final. The season started with bolstering our team with our sevens players to put together a formidable backline led by new captain Poto Ma'ake, the backline possessed speed, agility, and rugby knowledge that we were missing from last year. Superstars including the Rookie of the Year Jerome Williams and Shondre Lee-Silva formed a nexus in the centres around ball runners Luke Malitoa, Tyson Ibrahim and

Pegi Slade who scored a huge number of tries by season end. Finally, the backline was aided by Sam Tuitupou, whose ability at such a young age (still a colt!) was evident as he was picked up to play for Tonga in both sevens and fifteens throughout the season, our first international capped player in 15s for some time. Leading them around the park was halfback Lachlan Pethybridge whose control and knowledge on when to release the backline was exceptional.

The team was devastating but the conditions tested us. Several of the first-round games were played on very wet pitches which nullified a lot of our speed and despite only losing two of these games to St Patricks and Newport, we were challenged more than we would like by UNSW, Beecroft, and Hills. The weird situation where Epping didn't play first grade allowed us an opportunity to play Shute Shield champion club



*First grade players at their jersey presentation for the Grand Final.*

Eastern Suburbs in a “trial,” which we duly won. Our forwards were starting to grow into the team by the midpoint and knock-ons were just a chance for our scrum to dominate as front row specialists Doug Roache, Lama Meleisea and Zion Epiha put teams to the sword – and often turned up to score good old-fashioned pick and drive tries. Our backrow and lock stocks were tested when club captain Ned Churchyard went down injured halfway through the season, but young colt Leroi Kelly

partnered stalwart Fraser Shaw in the locks to sure up that position. Our backrow threats of rejuvenated Adam Muderis, Peter Kosmas and Andy Gardiner were a solid combination of attacking threat, and defensive pressure.

By the last few weeks of the competition, a concerning slip at Beecroft meant Briars played in the final game of the season with either second place or fifth place on the cards. The eventual third place Hills were blown off the park by Briars in that final round and we set up a major semi-final against runaway, undefeated minor premiers Newport. This game would be a belter as we smashed them through the middle and exposed them out wide, but Newport didn’t go away, and we were left with minutes on the scoreboard to steal a victory. And we delivered – through a tight head scrum win and then a pick and drive to Lama Meleisea to send the home crowd into raptures. After a week off we headed to the grand final and a shot at breaking a 27-year drought. We started fast in front of the biggest crowd at a subbies event in years and were in the lead but once more, Newport could not be kept out of the fight. They remained in contact and with the last gasp, scored a try after the 80 minutes were up to draw level at 29 all. The conversion from in front was successful and they had won the game. A devastating way to lose but it has galvanised the playing group to get back to the grand final and ice it in 2025.



*First grade shake hands after the semi-final win at Rothwell Park.*

## Briars 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Stu Ryan | Coach

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The 2024 season was a journey of incremental improvement and lessons learned for the Briars 2nd Grade team. With three hard-fought wins under their belt, the team finished 7th on the ladder, one place higher



*Second Grade Team 2024*

than their 2023 campaign. While the improvement was modest, it reflects a step in the right direction for the squad. One of the standout moments was defeating Epping's 1st Grade team, showcasing the potential and grit within the squad to punch above their weight. This win was not just about points but also about pride and belief. A key struggle throughout the season was poor training attendance, which impacted consistency in both preparation and matchday performances. This will be an area to address moving forward if the team is to realise its full potential.

Looking ahead, the team aims to build on the connections between the 2nd Grade squad and the Top Squad, focusing on player development and stronger alignment across the club. With a renewed commitment to training and a deeper talent pool emerging, 2025 promises to be a season of further growth and potential. The Briars 2nd Grade team is committed to moving forward with momentum, and the groundwork laid this year sets a solid foundation for a more competitive and connected squad next season.

## Briars Colts

Luke Sinai | Coach

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My gratitude and praise to the Briars Rugby Club, all the administrators, coaches, staff, and committee for their help, support and efforts to have a full and well put together 2024 season.



*Colts Team 2024*

Colts was always going to be a tough challenge this year with two Division-1 teams St Pat's and Petersham coming down and Division-2 grand final winners Newport staying in the division.

The Briars team is still young but were up to the challenge. Their grit, belief, and toughness shines through even though the 1st six rounds were convincing losses.

The boys now knew the level and what it would take to compete. A heavy season ending injury to our captain Ryley Brennan was a loss for us, and a few unavailable lads due to commitments made the season difficult. However, it would not deter the lads from putting their best out there each week trying to get that ever elusive win. Which came in the last game of the season at home with new recruits on a stacked bench.

Some great positives came from a hard season with the likes of newcomer and most improved Zac Syron who played 10 and 15 in his first year of rugby. Incredible scrummaging, all round ball running and defence from our players player Petersen Lemalu. Total courage, desire, skill, and determination from our best and fairest Patrick Kosmas. Also to mention great commitment to the team and club during injury to our Toby Crisp recipient Ryley Brennan.

2025 will hope to shape up to a better season with the lads. Our new under 18s joint venture was a success with 4 young Briars juniors joining the Colts ranks. We look to build on that for Briars future. The club offers a great community from our most senior players to our Colts and juniors. The lads have matured and grown in character after some hard lessons this year and are building and excited to turn it around.

## Briars 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Matt Carew | Manager

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The season began on a high note with a solid victory over Epping, featuring a team that combined exciting young talent with seasoned veterans. Despite this promising start and some strong showings against the top 4 opponents, 3rd struggled to maintain momentum, and the season eventually slipped away from us. As the losses accumulated, it wasn't the outcome we had hoped for, but we still found joy in the game and discovered new talent along the way. I want to extend my gratitude to all the players who contributed to the 3s, as well as my fellow coaches and the committee for their support.



Third grade team 2024

## Fourth Grade

Tim Entwisle | Manager

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### BIN CHICKEN wRAP 2024

When I look in the mirror what do I see  
A great mother bin chicken lookin' back at me  
We ain't scared of the dog, we ain't scared of the shark  
We are the Bin Chickens, the kings of the park  
We win our scrums with the very large boys  
Of Ash, Dan the Mann, Sam, ... Patrick, Stace,  
Milo and Jam  
But Weber's got the largest ... of all the boys  
(Except for John Slender?)

Our locks are stout, but what about, their lineout ... performance?  
Walsh and Weber, we wish, we wish, that they knew  
How to throw a ball straight to ... Luke, Boyter, Hamilton or even Carew!

Intensity, Josh, Borsak and Kerly are some of our flankers  
On the side of the scrum, what a bunch of anchors  
We're waiting for them to get to the breakdown at least slightly early  
(Or do we have to rely on the other Carew)



Fourth Grade Team 2024

And then there's the eights; Big Tony, Big Daddy, Big Matty and Big Murphy,  
Boys have mercy ... when you wear that little jersey

When I look in the mirror what do I see  
A great mother bin chicken lookin' back at me  
Some blokes be hatin', they say we're a pest  
But you need to start believin', that we are the best!

Two halfbacks (to smash up a whole one) Darcy and Ash  
Its great when you turn up at all for your match  
We then have to promote Newen up from the threes  
It's a privilege he says when he's down

AAAnakin, PANakin and DANakin—the Skywalker clan  
DARTH VADER VOICE—Luke, I am your daddy [DADDY's LINE]  
There's Jedi Jimmy and Millsy who tackles from up there in space

Cameos from Honey Soy, Wan and Irish (that's tree)  
And there's Spratt, Pat, Singhy, Max, Ford and Ra

When I look in the mirror what do I see  
A great mother bin chicken lookin' back at me  
We don't need to tell you, we don't need a reason  
But we are the Bin Chickens, and this was [almost] our season!  
The season was wet, it suited the duck not the chook.  
But we didn't give a ... we don't give a ... care.

First game [R2] we beat the Shammies at Camperdown  
And when they came back to our town [R8]

And then at Hudson [R3] we got shocka-ed by a team from Fiji  
Even with MakaMaka in the backas

We didn't know we had a game at Newport but they got a forfeit [R4]  
At Rockdale got beaten well [R10] no advantage from Rothwell.

Round six at Rothwell we let lose upon U.N.S.W.  
At then in game 2 ... we also covered them with bin chicken glory.

Epping with three teams beat Briars in fourth grade [R9]  
Well done Subbies you got well and truly played!

We got beaten by a point by Hills [R7] at Old Boys Day at Yattenden  
But at Rothwell [R14] they could not do it to us again.

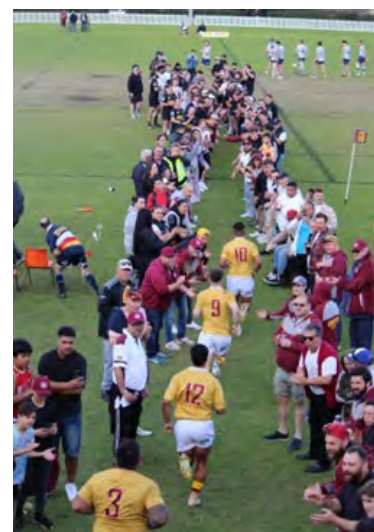
And thanks to the colties, to Api, the boys from the threes who filled in  
Who helped us out when Bin Chickens numbers were thin  
Thanks to Intensity, Slender, Stace, and Mark,  
For all their help away from the park.

But let's not forget our coach, the only one we could find  
To guide us through with feeble insights and a doddering mind.  
He watches the games through shiraz-coloured glasses  
And sees thoroughbreds for what were a whole bunch of donkeys.

When we look in the mirror what do we see  
A great mother bin chicken lookin' back at me  
We don't need to tell you, we don't need to yell  
Yes, we are the Bin Chickens, the KINGS OF ROTHWELL



*Fourth grade "bin chickens" shirt*



*First grade led out by captain Poto Ma'ake (10) in our semi-final at Rothwell Park in front of a huge crowd*

## Team of the Year

- |                  |                    |             |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 1 Patrick Lemalu | 2 Petersen Lemalu  | 3 Tom Weber |
| 4 Leroi Kelly    | 5 Jason Palmer     |             |
| 6 Ellyca Leva'a  | 8 Adam Muderis     | 7 CJ Court  |
| 9 Ameena Kanj    |                    |             |
| 10 Poto Ma'ake   | 12 Tadhg Aldridge  |             |
|                  | 13 Jerome Williams |             |
| 11 Taylah Watson | 14 Phil Adam       |             |
| 15 Sam Tuitupou  |                    |             |



The team of the year – calculated through 3-2-1s given out each week.

## Lachy's Long Run Home

Briars Rugby Lunch | Lachlan Cameron's Speech

During this year, Briars Rugby player Lachlan 'Sunshine' Cameron completed the incredible achievement of running from Brisbane to Sydney, aiming to be the fastest person to do so & achieving his goal. At the annual Rugby Lunch, Sunshine delivered a speech detailing the achievement, what drove him to complete the distance and his story. Below is this speech:



Good afternoon, everyone, my name is Lachy, and to be honest I'm.... well, I'm a very ordinary guy.

I'm from Sydney's inner west, I've been a tradie my whole life, I enjoy a beer ...or two with my mates and I was even a very average winger (who tried his heart out!) for our very own briars.

Most things about me are very ordinary! And of course, there is nothing wrong with that, but I bet you're all thinking well I didn't spend \$175 bucks for some bloke to bail me up down at Briars! I can do that for free most weekends!

No the reason I am up here today is I recently completed something that is definitely not ordinary that I can admit, currently I am fastest person to have ever run from Brisbane to Sydney, a 925 km journey that lasted 10 days 7 hours 50 minutes and 26 seconds, taking a day of the previous record and in the process my team and I raised 35 thousand dollars for a mental health charity called Heart On My Sleeve, honestly for me it's still hard to comprehend not only the

resilience I was able to show but more so the generosity showed by complete strangers which helped us raise much needed funds that will make a difference.

It took 18 months of unquestionable resolve in training for me to get to the start line in Brisbane, and whilst I've never had the belief that I'm an extraordinary runner probably based in that I'm not the fastest, the fittest and nor do I have perfect run form but what I do have though is the belief that I'm a fighter, I know that no matter the situation I will keep the gloves up. For me this was truly highlighted at the end of day 3, in terms of constant pain day 3 was definitely the worst of them all, but I just grit down on the teeth and somehow got to a finish 96km or 13 and a half hours later which had us completing just under 300km in 3 days, I remember sitting in the bus as we prepared to head to the motel for the night, I had just text my coach about our progress for the day and I was cracking jokes with the crew and smiling ear to ear from

pure elation and self-pride on another day of what felt like other worldly feats considering my very short running career, however that joy quickly turned into dismay as a dull throb started to engulf both of my knees, the dull only got faster and faster and more and more painful..... I remember being seated and rather immobile, but I was trying my best to move away from the pain but with no avail, once my body started lightly trembling, I remember asking my mate ash if this was me going into shock? Which I may have said with a small grin to try and lighten the mood but once again that was quickly evaporated as my body started to shake very dramatically.

And at that point.... Well at that point I was no longer the hero everyone had been looking at for past 3 days, all of the superpowers that had been attached to me vanished and I was simply a man.....an ordinary man mentally and physically exhausted with a body riddled with overwhelming pain to the point that top end fight or flight had kicked in, I couldn't tell you exactly how long it all went on maybe 20 minutes I'm not sure however the laughter seemed like an eternity ago and you could hear a pin drop in the bus .....

I knew I needed to centre my thought pattern to simply focusing on my breath so I closed my eyes and with a consoling arm around me from ash we breathed it out, and although the shakes would get better and then worse we stayed calm and worked through the adversity, I remember when I stopped shaking I opened my eyes and there was a real recalibrating process, my vision was very blurred and I think I broke the world record for most blinks in minute.. but then I was back and although the lovely owner of the motel said I looked like a soldier coming home from war the lights were back on and I had a real choice fight or flight, now that was a tough moment for not only me, but everyone involved and understandably we could've said OK maybe this is too much,

However, that moment didn't sow the seeds of doubt, instead it reinforced just how much I really wanted it, and I was able to see the opportunity in the adversity and know that I was just faced with easily one of the toughest days and toughest moments of my life and I came out the other side. Because ultimately tough moments don't last, but tough people sure as hell do.

We had plenty more challenges throughout our journey whether that was the feeling of a vicious bang in my right Achilles on day 5, or the constant running repairs of tape which made me feel more mummy than ultra runner, maybe it was into shock again on day 7 or perhaps being kicked off the highway by transit NSW due to their safety concerns and me mentioning " but I've been on here for 8 days " weirdly not helping the situation , however for me I remember the beautiful moments, whether it was running down the highway with my mum and dad on her birthday which was also Mother's Day and all 3 of us belting out life is a highway with nothing but smiles on our faces for the beautiful moment we were a part of, or getting to meet my new little mates Josh and Lachy who are both legends and I hope in some way I inspired them to believe in themselves and the untapped reservoir of potential that lies dormant in us all, but for me the most humbling was my amazing crew, they were on every second of every day doing whatever was necessary to make my dream come true and I will forever be indebted to them all.

The run has changed my perception of not only myself but the world, the beauty that I now see in moments I would have previously taken for granted is something I'll forever be grateful for.

However it hasn't always been this way, the reason I mentioned the very average and ordinary parts of my life is there is probably a lot of people here who look at an extraordinary feat like this and think that it is only attainable by very few and believe that it is too hard to even comprehend so instead they will go down the route of never trying, I know what that looks like and I applied this method to my life for a very long time, I had massive self-worth issues which I then turned to drugs and alcohol to try and fill the void of which extrapolated the problems to the point where to be completely honest I didn't want to be here anymore.

Now those moments they aren't extraordinary, but what they are is real, real moments, from real Life, from a person that was suffering like so many of us do but wasn't able to be honest with others about how he felt and wasn't able to believe that he was worth putting in the work because even if I did start it's not like I'd be able to do anything worthwhile. Right?

Well that was my thought pattern until 3 years ago until one day I just decided that hey let's just believe in yourself enough to get out and want to be better whatever that looks like, so I strapped on the shoes and



went for a run and it was absolutely brutal no way around it, as it turns out all those years of being a degenerate don't really help long distance running..... who'd of thought.

But I stuck at it, as rough as it was and even though sometimes it felt like I was getting worse not better there was still the element of self-pride from getting out and wanting to do something positive for yourself whatever that looked like, and I grew and grew and grew to the point where I can stand in front of people now truly proud of the man I am not because of external opinions but the resume of hard work that I now have , a continued investment In myself which allows a much happier lifestyle which ultimately came from one moment where I decided I was worth the effort to get off the couch and try and be better.

At the end of the day all of the things I have said here, hopefully as powerful as they were are just words, what I have said doesn't determine what the rest of your life will look like because ultimately that will only ever be up to you, but my hope is that these words inspire a belief, a belief that the only difference between ordinary and extraordinary is the effort you are willing to put in to your life to find out where your destiny lies, because every time you go that extra mile , or even as simple as an extra step you are reinforcing to yourself that you are more than just ordinary, and before you know it all of that hard work will culminate into whatever your dream is, and to me that's pretty bloody extraordinary.

I'd like to finish with a quote from a song that I've always loved but became one of the real anthems of the run,

From Robbie Williams angels

“And down the waterfall wherever it may take me I know that life won't break me “

Everyone in this room either has or will be faced with adversity, that's just life, however it's not the pain nor hardships that you will be remembered by, it's how you chose to overcome and move forward that will etch your legacy and personally Instil knowledge as Robbie told us that life won't break us.

Thank you.



# Briars Women's Rugby

## Chairman's Report

David Lannan



2024 has been a hell of a year, when considering the last 12 months because in Women's Rugby 7s it feels like we never stop.



We started the Spring season with a tournament win in Mudgee with our Maroon development side, where I think most of the prize money went back into the local community via the pubs in town that night

Our Dubai squad then headed to Byron Bay for some sun and surf, ohh and some footy. The stacked Gordon team full of NSW representative players talked themselves up then got smashed by Briars 17-0. The team learnt a lot about travelling together in that tournament which was going to be needed when we headed over to Dubai soon after.

The Dubai 7s tournament is the largest rugby festival in the world. If you ever get the opportunity to go we highly recommend it as a player or even a spectator. An amazing performance on the field and unfortunately, we played the real grand final in the semi-final against Great Britain's World Series reserve team. One little mistake in the game turned the tide and we finished 3rd overall in the tournament. If you want to see some of that journey, we were part of a documentary where they followed our

journey to the event. If you want to watch, it's called From Far & Wide on Rugby pass TV or in your onboard entertainment next time you are on an Emirates flight.

We came back together for 2024 with some new players, some players got picked up by Rugby League with promises of stardom and we began to look at what we could achieve for 2024. Some unfortunate results in tournaments early in the year and we focused on our next trip to Borneo. With the opportunity for some of those new players to experience rugby overseas we took a mix of new and experienced players across to Malaysia for an amazing experience. We ended that tournament winning the Bowl final (actually winning a glass bowl) but now seem to have a rivalry with the entire country of Uzbekistan. In 2025 we are headed back to finish that fight.

The team also notably played in the inaugural WX Shield pre-season competition, hosting teams on a Thursday night at Rothwell. We beat Two Blues and Merrylands but lost to Burra Rays in the Grand Final.

At this time, I want to thank our former coach Trent Eagle who took this team from a social team back in 2020 and worked hard alongside the players and club to create amazing opportunities for our players. Something that is very special and take a lot of hard work to achieve. After a very tough 12 months outside of rugby for Trent he took a step back to focus on his daughter and himself. Trent is still cheering for the team and I personally thank him for everything he did for me and everyone he coached in those 4 seasons.

With Trent stepping back I reached out to someone you all now know quite well to help run a few sessions, not expecting he would dive headfirst into the club and help so much. Kruger Roache, father of one of our new players said he would help for the season, and I want to thank him for all the efforts he has put into bringing the team up another level again.

Season 2024 itself was a bit of a shambles to say the least. Wet weather meant we only played on 3.5 occasions across the whole winter season. This caused so many disruptions to the team and club that the whole competition has moved to Summer moving forward. Thanks climate change!

In those few occasions we saw some great footy and some new players really cement their position in the team. Those players will be recognised for their efforts tonight, but I really want to thank every player for turning up to training every week, helping out other teams when we weren't getting game time, helping me to run the club, especially the women's committee of Taylah, Ameena and Kate. I want to thank all the men's players who came along and supported the team, run water and coach when needed.

The next 12 months is going to be epic again. We are already locked in to play in Singapore, Japan and Malaysia and we have something else in the works for our women's 7s program. 2025 will also see Briars Women's become part of the Saturday game day fixture as we launch our first XV's team as part of Premier Women's Rugby (equivalent of Shute Shield) and compete at that high level.

## Briars Women's Rugby

### 2024 Squad

**The Squad:** *Adi Vuga Mere Naqatoloalo, Ameena Kanj, Annabel Woo, Ashley Jay, Bianca Bennetts, Bridie Searle, Chelsea Blankenstein, Chloe Bromage, Ellyca Leva'a, Emily Eden, Faith Pilgrim, Faith*



*Taulu, Gabby Buchhorn, Gabby Buchhorn, Georgia Hughes, Isadora Sgroi, Jacinta Tui, Jamiah Hunt, Josephine Maejiirs, Julieana Friedrichs, Kate Mateffy, Keisha Lotoaniu, Lauren Lowe, Liliana Kokaua, Makenzie Baxter, Mikayla Langer, Olympia Plummer, Pui San Lai, Riley Baptist, Ruthie Mose Aunei, Sasha Meeks, Serahnade Roache, Taylah Watson & Wendy Meza.*

### 2024 Award Winners

Hennie Muller Award for overall effort at training:

***Taylah Watson***

Most Improved Award:

***Ashley Jay***

Coaches Award for performance on & off the field.

***Ameena Kan***

Rookie of the Year:

***Chelsea Blankenstein***

Players Player:

***Ellyca Leva'a***

### Briars Women's Rugby Club Award Winner

The 'yet to be named shield' is awarded to the player who, in the opinion of the Club, has contributed the most during the year towards Women's Rugby and the Club in general. Congratulations to **Serahnade Roache** who is this years recipient of the award.

## The Dubai 7's 2023 Tour

The preparation was finally over. After a significantly uplifted training program starting in September, including competing at the Byron Bay 7s tournament and twice weekly training, the team was now ready



to play against the best clubs in the world at the 2023 Emirates Dubai 7s.

The last training session had set the team values around the goal they had set: "Winning Dubai the Briars Way: Train Hard, Play Hard". They broke this down into clear values to work towards together to achieve their goal. These goals included focus at training, on game day and on the pitch with the all-important "Next Job" call to lift their heads and get on with the game.

The Briars Women's Rugby 7s team departed for Dubai in the early hours of the morning on Monday 27 November. A long 14-hour plane ride was ahead of them, but everyone was very excited to get over that there was not much rest on the flight.

Arriving in Dubai on Monday afternoon, the desert heat hit the team as they exited the airport for the team bus. The first highlight on the trip to our hotel was seeing the Dubai skyline and the Burj Khalifa rising from the desert, towering over the expansive city of Dubai. It was now a reality that the team were in town and ready for the biggest 7s tournament in the world. A quick shower and we needed to stretch the legs. Where else but Dubai's Global Village - a vast food and shopping playground with a different section from each area of the world. Grab some Thai noodles, a Mexican taco and finish off with an Iranian dessert if you want. A few hours definitely stretched the legs, but the jet lag hit the team early and we were in bed at a reasonable hour on our first night.



Tuesday was a non-training day after such a long flight and needing time to acclimate. This gave the team opportunity to go and do some sightseeing in Dubai. As a group we headed off to The Palm, which is a man-made island connected to the coastline. Half the team headed up the Palm View lookout after a monorail ride, whereas the rest of the team who had been to Dubai in 2022 found a lunch spot for us on a nearby beach.



The afternoon and evening saw the team adventure into the desert on a safari. First stop was some dune buggy driving, heading into the dunes following a guide to have some fun. The safari drivers then loaded everyone into their overpowered Land cruisers for a sand dune bash, seeing how scared the team would get as we slid sideways up and down the sand dunes heading towards our oasis for dinner. Arriving for sunset we tried some sandboarding and camel rides before heading to a dinner with shows of traditional dances. A fun night was had and back to our accommodation for an early start the next day.



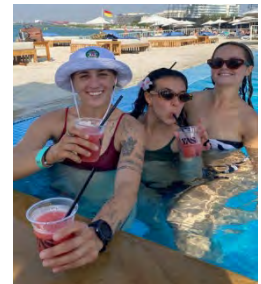
Day 3 in Dubai saw us up early for a long bus ride to Abu Dhabi. With all the World Series and other teams descending on Dubai for the 7s it's impossible to find a ground to train on. We thought outside the box this year and found a great field in Abu Dhabi which meant we could also see a different part of the UAE.

Arriving two hours later, the temperature was already rising. After not training for a week, we shook out the cobwebs and got ourselves back into some footy thinking. It took a little while to warm into it, with the realisation of being in a different country a long way from family kicking in. Once the team rallied themselves the combinations were flowing well, and it was time to get changed and head to our next tourist destination.



Abu Dhabi is the capital of the UAE and also host to the famous Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque. This is an amazing building which unites the cultural diversity of the Islamic world with the historical and modern values of architecture and art. It truly is an amazing piece of architecture, and we spent quite a bit of time admiring the building, with a small delay caused by the strict dress rules for females visiting.

Lunch was beckoning and a surprise venue was planned for the team. Abu Dhabi is not only the government capital, but it also has its fair share of entertainment venues. Yas Island, home to the Formula 1 and Ferrari World also hosts a beach club on the shores of the warm waters of the Persian Gulf. Wednesday happened to be Ladies Day, with great food and drink specials for the team. Needless to say, everyone had a great time and a fun bus ride home with some karaoke.



The day before the tournament kicked off, we held our Captain's Run at The Citizen's School in downtown Dubai. With tourist time behind us, the focus shifted entirely to the challenges ahead. After a sluggish start to training the previous day, the team came out strong and maintained high energy throughout the session. The combinations clicked, and excitement for the tournament was building. As we wrapped up, a few classes of kids came out to watch us train. The team took the opportunity to engage with the kids, running activities to share the fun and introduce them to the game of Rugby 7s.

After some free time over lunch the team was invited to attend the Aussie 7s Women's training at The Sevens Stadium, Dubai. This was a great opportunity for the players to see the tournament site and build the excitement of the event itself. We also planned to do our jersey presentation at the Sevens Stadium and with thanks to Scott Bowen in the Aussie 7s team, we arranged for the Aussie 7s Women's team to present each player with their jerseys - an amazing moment for every player to engage with the Aussie team.



**The Briars 7's Team:**

Back Row: *Ruthie Mose-Aunei, Emily Eden, Annabel Woo, Courtney Miller (Manager), Ameena Kanj & Bianca Bennetts*

Front Row: *Taylah Watson, Jacinta Tui, Chloe Bromage, Kate Mateffy, Keisha Lotoaniu, Pui San Lai, Olympia Plummer & David Lannan (coach)*

**Tournament Day 1**

Game 1 - The first game was scheduled for 6:20pm, so a slow start to the day was in order. After lunch the team prepared for the game ahead & travelled by bus to the stadium.



In a strong opening game Briars faced Cats 7s, the 2022 Dubai 7s Cup winners. Despite a messy start and an early Cats try, Taylah Watson's 90m run and Ameena Kanj's tackle sparked Briars' momentum. Pui San Lai added another try, while Emily Eden and Ameena Kanj secured two more in the second half. Solid defence and three conversions from Taylah Watson sealed a dominant victory.

Game 2 - Briars faced the UK's Savvy Pink Panthers in a late-night 9pm kick-off. An early steal gave Briars a chance to score, but a missed pass led to a turnover. Strong defence forced a knock-on, and Ameena Kanj capitalized with a try on the wing. The Panthers quickly responded, leveling the score at 7-7. Just before halftime, Taylah Watson's clever dummy delivered a crucial try and conversion, putting Briars up 14-7.

In the second half, Olympia Plummer's sideline run, and another Watson conversion extended the lead to 21-7. Despite losing a player to injury, Briars held strong, though the Panthers scored twice late, missing key conversions. Briars secured a hard-fought 21-17 victory.

**Tournament Day 2**

Game 3 - Briars started strong against CNCF, capitalizing on defensive pressure to score early with a 70m try by Ameena Kanj, converted under the posts. A forced error led to another try by Taylah Watson, and edge-to-edge passing set up Ruthie Mose-Aunei for a third before halftime.

In the second half, Jacinta Tui's 70m run, supported by Emily Eden, extended Briars' lead. CNCF fought back with two tries after penalties and a yellow card left Briars down a player. Despite a strong start, CNCF's late surge brought the game to a close at 24 – 10.

Game 4 - In their final pool game at sunset, Briars faced Five Os, the UK Police Rugby 7s team, in a physical contest. An early yellow card and unforced errors put Briars on the back foot, but Bianca Bennetts' 70m run opened the scoring. Five Os equalized with an 80m intercept try, leaving the game tied at halftime.

In the second half, Pui San Lai's 70m break and a conversion by Kate Mateffy put Briars ahead. Ameena Kanj added another try with a 50m run, though the conversion hit the crossbar. Despite strong defence, Five Os capitalised on penalties to score late, continuing a trend of last-minute tries against Briars.

### Tournament Day 3

In their first knockout game, Briars faced the Black Panthers on Pitch 7, energized by a lively crowd. After a shaky start with rolling penalties, Briars regained control, with Kate Mateffy scoring a 50m try and converting it herself. The Panthers responded to level the score, but Briars struck back before halftime with a 50m inside run by Ameena Kanj, converted by Taylah Watson.

In the second half, despite handling errors and pressure from the Panthers, Briars capitalized on strong plays. Ameena Kanj added another 90m try, and Bianca Bennetts sealed the game with a 50m run, though the conversion hit the post. Briars secured a well-earned win to advance to the semi-final.

#### *Cup Quarter Final: Briars v Savvy Black Panthers | Score: 26-5*



Briars faced the Hammerheads, another undefeated team, in a tough semi-final. The Hammerheads started strong, scoring twice early with sharp, wide play. Briars responded with a 50m try by Pui San Lai, converted by Taylah Watson, narrowing the gap to 7-10. However, a misdirected pass allowed the Hammerheads to score just before halftime, extending their lead to 7-17.

In the second half, a yellow card left Briars down a player, and the Hammerheads capitalised, adding another try to push the score to 24-7. Despite fresh legs and some promising plays, handling errors, a strong

Hammerheads defence sealed the game with a final try, ending Briars' run at 7-31.

#### *Cup Semi-Final: Briars v Hammerheads | Score: 7-31*

Hammerheads went on to win the tournament against Jordan Legacy Sisters 22-12

### Tournament Statistics

	Tries	Conv	Points
Ameena Kanj	6	3	36
Taylah Watson	3	7	29
Pui San Lai	3		15
Olympia Plummer	1		5
Ruthie Mose-Aunei	1		5
Jacinta Tui	1		5
Emily Eden	1	1	7
Bianca Bennetts	2		10
Kate Mateffy	1	2	9

Briars Women's Rugby achieved an impressive 3rd place at the Dubai 7s 2023, one of the largest Rugby 7s tournaments in the world. Despite a disappointing final match, the team showcased their skill against top international competitors.

Special thanks to Courtney Miller, who managed the team, allowing players to focus on their game, and Alicia Ludkin, the physio, who ensured injury-free play throughout the tournament.

The team celebrated by watching the Australian Women's 7s win against New Zealand in the SVNS final and enjoyed a relaxing final day in Dubai before heading home.

## Club 7s

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The Sydney Women's Rugby Club 7s had a disrupted season in 2024 with only 3.5 rounds played due to weather. This led to many clubs not fielding as many teams throughout the season. The season will now actually move to summer from late 2024 and continue as a Spring/Summer competition moving forward.

Briars Gold competed in Division 1 and the Briars Maroon team only competed in one Division 3 tournament at the start of the season. Due to the disruptions, Division 1 and Division 2 teams were merged into a single division leaving Division 3 purely for social/development teams.

Briars Gold were focused on being competitive in Division 1, with our main rivals being Norths, Gordon, Randwick, Sydney Uni and Burra Rays. All teams were a similar level and each had their days at the top.

Throughout the season, Briars also played a friendly game hosting St Pat's for Briars Ladies Day.

### Overall Points after Rounds - 7

Division 1 & 2		Division 3	
Points	Team	Points	Team
76	Burra Rays 1	72	UTS Gordon
74	UTS Gordon 1	54	Mac Uni
54	Briars 1	46	Eastwood
46	Randwick	38	Manly 3
44	Norths	20	Sydney Uni 2
34	Sydney Uni 1	16	Burra Rays 2
32	UTS Gordon 2	14	UTS Gordon 4
28	Manly 1	12	Briars 2
4	Manly 2		

### Overall Results | Division 1 & 2

54 Points – 3<sup>RD</sup> Place / 9 teams

*(1st place removing Shute Shield clubs playing down a division)*

### Overall Results | Division 3

12 Points – 8<sup>TH</sup> Place / 8 teams

### Club Championship (XVs, 10s & 7s)

Overall – 14<sup>TH</sup> Place 270 Points

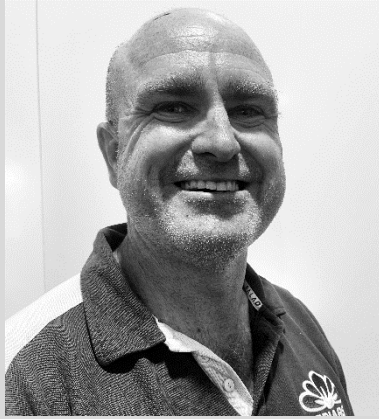
7s – 3<sup>RD</sup> Place 270 Points



# Briars Junior Rugby

## Chairperson's Report

Mick McGrath



In 2024, Briars Junior Rugby not only had our highest registration numbers post-Covid, but the club also fielded the most teams ever in our 10-year history with the following teams participating in various competitions across the season:

**Minis Rugby:** Under 6s Tri-tag (Joint Venture with St Pat's), Under 8s minis (Joint Venture with St Pat's) and Under 9s minis

**Juniors Rugby:** Under 11s (Joint Venture with Wests Juniors), Under 12s and Under 18 colts (Joint Venture with Hunters Hill)

**Boys 7s:** Under 11s and Under 13s

**Junior Girls:** Under 10s Girls 7s, Under 12s Girls 7s, Under 12s Girls 10-a-side and Under 18s Girls 7s

Our Tri-tag and minis teams enjoyed a revamped competition being played across Sydney including gala days at Penrith, Ryde, Drummoyne and Riverwood and played post-season at Hunters Hill as well. Our under 11s enjoyed a second successful season in a Joint Venture with our neighbouring club West Juniors and our 2-time premiership winning under 12s finished 4<sup>th</sup> after jumping up 2 divisions and rising to the challenge of greater competition. Some new faces and previous juniors came together with Hunters Hill rugby to form Briars first ever under 18s colts' side.

In April, we kicked off our first ever junior girls' rugby program that quickly took hold and saw 40 young girls register for Briars, many having their first football experience with our club.

Briars Junior Rugby would like to extend our deepest gratitude to General Manager of Briars Sports Jason Parle, Chairman of the Board Brett Howle and the entire Board of Directors for their unwavering support of Junior Rugby and community sport in our area. Without your assistance and guidance, Junior Rugby would not be the success it is today.

We would like to thank our 2024 Junior Rugby sponsors whose ongoing support over multiple seasons has been invaluable in developing players and coaches, as well as creating new opportunities including our inaugural junior girl's rugby program, refereeing and representative pathway programs and allowing us to continue to provide affordable participation in rugby across Concord and beyond.

- Jersey Sponsors: Concord Land Rover, TOCO Fresh and Timber Floor Collective
- Training Shirt Sponsors: Horwood Nolan, FINDEX, IGA Mellick's, Maranello's, The Athletic Buddha and Chilcott's Butchery
- Girls Junior Rugby: Concord Land Rover, Antipodean Consultancy Group and Munoushee on Majors Bay
- Water Bottle Sponsor: FINDEX
- Coach Development Sponsor: DTG Talent Solutions

A final acknowledgment of the hard-working, ever-present and enthusiastic Briars Junior Rugby committee, coaches, managers and age coordinators for their many hours of tireless work for our club. Without them, there would not be junior rugby club. Their commitment is an all-year-round effort and cannot be measured.

# Inner West Minis Competition

## Briars Jnr Rugby U6 Tri-Tag Rugby

Luke Phillips, Sean White & Mariah Kolesi | Coaches & Manager

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**The U6 Squad:** *Darragh White, Jude Lannam, Aary McKinnon, Lennox Fatai, Tasa Feuiaki, Grayson Shaw, Samuel Waddington, Joshua Phillips, Aidan Sproule, Emilio Medina, Rafferty Wolfenden, Hugh O'Grady & Patrick Quinn*



Learning a new development style game called Tri-tag was initially a difficult proposition, particularly for coaches who were transitioning from the previous two-handed touch modified rules for rugby. But thanks to the experience and commitment of Coach Luke and assisted by Coach Sean, our youngest group excelled at playing their first year of rugby. Our first ever partnership with St Pat's Junior Rugby saw a passionate group of 13 players from both clubs come together and become great mates. Ranging

from 4 to 7 years old our fledgling stars showed up rain, hail or shine and even trained into late November just to keep their journey going and to keep hanging out together. This was in no small part due to team manager Mariah who kept the players and families together throughout the year thanks to her managerial and communication skills.

We can't wait to have everyone back in 2025. Whether it be further developing their tri-tag skills or moving to tackle for our players turning 8, the future of Briars Rugby is in great hands with these mini superstars.

## Briars Jnr Rugby U8

Manny Oramas & James Xu | Coach & Manager

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The mantra of the Under-8s this season was all about passion, showing up for their teammates, and giving it their absolute best. With most players just 6 or 7 years old, they bravely stepped up to face larger opponents and learned the complexities of scrums and lineouts. Despite the challenges, this resilient group played with unwavering determination and heart, giving their all until the final whistle of every match.

Looking ahead to the 2025 season, this team is set to grow stronger. For many, another year in the Under-8s will sharpen their skills further, and the addition of six Under-6 players promises to add fresh energy and depth to the squad.



A huge thank you goes out to Coach Manny and Manager James for their dedication and hard work, ensuring the players not only improved but also had a fantastic time on and off the field.

**The U8 Squad:** *Aarish Anubhav, Austin Noyes, Rodrigo Oramas, Charbel Quinn, Arion Rentzoulis, Hannah Waddington, Julien Xu, Finn O'Grady, Oisin Kerins, Oscar Paleothodore & Se O'Grady*

## Briars Jnr Rugby U9

Matt Games, Chris Lissa, Will Twaites & Sonia Games | Coaches & Manager

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The U9 Squad: *Callum Archer, Thomas Cassidy, Aidan Chan, Tiago De Andrade, Alfie Games, Ethan Lissa, Oliver Logan, Kareem Lokhandwala, Emerson Pupovac, Aiysha Rutnam, Augustine Sukkar & Austin Twaites*



With many of our team having been together for a few seasons now, the ability to work together and stand shoulder to shoulder on game day was a great asset of this team. Size and strength in ruck and mauls were a clear result of the players' commitment to a mid-year revamp of training and their focus of doing the little things well. Every player showed guts and determination and pushed their opposition in every match.

Long term coaches Matt and Chris were joined by Coach Will this season and their collaboration saw every player develop their skill set as the season went on. Sonia Games continued her excellent support as team manager, now having seamlessly and successfully held this role as well as mini coordinator for 4 seasons now.

It is with great excitement that we see these long-term minis players move to full field and Junior Rugby in 2025 – the sky is the limit.

## Sydney Junior Rugby Union

### Briars Jnr Rugby U11

Luke Clarke, Harvey Sauran & Anna White | Coaches & Manager

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**U11 Briars / Wests Squad:** *Sebastian Conway, Callum Hughes, Sebastian Sauran, Elwood Semple, Luca White, Monash Talagi, Pheobe Clarke, Thaleia Fusi, Kelekolio Lavaki, Finn Palmer, Alex Ratnam, Emmett Taulapapa, Michael Tua'efe, Havana-Capri Vai, Ruby Vai & Luca White.*



For the second consecutive season, this incredible group of boys and girls came together to form a united, rugby-loving team. With an equal mix of Briars Juniors and Wests Juniors, Coaches Harvey and Luke focused on developing the individual skills of every player. Their dedication paid off, with an impressive 10 Briars/Wests Under-11s earning selection for the West Harbour

squad competing at the NSW State Championships in 2024.



**Briars representing West Harbour U11:** Sebastian Conway, Callum Hughes, Sebastian Sauran, Elwood Semple, Luca White, Monash Talagi, Alex Voysey, James Burnicle & Presley Pupovac.

This passionate group of young rugby enthusiasts would happily play year-round, such is their love for the game and the camaraderie they share as Briars. They were instrumental in driving the off-season skills program initiative, with the team's core players showing their

commitment by attending every session.

Special thanks go to Anna White for her tireless contributions, not just as the Under-11s team manager but also as the jersey washer, communication coordinator, Junior Age Coordinator, and club Vice-President. Her efforts have been invaluable and deeply appreciated.

## Briars Jnr Rugby U12

Matt Games, Daniel Pantazacos, Laurence O'Donovan & Sonia Games | Coaches & Manager

**The U12 Squad:** Alex Voysey, James Burnicle, Presley Pupovac. Jacob McGrath, Kye Games, Levi Buchan, Zac O'Donovan, Sam Looney, Darian Chan, Matthew Charru, Ben Mellick, Ryan Milton, Lucas Nero, Anton Pantazacos, Thomas Williamson, Evan Russell, Kamal Ratnam & Mason Whitehead.



After winning back-to-back premierships in the previous two seasons, these boys took up the challenge of moving up two divisions this season. With some players into their eighth season as Briars, and three players having their first ever season of rugby, this team continued to amaze with the on-field performances in a higher grade and were always 100% committed to training and working on their own skills and the value of teamwork. Long term coaches Matt, Lawrence and Dan were

innovative and meticulous in their planning and were great at developing not only the rugby player but the young man as well. This led in no small way to 10 players from this team being selected in the West Harbour under 11s and 12s this season.

The efforts of Sonia Games as team manager of this ever-growing group of players and their families once again created a great family atmosphere and well-coordinated experience for everyone.

**Briars representing West Harbour U12:** Jacob McGrath, Kye Games, Levi Buchan, Zac O'Donovan, Sam Looney & Mason Whitehead



## Briars Jnr Rugby

Becky Klimick, Steve Hackett & Georgina Barnett | Coaches & Manager

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**Briars Junior Girls Squad:** Rafaiella Barnett-Palmer, Winnie Carter, Malinka Cierieszko, Sarah Dennis, Assunta Lavulo, Katinia Lolo, Lilijana McGilchrist, Teara O'Brien, Georgia Sideras, Naomi Bercich, Maia Brown, Ava Buckley, Phoebe Cassidy, Rosalia Davis, Willow Georgeadis, Olivia Hackett, Laytoya Iese, Bella Kamoto, Leilani Lolo, Madison Manetoa, Vaikalafi Veilofia & Lolohea Vunakece.



What started as a single under 18s women's seven a side team under our Women's banner in 2023, led to a full-scale Briars Junior Girls rugby program in 2024. In the space of 7 months the program grew to include 40 young women from across Sydney donning the Briars colours for 7s and 10s competitions. With the



girls' program running over a series of shorter competitions, players were able to join at various times outside of their other sporting commitments and try rugby for the first time. Under the experience coaching of Becky Klimick, our players learnt the fundamentals of the game of rugby and quickly developed into a hard hitting and skilful squad, competing honourably against much more experienced sides.

**Briars representing Gordon:** Ava Buckley, Malinka Cierieszko, Olivia Hackett, Laytoya Iese & Leilani Lolo.

Five girls from Briars our under 12s were also selected to play representative rugby this season with Gordon in the State Championships.

Fielding a total of 5 teams across 4 separate competitions, the girls' program is not only the fastest growing group in our club, but also the fastest growing girls club in Sydney, which was all achieved in less than a year. It is exciting to see where we will go in our second season.

## Off - Season

### Briars JNR Rugby 7's

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Across various 7s competitions, Briars Juniors entered Under 10s girls, Under 11s boys, Under 12 girls, Under 13s boys and Under 18s girls' teams. As well as providing pre and post season fitness for current



players, these competitions provided the opportunity for former Briars to return to the club to play with their former teammates.

For the first time, Briars Juniors also held a 6-week off-season Skills and Drills program that ran concurrently to the Spring 7s comp. Led by new coaches Jack Klumpp and Ben Clayton, new and existing players honed and develop their skills including scrummaging, rucking and mauling, line outs, passing, kicking and receiving, tackling and positional play.

With forty odd players attending across the 6 week program and 29 registering for the 7s teams, off-season training and 7s competitions will be a priority again in 2025.

## Juniors Centurions

### 100 Junior Games for Briars



With Covid interrupted careers, 7 Briars Juniors achieved the rare milestone of playing or officiating their 100<sup>th</sup> game for our club. All seven junior members are in their eighth season with Briars. Joining the illustrious company of previous centurions Will Boyter (Centurion #1), Christian Tassopolous (#2), Max Portelli (#3), Dominic Toomey (#4) and Toby Boyter (#5), these outstanding Juniors now have their names forever recorded on the club's Goblet of Briars.

- Debuting in 2017, all West Harbour Junior representative players and current under 12s – Kye Games (#6), Jacob McGrath (#7), Levi Buchan (#8), and Felix Farah (#9)
- Inaugural Briars Junior debuting in 2015 and current Junior Club Captain and current under 18s – Jack Callaghan (#10)
- Junior Coaching Mentor, West Harbour Junior representative and Briars Junior first ever Junior referee, debuting in 2017 – Kian White (#11)
- 2023's Junior Player of the Year and debuting in 2017, current under 13s 7s-a-side captain - Daniel Crippa (#12)

There are now unique occurrences of Father/Son Centurions for Briars Rugby being the Boyter family with dad Aaron (over 250 Briars Grade games) joined by sons Will (109 Junior games) and Toby (113 Junior games) and Matt Crippa (100 plus grade games) and son Daniel (100 Junior games).



## JNR Rugby Presentation Day

### End of Season Awards

With over 200 players, siblings, parents and grandparents in attendance Junior Presentation Day was a wonderful opportunity to come together as our Briars community to acknowledge our rugby year.

A huge thanks to all our coaches, managers, junior coaching mentors and committee for the many volunteer hours committed to making Briars Junior Rugby the family friendly and inclusive environment that makes us the choice junior rugby club in the area. Into our second season of our highly successful Junior Coaching Mentor program, it was a privilege to have six young men share their skills, experience and passion for Briars with our up and coming mini and junior players. Of these buddy future coaches, only two currently play with Briars, with the remaining four currently playing elsewhere due to available aged teams. Such is their love for Briars and commitment to developing rugby in our area, they volunteered week in week out at training and on game day as well.



**Junior coaching mentors:** *Jacob McGrath, Kian White, Harley Buchan, Zach Toomey, Oli Sproule & Kye Games*



It was great to honour the efforts and achievements of 15-year-old **Harley Buchan** who was a deserved winner of the **Junior Club Person of the Year**. Although not currently playing with Briars, Harley attended every mini and junior training session mentoring our under 6s and under 12s on the finer points of rugby. Harley regularly took on the role of waterboy, trainer and motivator for our under 12s on match day and also took time to develop his own skills by training with our first grade and colts' squads on a regular basis.

Captain of our Briars/Hunters Hill under 18s, **Christian Jones**, was a worthy recipient of the **Junior Player of the Year** in recognition of all his great work on and off the field

in driving our club's first ever junior colts' team.

The mentorship and guidance of two adult volunteers were also recognised for their service to Briars Juniors. As part of our 10-year anniversary, **Jules Boyter's** ten years of service was fittingly marked by having the **Jules Boyter Service to Junior Rugby** award named in her honour. Jules became the first person to receive this award after being responsible for starting our junior club back in 2015 and holding every



committee position through her time at the club so far. The **Junior Mentor** award was voted on by our junior players and presented at the senior presentation to the very popular **David McDougall** for all his work with the juniors this season.



**JNR Mentor:** *Tyrone McDougall*



**Service to Rugby:** Jules Boyter

### Outstanding Achievements in 2024

#### JNR Girls U10

- Most Improved: *Katinia Lolo*
- Player of the year: *Malinka Ciereszko*
- MVP: *Winnie Carter*

#### JNR Girls U18

- Most Improved: *Khadija Mohamed*
- Best Team Player: *Chloe Oliver*
- Coaches Award: *Mercedes Davis*

#### JNR Boys U12

- Most Improved: *Thomas Williamson*
- Best Teammate: *Ryan Milton*
- Best and Fairest: *Mason Whitehead*

#### JNR Girls U12

- Most Improved: *Leilani Lolo*
- Player of the year: *Maia Brown*
- Most Valuable Player: *Phoebe Cassidy*

#### JNR Mixed U11

- Rookie of the Year: *Ope Biutanaseva*
- Team Helper: *Luca White*
- Most Consistent: *Phoebe Clarke*

#### Club Awards

- Junior Player of the Year: *Christian Jones (U18 player)*
- Junior Mentor of the Year: *David "Big Daddy" MacDougall*
- Jules Boyter Service to Junior Rugby: *Jules Boyter for 10 years on continuous service*
- Junior Club Person of the Year: *Harley Buchan*



**Our under 18 who played alongside Hunters Hills:** *Coach Luke Sinai, Lachie De Barry, Jack Callaghan, Christian Jones & George Aleamotua.*



# Briars Hockey

## President's Report

Gregg Dunn



### Season Highlights 2024

*In terms of the hockey results, it was a bit like the Olympic year, the women and youth excelled but the men didn't have a season to remember. We did win three premierships - our Women's teams, ML4 and ML6 took home the chocolates and in the juniors, our Under 10A team got the job done! Well done to you all on an exceptional season, premierships don't come around that often so enjoy and wear those medals proudly!*

A huge thank you to the Hockey Committee – an incredibly dedicated and capable group of people ensuring our Club runs smoothly. Without their hard work, none of what we do would be possible.

From keeping Cintra operational (Kylie) to managing our finances (Stu), to ensuring seamless communication and organisation within the committee and Club (Zander, Jade), their efforts are invaluable. Our teams wouldn't even be entered into competitions without the dedication of Cindy, Jimmy, Wade, Mike, Marcus, and Janine, and none of us would be playing women's, men's, juniors, or summer comp.

We owe our ability to take the field to Chris for organising umpires and to David for ensuring we have the equipment needed to train.

So next time you see one of them at the field, take a moment to say thank you – they've earned it!

Our teams could not take the field without the dedication of two incredible groups of people: Coaches and Managers. Across all grades, we are fortunate to have so many talented and passionate individuals to thank, but I'd like to highlight a few in particular.

Firstly, Aneesh deserves special recognition for stepping up to lead our 1st Grade women's team during one of their toughest periods in recent memory. Thanks to his leadership, not only did the team secure our ML1 position for 2025, but they also embodied the true spirit of being a Briar. They showed up to support juniors

and embraced their roles as leaders within the club.

I also want to extend heartfelt thanks to Paul, who will be leaving us next year after many years of coaching our 1st Grade men's team. Paul, your dedication, time, and countless journeys for Briars men—and your invaluable support for my juniors—have left a lasting impact. The juniors still talk about your contributions to this day. Thank you for everything.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who volunteered throughout the year. Many of you were deservedly recognized at our Presentation Night, including those who received Col "Hockey" Jones Awards. Special congratulations to our Wal Zol Award winner for 2024. Jude, your tremendous efforts and dedication do not go unnoticed and are deeply appreciated by everyone at Briars.

It might sound repetitive, but it's worth emphasizing: Our Club cannot function without volunteers. If you didn't contribute in any way this year and "couldn't find the time," perhaps it's time to reconsider your commitment because that's not the Briars way.

Sporting clubs also rely on the generosity of sponsors, and we're fortunate to have long-standing support from Mortgage Choice Concord, Flamingo Gas, and is-Strata. Your contributions help us continue delivering hockey at Briars. A huge thank you as well to Brett and the Sports Club for consistently supporting hockey throughout the year, demonstrating once again that the Club is here to champion all our sports. To Jason and the Briars staff, your professionalism and support have made this season a pleasure, thank you!

Kudos to the social committee (Scarlet, Emily, Claire) and Cindy for organizing a fantastic Presentation Night, and to DJ Borgie for stepping in and saving the day with the tunes.

On a personal note, Briars has been a cornerstone of my life for the past 40 years, and that legacy now continues in old man's cricket. Both my children have played for the Club, and I was a proud dad watching my son, Luke, win several awards this year—knowing Briars will now be part of his journey is truly special.

That said, all good things must come to an end. I am stepping down as President and stepping away from Briars Hockey. It's time for the next generation to take the reins and lead the Club forward. We have an amazing group of young people in our ranks, and I'm confident they will make Briars Hockey stronger and ready for the future.

Thank you all for the memories, the camaraderie, and the passion that make Briars truly unique.

## Club Annual Award winners

### Senior Awards

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AJ Robinson Award - <i>Club Person of the Year</i>	Kylie Norris
Col "Hockey" Jones Awards for volunteering:	Vicki Liao Tom Vastani Elizabeth Everett Amanda Charlton
Senior Coach of the Year	Nicole Taylor
Mens Rising Star	Luke Broadbent
Womens Rising Star	Addison Wilson
Most Outstanding Team	Women's 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade

### Junior Award

RD Vanderfield Award <i>Junior Club Person of the Year</i>	CJ Holden
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## Briars Men's Hockey Report

### Briars Hockey Men's 1<sup>st</sup> Grade – PL1

Michael Imer | Coach & Manager

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The season kicked off early in February with preseason training setting the foundation for the year. A big thank you to Ben O'Rourke for his invaluable assistance with the team throughout the season.

Fully charged and ready to go, we launched into the season. After a first-round bye, we faced Northern Districts in Round 2, coming away with a 3-3 draw. In Round 3, the team unleashed a relentless attacking display against Sydney Uni, securing an impressive 7-3 victory. The season was underway, and the team was already showing great promise.

It was a rollercoaster season filled with highs and lows. While our young superstars stepped up and helped us challenge some of the competition's top teams, lapses in concentration and attention to detail at crucial moments cost us valuable results.

One of the highlights this year was seeing young talent step into PL1, with James Reynolds and Luke Broadbent showcasing their skills and proving they have bright futures at Briars. A warm welcome and thanks also go to newcomers Henry Will, Alex Francis, and Lucas Cunningham, who joined the club and made valuable contributions this season.

A huge shoutout to the PL2 players who stepped up when needed—especially during a week where eight PL1 players were unavailable. Their efforts were nothing short of outstanding, and they should be incredibly proud of how they rose to the challenge.

While a few results didn't go our way, I'm confident that if we address those key areas next year, we'll be a force to be reckoned with.

Special thanks to Michael Imer, who continues to be the best manager around, effortlessly navigating the complexities of SHL rules and keeping things running smoothly.

Lastly, to all the volunteers and executives who make this club such an incredible place to be, thank you for your dedication and passion. It's your efforts that make Briars so special.

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**The team:** *Oscar Quix, Coady Stone, Liam Sweny, Scott Garner, Nicholas Candido, Karl Smith, Sam Houston, James Reynolds, Luke Broadbent, Henry Will, Alex Fancis, Adrian O'Rourke, Henry Tyree, Tom Vastani, Oskar Smith, Xavier Dao, Lucas Cunningham, Will Orth, Martin Pedersen-Clarke, Graham Steven, Andrew Borg, Jack Ward, Dane Mcliveen, Paul Newton & Bailey Scanlon.*

**Competition position:** The Briars PL1 grade team came 9th

#### **Team Awards**

<i>Players Player</i>	Coady Stone
<i>Best &amp; Fairest</i>	Coady Stone
<i>Coaches Award</i>	Liam Sweeney

## Briars Hockey Men's 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – PL2

shaun Fuller & Ian Reynolds | Coach & Manager

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The Premier League 2 team finished the 2024 season in 8<sup>th</sup> place on the table with results of 5 wins, 2 draws, and 9 losses.

**The team:** Andrew Borg (GK), Luke Broadbent (promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Grade mid-season), Lucas Cunningham, Timothy Fishlock, Steven Graham, Jake Imer, Sourish Iyengar, Dane McIlveen, Paul Newton, Ian Pedersen-Clarke, James Reynolds (Promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Grade mid-season), Bailey Scanlon & Jack Ward.

**Competition position:** The Briars 2<sup>nd</sup> grade team came 8th

### Awards

<i>Players Player</i>	Andrew Borg
<i>Best &amp; Fairest</i>	Dane McIlveen
<i>Coaches Award</i>	Marty Pederson Clarke

## Briars Hockey Men's 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – PL3

alan Charlton & Alysia Holmes | Coach & Manager

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The team finished the 2024 season in 6<sup>th</sup> place on the table with 7 wins, 1 draw, and 8 losses. PL3 made the quarter finals, where they were defeated by Moorebank. Unfortunately, the PL3 team suffered some long-term injuries which saw the team reduced to 11 players towards the end of the season.

**The team:** Cory Allsop, Derryn Allsop, Alan Charlton, James Fordham, Shaun Fuller, Felix Fung, Chris Hallet, Aodhan Hanningan, Jarrod Holmes, Brendan Ius, Wade Johnson, Lewis Mike, Brendan Potts, Daniel Strout & Matt Wilson.

**Competition position:** The Briars 4<sup>th</sup> Grade team came 6th

### Awards

<i>Players Player</i>	Matt Wilson
<i>Best &amp; Fairest</i>	Alan Charlton
<i>Coach's Award</i>	Derryn Allsop

## Briars Hockey Men's 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – SL1

Jimmy Fordham | Coach & Manager

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It was a challenging year for our SL1 team. The primary reason was not being able to field a full team (11 players) each week. We lost a couple of players to PL3 early in the season (taking us from 14 to 12) and had players out all year for various reasons (injury, representative tournaments and personal reasons). Despite the numbers challenge, the team were valiant in playing under strength the entire season and aside from a couple of games, they were only beaten by 1 or 2 goals each game.

Unfortunately, our 5<sup>th</sup> Grade team was often scheduled to play on the opposite side of Sydney each week, making it difficult to coordinate reserves for most of the season.

The season ended with the team finishing in 10<sup>th</sup> position with results of 16 losses, 1 draw, and 1 forfeit.

**The team:** Felix Fung (GK), Brendan Potts (GK), David Ratcliffe, Bryan Wilson, Jarred Potts, Hugo Moore, Zac Arambewela, Ashton Fordham, CJ Taylor, Ashton Scally, Josh Bourke, Scott Wrigley & Kristiane Skoulogenis.

**Competition position:** The Briars 5<sup>th</sup> Grade team came 10th

### **Awards**

<i>Players Player</i>	Hugo Moore
<i>Best &amp; Fairest</i>	David Ratcliffe
<i>Coach's Award</i>	Zac Arambewela

## **Briars Hockey Men's 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – SL3**

James Bladwell | Coach & Manager

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It was a tight competition, and every week was a difficult opponent. UNSW was our nemesis, losing to them by 4 goals on both occasions, otherwise every win and loss was within 2 goals. At round 12 we were inside the top 4 however our run home wasn't great.

Like some other teams, we struggled for numbers most weeks and were appreciative of support from both 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades. Many of our team were often playing out of their normal positions, and it was awesome watching the support and advice from other players.

Lastly, I wanted to thank all the team for their efforts and most notably our junior players. Their contribution to our team was invaluable and likewise it was enjoyable watching them develop their skills and confidence throughout the year.

**The team:** *Lucas Baird, James Bladwell, Luke Dunn, Mark Everett, Harrison Hammond, David Hayward, Luke Jennings, Troy Juillerat, James Madock, Rex Newman, Sam Rowe, Adam Schasser, David Slater, Steve Strain & Mark Williams.*

**Competition position:** The Briars 5<sup>th</sup> Grade team came 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **Awards**

<i>Players Player</i>	Harry Hammond
<i>Best &amp; Fairest</i>	Mark Everett
<i>Coach's Award</i>	Luke Dunn

## **Briars Hockey Men's 6<sup>th</sup> Grade – SL4**

Mike Denniss | Coach & Manager

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The SL5 team finished the season in 6<sup>th</sup> place on the table with a record of 7 wins, 1 draw, and 10 losses.

**The team:** *Simon Bergfield, Jesse Borthwick, Mike Denniss, James Dion, Chris Jukic, Rogier Knottenbelt, James Nichols, Allan O'Connell, Joel Osmond, David Paul, John Piessas, Timothy Port, Chris Potts, Mike Tuckerman, Ryan Van Niekerk, Floris Van Ogtrop & Nash Weragama.*

From Masters: *Jackson Carmichael, Danny Dolzadelli, Mike Imer, Same Rowe & Bryan Wilson.*

**Competition position:** The Briars 6<sup>th</sup> Grade team came 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **Awards**

<i>Players Player</i>	Joesi Osmond
<i>Best &amp; Fairest</i>	Al O'Connell
<i>Coaches Award</i>	Rogier Knottenbelt

## **Briars Hockey Masters Premier League**

Stuart Turnball | Coach & Manager

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The PL1 side was a little light on numbers this season but were able to finish in 3<sup>rd</sup> place and play finals hockey. Unfortunately, the 3-peat premiership fell short due to a draw in the semi-final against Ryde who

were ranked above us and by the rules of Sydney Masters Hockey, they proceeded to the Grand Final after a 2-2 draw against us.

The team finished the season with a record of 8 wins, and 7 losses clinching 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the table.

**The team:** *Andrew Borg, Alan Charlton, Blake Durance, Nathan Napper, Adam Bannister, Paul Newton, Nic Candido, Jimmy Fordham, Stuart Turnball, Corry Allsop & Derryn Allsop.*

**Competition position:** The Briars Masters Team team came 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### Awards

<i>Players Player</i>	Andrew Borg
<i>Best &amp; Fairest</i>	Paul Newton
<i>Coaches Award</i>	Al Charlton & Blake Durance

## Briars Hockey Masters Sydney Cup

Jimmy Fordham | Coach & Manager

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It was a different team from the previous two years where we featured in the finals. With several new inclusions, it took us a little time to gel together as a team, but towards the end of the season they were playing very well and beat each of the top four sides in their last round games against them. Unfortunately, the team fell short by 1 win to make the finals this season.

If they start as they finished 2024, they will be back in the finals talk without a doubt.

They ended the season in 6<sup>th</sup> place on the table with a record of 10 losses, 1 draw, and 4 wins.

**The team:** *Marcus Fung (GK), Brad Goodridge, Ian Reynolds, Gary Lea, David Ratcliffe, Nigel Francisco, Bryan Wilson, Josh Kent, Darren Peskitt, Jackson Charmichael, James Bladwell, Mark Williams, Stuart Bladwell & Jimmy Fordham.*

**Competition position:** The Briars Masters Sydney Cup team came 6<sup>th</sup>.

#### Awards

<i>Players Player</i>	Mark Williams
<i>Best &amp; Fairest</i>	Brad Goodridge
<i>Coaches Award</i>	James Bladwell

## Briars Hockey Master's Senior Masters

David Slater | Coach & Manager

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The Senior Masters side finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place on the ladder with a record of 8 wins, 3 draws, and 4 losses. Unfortunately they lost the semi-final in the final 60 seconds of play to Manly GNS, but they had a brilliant season, nevertheless.

**The team:** *Adam Schasser, David Slater, Andrew Godrick (Googa), Rogier Knottenbelt, Steve Strain, Sam Rowe, Simon Bergfield, Nick Carter, Hidde Van Orens, Peter Davies, Vasu, Niel, Hayden Marshall, Jesse Borthwick & Jacko.*

**Competition position:** The Briars Master's Senior Masters team came 2<sup>nd</sup>.

#### Awards

<i>Players Player</i>	David Slater
<i>Best &amp; Fairest</i>	Sam Rowe
<i>Coaches Award</i>	Rogier Knottenbelt

## Briars Hockey Master's Grand Masters

Mike Denniss | Coach & Manager

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The Grand Masters team ended the season finishing in 5<sup>th</sup> place on the ladder with a record of 2 wins, 2 draws, and 11 losses.

**The team:** Arun Aggarwal, Danny Dolzadelli, David Osmond, David Paul, Dean Coffill, Elio Cordaro, Joe Lyons, John Denniss, Joseph Ferrer, Nash Weregama, Paul Flanagan, Shah Alam, James Nichols & Andrew Everard.

**Competition position:** The Briars 6<sup>th</sup> Grade team came 6<sup>th</sup>.

### Awards

Players Player	Simon Bergfield
Best & Fairest	Jim Nichols
Coaches Award	Dean Coffil

## Briars Women's Hockey Report

### Briars Hockey Women's 1<sup>st</sup> Grade – ML1

Aneesh Kesha, Tom Vastani & Wendy Callander | Coach & Manager

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The 2024 season was a year of significant progress for our women's 1st grade side, as we finished 7<sup>th</sup>. While this may not seem like a remarkable standing on paper, it reflects notable improvement compared to previous seasons. The team showed resilience and determination throughout, consistently closing the gap against tougher opponents and building confidence along the way. Our defensive unit became more cohesive with game time together, reducing the number of goals conceded in the second half of the season.

One of the key highlights of this season was our ability to compete more effectively against higher-ranked teams. We recorded several close games against top contenders, demonstrating the strides we've made in our tactical play and fitness levels. Individual performances also shone through, with several players stepping up in critical moments, especially as long-term injuries continued to keep some of our top talent off the field, showing growth in both skill and leadership. Our set-piece execution, both defensively and offensively, also improved as the season progressed, and we were able to capitalise on these opportunities in key matches.

Despite the improvements, it is clear that we have much more room for growth. Consistency remains a challenge, and we need to work on maintaining focus and intensity across full matches. Being ruthless in



attacking situations is another area to address, while we had flashes of brilliance, we need to be more clinical in front of goal. Building on this season's progress, the upcoming offseason will be crucial for individual skill development, team chemistry, and further refining our strategy to close the gap on the league's top teams. With hard work and dedication, we're confident that next season will bring even greater success.

**The Team:** Jade Callander, Kathleen Chua, Annemijn Flokstra, Airley Goodridge, Paula Grover Johnson, Jessica Hawat, Annie Hope, Megan Keller, Tegan Neowhouse, Courtney Pearson, Destiny Peris, Hurul Sofia Atikah Binte Saban, Faith Thompson, Addison Wilson, Hajaratith Binte Johana & Rhiannon Priest.

**Competition position:** The Briars 1st grade team came 7<sup>th</sup>

### Team Awards

Players Player	Kathleen Chua & Annemijn Flokstra
Best & Fairest	Megan Keller
Coach's Award	Faith Thompson

## Briars Hockey Women's 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – ML2

Marcia Scally & Jacqueline Neal | Coach & Manager

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Briars ML2 had a positive and strong season finishing in 6<sup>th</sup> position overall. The team and extended squad consisted of a combination of returning players and just as many new players to the club. It did not take long for the players to bond and form unity both on and off the pitch. The team adapted well to new coaching, structures and tactics, which led to extremely high level and competitive performances.

We started the season well and secured many crucial wins and draws. This saw the team sit in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> position for a majority of the season in what was a highly contested grade for the top 6 teams, with only one point between them. Unfortunately, needing to win our last 3 games to finish in the top four, we fell short with a stream of bad luck and the goal posts denying us crucial goals on a few occasions.

Captained by Kristie Short and Nicole Taylor, the team were considered one of the teams to watch out for. The speed and determination displayed caused chaos for many of the opposing teams and provided many goal scoring and goal saving opportunities. We were one of only 3 teams to score against the undefeated



minor premiers on two occasions, scoring 3 of their 10 goals against. Rachael Borg led the way with 5 out of our 29 goals scored and Grace Matthews was impressive keeping our against at 24 goals. While nearly all players received B&F points, there were 5 players in a tight contention for the top prize. This goes to show just how well all the players played.

Thanks for a great season and I look forward to what 2025 must bring.

**The Team:** Naomi Andrews, Laura Anggadi, Rachael Borg, Belinda Gibson, Karena Gilroy, Michele Lewthwaite, Rhian McGrath, Grace Matthews, Zara Mathews, Felicity Miller, Kate Moore, Emma Neal, Kristie Sort, Catherine Smith, Nicole Taylor, Claudia Tyree, Hermione Warburton-Hogben, Haja Johana, Rhiannon Priest, Sofia Saban, Hannah Churchill, Sarah Houcher, Tiani Honeman, Hannah Larson, Jasmine No, Emily Shipton, Sally Smid, Kristen Wilson.

**Competition position:** The Briars 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade team came 9<sup>th</sup>

### Team Awards

Players Player	Emma Neal
Best & Fairest	Michelle Lewthwaite
Coach's Award	Laura Anggadi

## Briars Hockey Women's 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – ML4 | Premiers

Nicole Taylor, Rhian Magrath & Kerry Taylor | Coach & Managers

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The team's journey to winning the championship was marked by a remarkable blend of talent, teamwork, and resilience. Entering the finals as minor premiers, the players demonstrated exceptional skill and determination throughout the season. The new structure implemented at the beginning of the year fostered a cohesive environment, allowing each player to understand their role and contribute effectively to the team's overall strategy. This foundation of trust not only enhanced individual performances but also



solidified the team's unity, enabling them to face challenges head-on. Throughout this journey, the unwavering support from family members played a crucial role, providing encouragement and motivation that bolstered the players' spirits during both triumphs and trials.

As the finals approached, the players relied heavily on the trust they had built in one another and in the coaching staff. Captained by the dynamic duo of Julie Prolov and Kylie Norris, the team navigated high-pressure situations with poise and confidence. Their leadership was instrumental in fostering a culture of accountability and collaboration, ensuring that every player felt valued and empowered. Each player stepped up, showcasing their abilities while also supporting their teammates, which was crucial in maintaining morale and focus. The culmination of their hard work, commitment to the new structure, and the steadfast support from their families, ultimately led to a well-deserved championship victory, a testament to their dedication and belief they had, while in the process they had embraced together.



**The team:** Julie Prolov (C), Kylie Norris (C), Naomi Andrews, Sarah Bowden, Hannah Churchill, Eleanor Dodd, Cindy Goodridge, Dakota Hammond, Tiani Honeman, Hannah Larsen, Carolina Mayol, Jasmine No, Melissa Rosser, Emily Shipton, Nicola Skinner, Sarah Smid & Kirsten Wilson.

**Competition position:** The Briars 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade team won their championship.

**Team Awards**

Players Player	Julie Prolov
Best & Fairest	Carolina Mayol
Coach's Award	Dakota Hammond

## Briars Hockey Women's 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – ML5

Courtney Pearson | Coach & Manager

The 4<sup>th</sup> grade ladies had a roller coaster year full of development, injuries, resilience building and growth, both on and off the field. We played games with the bare 11 or less, played a few games with no coach on the sideline due to rostering conflicts, and had a total of 27 fabulous women and girls cycle through to help us perform at our very best. Despite it all, the ladies put it all on the field every week to match it with the top teams in the competition, even snagging a couple of wins against the top 4 teams, and only narrowly missed out on finals.

It has been a pleasure and privilege to coach this diverse group of women and young ladies during the 2024 season and I couldn't be prouder of what they have achieved. I have watched them all improve and grow in their hockey endeavours and build and strengthen friendships both on and off the hockey field. Bring on 2025 when I know they will be a force to be reckoned with and be prominent in the finals series.



**The Team:** Clancy Norris, Scarlett Thuell, Emma Pacey, Emma Thuell, Aurora Beaumont, Mackenzie Wilson, Adelaide Netting, Michelle Yu, Steph Black, Nikita Begley, Claire Coletta, Briony Croft, Beth Duck, Sheena Lawrence

**Competition position:** The Briars 4<sup>th</sup> grade team came 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Team Awards**

Players Player	Mackenzie Wilson
Best & Fairest	Emma Pacey
Coach's Award	Beth Duck

## Briars Hockey Women's 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – SE

James Maddock & Caroline De Paoli | Coach & Manager

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This season our 5<sup>th</sup> Grade women's Briars team participated in a SEHA Women's competition. This provided the team with a challenge, and after starting the season with some close losses, the team came up with a win against UNSW early in the season.

After some tricky mid-season games, an injection of new faces meant the team could build up its competitiveness in the latter half of the season- snaring a win in the penultimate game with a strong team performance at Cintra!

**The Team:** *Clancy Norris, Adelaide Netting, Madeline Hutchings, Aurora Beaumont, Hannah Schasser, Mallory Morrell, Beth Duck, Darcy Jackman, Debbie Greenwood (GK), Paige Gilroy, Heather Tralaggan, Teegan Bell, Katie Tappin, Caroline De Paoli, Jo Scanlon.*

**Competition position:** The Briars 5<sup>th</sup> Grade team came 7<sup>th</sup>

### Team Awards

<i>Players Player</i>	Mallory Morrell
<i>Best &amp; Fairest</i>	Aurora Beaumon
<i>Most Improved</i>	Darcy Jackman

## Briars Hockey Women's 6<sup>th</sup> Grade – ML6 | Premiers

Emma Ratcliffe | Manager

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We knew that 2024 would present a challenge as our 2<sup>nd</sup> season in the competition and after taking out the minor and major premierships in 2023 we knew we would have a target on our backs. Our goal was always to remain competitive and finish in the top four – little did we know we would walk away with the Minor and Major Premiership!!

With the return of the majority of players from season 2023, it was so great to continue to see our junior members of the team continue to thrive in leaps and bounds. It was also awesome to welcome Danica to the team as our official goalkeeper – she was a very welcome addition to the team and kept us in the hunt in many a game.

Going into the Grand Final we always knew it would be tough match as we had had to play and push hard against UNSW in previous games, and it has been a long season full of illness and injury (and pregnancies!!). However, as is always the case with this team, we dug deep and played an absolutely outstanding game coming away with a dominant 4-0 win!!



I am so proud of this group of women who turn up each and every week and give it their all despite their injuries and demanding lives outside of hockey. We are a team that just loves to play hockey and it is being made even better by seeing future stars of hockey really growing and maturing as part of our team. As always, a huge shoutout to our support crew who absolutely got us home on Grand Final day.

Looking forward to going around the park with these ladies next season!

**The Team:** *Samantha Beames, Kylie Beckhouse, Alana Durance, Katie Ellem, Kerrie-ann Gudmunson, Madeline Hall, Julia Little, Jessica Martyn, Danica Oades, Emma Ratcliffe, Anna Turnbull, Brooklyn Turnbull, Eve Wilson, Angela Wozniak.*

**Competition position:** The Briars 6<sup>th</sup> grade team came 1<sup>st</sup> and won the Grand Final.

#### **Team Awards**

<i>Players Player</i>	Ella Murphy
<i>Best &amp; Fairest</i>	Anna Turnbull
<i>Coach's Award</i>	Brooklyn Turnbull

## Briars Junior Hockey Report

### Junior Season Recap

Wade Johnson | Junior Vice President

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This year we had 16 Minkeys and 119 Juniors playing across 11 teams within the North Area and Sydney Metro competitions. We managed 2x Minkey squads, 3x U10s, 1x U12, 2x U14, 2x U16 and 1x U18 in 2024. The lower number of Minkey players is down to many of our young players wishing to play in the U10 competition where we had three teams competing. We had 23 new juniors join our ranks this year, if this was your first season with us, we hope you felt welcome and enjoyed playing in the maroon and gold! This was the first year with the updated HNSW age groups; U10, U12, U14, U16, U18. With both U14 and U16 being metropolitan wide competitions through Northern Area Hockey, and U18 moving back down to Northern Area teams only.

#### **Results Highlights:**

- 3x teams played for a Premiership – U18 Gold, U14 Gold (Metro) and U10A (Gold).
- Our U10A's were a consistent force throughout the season finishing 2nd after all round games. Only losing 0-2 to ND Gold.
- U14 Metro squad made the finals the hard way finishing 6th. Winning both their preliminary final and their semi-final matches to play off for the Premiership. Unfortunately losing 1-3 to Manly.
- U18s also made it to the grand-final the hard way. Finishing 4th to dominate the preliminary finals 5-1 and the semi-finals 3-0. Losing in the dying minutes of the game in a thrilling 2-5 match to Ryde Panthers.

#### **Representative Players:**

Of our 59 representative players, 9 of them represented NSW in 2024, with 10 selected for HNSW Pathways & Performance Program 2024-2025. I am very proud of all these players for their hard work and commitment, it is remarkable.

#### **Sydney East Hockey Association (SEHA) – Regional Team:**

- **U12 Girls Reps** - Abigail Ratcliffe, Ava Kordy, Catelyn Anggadi, Indie Turnbull, Kiera Murphy, Makenna Turnbull, Rose Haimona, Rosie Fung, Sophie Durance (9)
- **U12 Boys Reps** – Adam Bornhorst, Blake Learmonth, Cooper Charlton, Joshua Ratcliffe, Kobe Haimona, Luke Peskett, Oliver Durance, Toby Skinner, Xander Partis (9)
- **U14 Girls Reps** – Brooklyn Turnbull, Catelyn Anggadi, Clancy Norris, Ella Murphy, Ella Whitehall, Makenna Turnbull, Rosie Fung, Tabitha Lloyd, Tiani Honeman, Lily Dunham (10)
- **U14 Boys Reps** – Archer Shaw, Charlie Broadbent, Connor Charlton, Dylan Ulbrich, Ethan Choy, Hugo Ito-Mason, Joshua Ratcliffe, Luke Peskett, Mitchell Barker, Nate Taylor, Oliver Heathcote, Oscar Taylor (12)
- **U16 Girls Reps** – Addison Wilson, Adelaide Netting, Aurora Beaumont (3)
- **U16 Boys Reps** – Darius Pratt, Felix Fung, Harrison Hammond, Joshua Bourke, Luke Dunn, Marcus Caguin, Mark Everett, Oscar Taylor (8)
- **U18 Girls Reps** – Shannae Lawrence, Addison Wilson (2)

- **U18 Boys Reps** – Luke Broadbent, Oscar Smith, Henry Tyree, Felix Fung, James Reynolds, Jarrod Holmes (6)
- **State Representatives:**
- **NSW U14's Girls 2024** – Tiani Honeman, Lily Dunham
- **NSW U14's Boys 2024** – Oscar Taylor
- **U14's HNSW Pathways & Performance Program 2024-2025** – Charlie Broadbent
- **NSW U16 Boys 2024** – Brayden Brooks, Felix Fung
- **U16's HNSW Pathways & Performance Program 2024-2025** – Addison Wilson, Mitchell Baker, Darius Pratt, Oscar Taylor, Dylan Ulbrich, Tiani Honeman
- **NSW U18's Girls Shadow Players 2024** – Trinity Brooks
- **NSW U18's Boys 2024** – Oscar Smith, Henry Tyree
- **NSW U18's Boys Shadow Players 2024** - James Reynolds
- **U18's HNSW Pathways & Performance Program 2024-2025** – Trinity Brooks, Felix Fung, James Reynolds
- **2024 U18 National Future Talent Squads** - Oskar Smith

#### **15 x games played milestones celebrated in 2022!**

- **50 Games** – Catelyn Anggadi, Kiera Murphy, Addison Wilson, Brayden Wilson, Ava Ceely, Thea French, Rose Haimona, Rex Newman, Imogen Beames, Sophie Durance, Evelyn Hedges, Abigail Ratcliffe, Reece Rousell (13)
- **100 Games** – Sasha Woods, Dylan Ulbrich (2)

#### **Briars Junior Umpires 2024**

- **14x development umpires**
- Archer Shaw, Brooklyn Turnbull, Clancy Norris, Connor Charlton, Ella Murphy, Ella Whitehall, Ethan Choy, Josh Ratcliffe, Nate Taylor, Rex Newman, Rose Haimona, Rosie Fung, Sidharth Kale, Toby Skinner.
- **7x junior umpires**
- Adelaide Netting, Brayden Brook, Felix Fung, Josh Bourke, Mark Everett, Lily Dunham, Tully Shipton.
- **8x finals umpires**
- Brooklyn Turnbull, Clancy Norris, Ella Whitehall, Felix Fung, Mark Everett, Sidarth Kale, Tully Shipton, Scarlett Thuell.

#### **Thank you to all the managers and coaches!**

- Minkeys – Emma Pacey, Sarah Bowden Josh, Kent
- U10 Gold – Blanke Durance (GF)
- U10 Maroon – Sally Smid
- U10 Rose – Nicola Skinner
- U12 Gold – Marcus Fung
- U14 Gold – Stuart Turnbull & Liam Sweny (GF)
- U14 Maroon – David Ratcliff
- U16 Gold (Metro) – Jimmy Fordham
- U16 Maroon – Greg Dunn Malcom Newman
- U18 Gold – Wade Johnson (GF)

#### **Acknowledge and farewell to our juniors:**

This year there are 10 players 'aging out' of the junior program and now are solely playing senior hockey. They have a combined 873 junior games between them. The players listed below are some of our most accomplished juniors. They have represented our club at countless state championships, school carnivals, summer competitions and national titles over the years. We are looking forward to watching them grow in our community and watch them bring the club glory in the future.

#### **Congratulations!**

Zack Arambewala (80), Shannae Lawrence (41), Jarred Potts (40), Reece Rousell (61), Grace Scanlon, Tully Shipton (222), Oskar Smith (151), Henry Tyree (144), Brayden Wilson (54), Matthew Zeederberg (80).

## Briars Jnr Minkeys U8

Emma Pacey, Sarah Bowden & Josh Kent | Coaches



**The Team:** *Lucas Baldwin, Lena Deubler, Charlotte Churcher, Edward Pacey, Issac Williams, Grace Bowden, Mary Kent, Nathaniel Smid & Zoe Scott*

## Briars Jnr U10 Gold

Blake Durance | Coach



**The Team:** *Indie Turnbull, Toby Skinner, Thea French, Cooper Charlton, Sophie Durance, Kiera Murphy, Evelyn Hedges, Adam Bornhorst & Abigail Ratcliffe.*

### Competition Position

*The Briars Under 10 Gold came 2<sup>nd</sup> with 5 wins, 2 draws and 4 losses.*

### Team Awards

<i>Players Player</i>	Sophie Durance
<i>Best &amp; Fairest</i>	Kiera Murphy
<i>Coach's Award</i>	Adam Bornhorst

## Briars Jnr. Hockey U10 Maroon

Sally Smid & Kara De Stefano | Coach & Manager



**The Team:** *Ava Ceely, Aria De Stefano, Isla Cornforth, Samuel Smid, James Smid, Aidan Fitzgerald, Anastasia Argyrous, Jessica Pacey & Lachlan Goulder*

U10 Maroons had a cracker of a season despite placing second from the bottom at the end of the season. Most players came up from Minkeys in the previous year meaning they were learning about many new rules such as 16s, short corners and long corners.

The team had some incredible passages of play, including a kick from our goalie to our striker who then scored.

I'm so proud of them all for coming together as a team, learning to create passages of play through passing, and encouraging each other on the field, even in the freezing rain! If this is the future of Briars hockey, it's looking bloody strong!

**Competition position:** The Briars Under 10 Maroon came 6<sup>th</sup> with 2 wins and 6 losses.

**Team Awards**

<i>Players Player</i>	Samuel Smid
<i>Best &amp; Fairest</i>	Ava Ceely
<i>Coach's Award</i>	Isla Cornforth

## Briars Jnr. Hockey U10 Rose

Nicola Skinner | Coach



**The Team:** Zane French, Kobe Halmona, Jasneet Kaur, Raghav Kale, Lucy Skinner, Izabella Jasniewicz, Zachary Graham, Chloe Metledge, Gavin Singh, Filippa Maria Zimmer & Liv Caldwell.

**Competition Position:** The Briars Under 10 Rose team came 7<sup>th</sup> with 8 losses

**Team Awards**

<i>Players Player</i>	Kobe Haimona
<i>Best &amp; Fairest</i>	Izabella Jasniewicz
<i>Coach's Award</i>	Gavin Singh

## Briars Jnr. Hockey U12 Gold

Marcus Fung & Nicola Skinner | Coach & Manager

**The Team:** Toby Skinner, Rose Halmona, Tanish Kumar, Makenna Turnbull, Catelyn Anggadi, Ava Kordy, Oliver Durance, Zachary Caguin, Liv Caldwell, Rosie Fung, Xander Partis, Jiselle Bechara & Stephanie Doyle.



**Competition Position:** The Briars Under 12 Gold team came 6<sup>th</sup> with 11 losses

**Team Awards**

<i>Players Player</i>	Catlyn Anggadi
<i>Best &amp; Fairest</i>	Oliver Durance
<i>Coach's Award</i>	Toby Skinner

## Briars Jnr. Hockey U14 Gold Metro

Stuart Turnbull & Liam Sweny | Coaches

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**The Team:** Hugo Ito-Mason, Nate Taylor, Dylan Ulbrich, Oscar Taylor, Mitchell Barker, Oliver Heathcote, Archer Shaw, Brooklyn Turnbull, Tiani Honeman, Aaliyah Dunham, Ella Murphy, Clancy Norris & Charlie Broadbent.



**Competition Position:** The Briars Under 14 Gold Metro team came 5<sup>th</sup> after all round games, and 2<sup>nd</sup> after the finals with 7 wins, 1 draw and 4 losses.

### Team Awards

Players Player	Oscar Taylor
Best & Fairest	Mitchell Barker
Coach's Award	Lily Dunham

## Briars Jnr. Hockey U14 Maroon

David Ratcliff, Eve Wilson & Marcus Fung | Coaches & Managers

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**The Team:** Catelyn Anggadi, Makenna Turnbull, Erin Parmeter, Connor Charlton, Sidharh Kale, Blake Learmonth, Elyse Carmichael, Ethan Choy, Oliver Durance, Harry Taylor, Joshua Ratcliffe, Maalik Boakye-Yladom, Rosie Fung, Luke Peskett, Xander Partis & Chiara Phan.



**Competition Position:** The Briars Under 14 Maroon team came 3<sup>rd</sup> with 7 wins and 4 losses

### Team Awards

Players Player	Ethan Choy
Best & Fairest	Connor Charlton & Sidharth Kale
Coach's Award	Erin Parmenter

## Briars Jnr. Hockey U16 Gold Metro

Jimmy Forhamn, Daniel Everett & Liz Everett | Coaches & Manager

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The Briars Under 16s Metro side was a little light on numbers this season with only 12 players available for the season. In 2023, this side did not secure a win, so this year was about moving the needle in development and performance.



The side was very competitive this year securing 4 wins and 10 losses, most of which were by a goal. The side gelled well together, and in many games played high quality hockey.

Unfortunately, they just couldn't get the results in many instances where they dominated. We had three male debutants playing their first year in seniors with the club this year also which was great to see.

I would also like to thank Oscar and Tiani from the Under 14s Metro for often jumping on our

bench to give us subs, especially when we had two players out with injury for many weeks.

**The Team:** Jarrod Holmes, Harrison Hammond, Felix Fung, Mark Everett, Sebastian Derricks, Darius Pratt, Aurora Beaumont, Adelaide Netting, Addison Wilson, Ashton Fordham, Joshua Bourke, Alana Nguyen & Ashton Scally

**Competition Position:** The Briars Under 16 Gold Metro came 8<sup>th</sup> with 4 wins and 9 losses

### Team Awards

Players Player	Jarrod Holmes
Best & Fairest	Felix Fung
Coach's Award	Mark Everitt

## Briars Jnr. Hockey U16 Maroon

Greg Dunn, Malcolm Newman & Zander Caguin | Coach & Manager

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**The Team:** Marcus Caguin, James Carmichael, Luke Dunn, Rex Newman, Sebastian Flood, Andrew Morozoff, Anastasia Sakoulas, Ella Whitehall, Isabelle Middleton, Tabitha Lloyd, Nicola Walsh, Abigail Middleton, Sasha Woods & Nathaniel Smith



The Under 16 Maroon team had a difficult season from a results perspective, but really bonded as a group during the year, a bond that extends beyond the playing field. With the change of age groups and moving up into the B competition, it was always going to be a challenging year. The addition of a few new players and consistency of positions for players week to week allowed the group to gel and build on their success the previous season. The season was full of injuries with our Goalkeeper, Tabitha, missing most of the season and last year's best and fairest

Rex, missing a large chunk of the season with a broken wrist. Again like 2023, we lacked the ability to score goals consistently and that is something that the group needs to focus on for the 2025 season. Our defence was led by our captain Luke, but missing our goalkeeper did not help us on the scoreboard.

From an individual player perspective, the three award winners were well deserved. Nate was recognised by his peers as being the best player week in week out. Marcus and Luke both had stand out seasons



representing SEHA at the state championships and making the semi-finals, as well as both delivering at club level, they each had great years and shared our best and fairest. Finally, Ella as always one of our main attacking and goal scoring forwards Ella had a memorable season. Her selfless attitude and effort week in and week out made her the choice for this year's coaches award.

Well done to all the kids this year, you were a pleasure to coach, and I hope you all continue and have long and successful playing careers for Briars.

**Competition Position:** The Briars Under 16 Maroon came 8<sup>th</sup> on 21 points with 2 wins, a draw and 9 losses

#### Team Awards

<i>Players Player</i>	Nathanial Smith
<i>Best &amp; Fairest</i>	Marcus Caguin & Lue Dunn
<i>Coach's Award</i>	Ella Whitehall

## Briars Jnr. Hockey U18 Gold

Wade Johnson | Coach & Manager

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**The Team:** *Hugo Moore, Tully Shipton, CJ Holden, Shannae Lawrence, Luke Broadbent, Brayden Wilson, Scott Wrigley, Jessica Lavender, Zack Arambewela, Braydon Rousell, Reece Rousell & Matthew Zeederberg.*



This was the first year that Northern Area Hockey decided to drop the Sydney Metro Competition from the U18 age group. Briars U18 Gold were one of the strongest teams in the competition this year. Most of the team was playing high grade senior hockey alongside their Friday night junior games. We had some not so unexpected trouble getting players to training due to preparing for their HSC. We also played a significant number of our games with less than 11 players on the field. Yet we still managed to take wins away each week. The team was coming 2<sup>nd</sup> for most of the season but really hit a slump in the final rounds where we lost and drew our final games. This dropped us down to 4<sup>th</sup> place. Meaning to make the

Grand Final we needed to do it the hard way. We needed to beat 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Semi-Finals and then beat the loser of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Preliminary Final.

This is where the team really hit its peak at the right time. We won our Semi-Final in a convincing 5-1 match against Northern District Gold. Our Preliminary Final was brutal. We were up against UTS Raptors and both teams wanted to make the Grand Final. During the game we had 5 players sent off with green cards and Raptors had 3 players sent off with green cards and 1 with a 5-minute yellow card. Our opponents chased us the entire game never giving up. There were a few close calls, but we ended the game with a 3-0 win.

This meant we were in the Grand Final against Ryde Panthers. The Panthers had been undefeated throughout the season and had a homefield advantage in the Grand Final, they were the favourites to take home the trophy. With two solid wins we were ready to steal the trophy. The atmosphere on the day was electric. We had the biggest crowd of supporters at any Briars match, Juniors or Seniors this year. It seemed like one of the players had invited their entire school year to the match and they were outstanding! We had old Briars heads, past players, and family turn up. The chanting and cheering were really something else.

The game started poorly. The Panthers were attacking constantly, and we were lucky to keep the ball out of the goal. The 1<sup>st</sup> quarter ending 0-0. The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter was worse. We looked like we weren't even on the

field. The Panthers scored three quick goals, and we were struggling to recover. At half time the score was 3-0. The crowd was still chanting our names and egging the team on. The players dug deep and came out strong. We came back with two goals of our own and dominated the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, finally the game was on. Going into the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter it was 3-2. We had been chasing the Panthers the entire game with the crowd on our side it was absolutely thrilling to watch. But by the end the Panthers put one more goal on us, 4-2, yet the team kept pushing. Right until the final whistle when the Panthers sealed the deal, ending the game 5-2. I have never been involved in such a dramatic game. It was equal parts the worst game I have seen yet the best. I have never seen so many highs and lows. Our supporters were legendary, which added to the wildness of the game. That was exactly what Grand Finals are made of. Thank you to the team for such an amazing experience this year. even though we lost the game it still felt like the perfect send off for our players who age out this year. I am looking forward to having them on my team in 2025.

**Competition Position:** The Briars Under 18 Gold team came 4<sup>th</sup> overall in the round games and 2<sup>nd</sup> after the finals, with 8 wins and 4 losses.

**Team Awards**

<i>Players Player</i>	Zack Arambewela
<i>Best &amp; Fairest</i>	Hugo Moore
<i>Coach's Award</i>	Matthew Zeederberg

# Briars Squash

## Chairman's Report

Anthony Rex Thomas



### Overview

*This year has been a pivotal one for Briars Squash, marked by growth, inclusivity, & exciting new initiatives. We've welcomed more players across all levels, with a significant increase in beginner women. A highlight was introducing a beginner women's category in our Club Championships, reflecting our dedication to encouraging more women to engage with squash.*

*We're also thrilled to announce plans to sponsor Egyptian coach Mohammed Saied, known as "Joey." A former Briars Premier League player, Joey has spent the last eight years coaching at one of the world's top squash clubs under the renowned Ashraf Hanafi. His arrival will bring fresh expertise, innovative programs, and a stronger pathway for player development.*

*Joey's arrival promises to elevate our coaching standards, introduce dynamic new programs, & establish a clearer pathway for player development. His dedication will propel Briars Squash to new heights in years to come!*

### World Junior Championships

We are thrilled to announce that two of our local juniors, Thomas Scott and Kasper Cheung, had the honour of being selected for the Australian team at the prestigious World Junior Championships in Houston, Texas. Competing on the global stage, Thomas achieved a world ranking of 115th, while Kasper finished 101st. Their hard work and dedication have made us immensely proud, showcasing the high caliber of talent emerging from Briars Squash.



### World Masters

Rex demonstrated incredible skill and tenacity at the World Masters Championships, finishing 16th in the world in the 35-40 age category. His performance stands as a testament to the continued strength and depth of our club's senior players.



## Junior Pennants

The Junior Pennant competitions highlighted the depth of talent within our junior ranks. The results are as follows:

Division-1	Briars 1 Briars 2	1 <sup>st</sup> Place 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Division-2	Briars 4	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Division-3	Briars 5 Briars 4	1 <sup>st</sup> Place 5 <sup>th</sup> Place
Division-04	Briars 6	4 <sup>th</sup> Place
Division-05	Briars 8 Briars 7	1 <sup>st</sup> Place 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Division-06	Briars 10 Briars 9	1 <sup>st</sup> Place 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place

Our juniors continue to impress, bringing home outstanding results across multiple divisions. Congratulations to all teams for their exceptional performances and sportsmanship.



## Senior Pennants

Briars has had incredible success in the Sydney North Pennant and has shown once again they have the greatest depth amongst many divisions. Briars has the most teams in the Sydney North Pennant out of every club in the region, a true testament to the competitive spirit of Briars Squash.

Teams and Results:

<b>Briars 1 (Div 1)</b> Captain: Krishna Vishwanathan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Krishna Vishwanathan</li> <li>• Thomas Scott</li> <li>• Doug Odewahn Oxley</li> <li>• Stanley Mok</li> <li>• Ben Williams</li> </ul>	<b>Briars 2 (Div 1) - 2<sup>ND</sup></b> Captain: Matt Bridle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matt Bridle</li> <li>• Kasper Cheung</li> <li>• Dan Godwin</li> <li>• Karen Blom</li> <li>• Alex Leonardi</li> </ul>	<b>Briars 3 (Div 1) - 3<sup>rd</sup></b> Captain: Anthony Thomas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anthony Thomas</li> <li>• Mick Fullick</li> <li>• Dom Ratcliffe</li> <li>• Jane Kennedy</li> <li>• Michael Flannagan</li> </ul>
<b>Briars 4 (Div 2) - 6<sup>th</sup></b> Captain: Ben Miller <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ben Miller</li> </ul>	<b>Briars 5 (Div 3) - 3<sup>rd</sup></b> Captain: James Herbert <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• James Herbert</li> </ul>	<b>Briars 6 (Div 3) - 4<sup>th</sup></b> Captain: Glenn Mason <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Glen Mason</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vipul Kashyap</li> <li>• Jacob Marais</li> <li>• Peter Sinodinos</li> <li>• Daniel Yanez</li> <li>• Guy Pascal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mark Dickson</li> <li>• Nitin Malhotra</li> <li>• Hyunku Kei Kang</li> <li>• Darren Gardner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• David Osie</li> <li>• Kieran Ryan</li> <li>• Ambrose Tho</li> <li>• Brendan Creek</li> <li>• Michelle Pym</li> </ul>
<b>Briars 7 - 3<sup>rd</sup></b> Captain: Doug Balmer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doug Balmer</li> <li>• Shaun Lorentz</li> <li>• Richard McLean</li> <li>• Emilia Scott</li> <li>• Deep Kagda</li> </ul>	<b>Briars 8 - 5<sup>th</sup></b> Captain: Patric Hui <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patric Hui</li> <li>• Liz Corderoy</li> <li>• Nick Turkington</li> <li>• Tennille Hui</li> <li>• Scott Kennedy</li> </ul>	<b>Briars 9 - 1<sup>st</sup></b> Captain: Ankur Badhwar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ankur Badhwar</li> <li>• Brendan Boomla</li> <li>• Liam Hammer</li> <li>• Nadiv Ratnam</li> <li>• Luke Coles</li> </ul>
<b>Briars 10 - 4<sup>th</sup></b> Captain: Bryan Massey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bryan Massey</li> <li>• Robert Loughman</li> <li>• Richard Moysessey</li> <li>• Tomer Itah</li> <li>• Richard Nicholas</li> </ul>	<b>Briars 11 - 3<sup>rd</sup></b> Captain: Michael McCauley <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Michael McCauley</li> <li>• Ram Sharma</li> <li>• Daniel Ling</li> <li>• Michael Daly</li> <li>• Merryn Vincent</li> <li>• Colin Brunkner</li> </ul>	<b>Briars 12 - 7<sup>th</sup></b> Captain: Anne Redfern <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anne Redfern</li> <li>• Richard Visser</li> <li>• Ilse Marais</li> <li>• Ros Lloyd</li> <li>• Nicki Bispham</li> <li>• Hella Stratton</li> </ul>



## Mid-Year Competition

The internal road to champs which is a series of events that are held monthly in the lead up to the club championships in December have been a huge success. Teams are vying for top position and winners of the Briars squash club championships. The Road to Champs also supports various charities with the latest event raising over \$500 for Pink Ribbon Day.



## NSW Masters

Held at Thornleigh Squash

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Thornleigh played host to the states best players over 35. Briars had a fantastic turnout with many of our players taking out the top spot. Several of these players actively compete in the Masters Tour, including Australian Masters events and World Masters.

Anthony Rex Thomas	(35 – 39)	Open Winner
Ben Miller	(40 – 44)	Open Runner Up
Doug Odewahn-Oxley	(45 – 49)	Open Winner
Tomer Itah	(45 – 49) <i>Div 1</i>	6th place
Scott Johnson	(50 – 54) <i>Div 1</i>	5th Place
Colin Griffiths	(55 – 59) <i>Open</i>	Runner Up
Peter Sinodinos	(55 – 59) <i>Div 1</i>	4th Place
James Herbert	(60 – 64) <i>Open</i>	Winner
Harry Smith	(60 – 64) <i>Div 1</i>	6th place
Michelle Pym	(45 – 49) <i>Open</i>	Winner
Karen Blom	(40 – 44) <i>Open</i>	Winner
Jane Kennedy	(45 – 49) <i>Open</i>	Winner

## Squash Award Winners

Annie Gleason Junior Award | Daniel Gonzalez-Velancia

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The Anne Gleason Junior Award for this year is proudly presented to Daniel Gonzalez-Velancia, a remarkable young player who embodies the spirit and dedication celebrated by this honour. Daniel's commitment to squash is evident in his active participation across junior and adult pennant competitions, as well as various club events. During his Duke of Edinburgh program, Daniel chose to dedicate his efforts to the squash club, a testament to his enthusiasm for the sport and community. He has not only excelled on the court but also serves as an ambassador for Briars Squash, frequently encouraging friends to join and experience the game he loves.

Daniel exemplifies all the values represented by the Anne Gleason Junior Award. As a team member, he is reliable, supportive, and always brings positive energy to matches. His keen interest and dedication to improving his skills have been evident in his consistent performance throughout the season. Polite, kind, and respectful, Daniel's conduct on and off the court sets a high standard for his peers, while his neat and professional appearance further reflects his respect for the sport. His passion and pride for Briars Squash have made him a wonderful ambassador, and we are excited to see him continue to grow as both a player and leader within the club.

Doug Vanderfield Trophy | Ben Miller

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This year, the Doug Vanderfield Trophy is awarded to Ben Miller, a dedicated and passionate member of Briars Squash. As a certified NSW squash referee, Ben generously volunteers his time at major events, including the Australian Junior Championships, ensuring fair play and a positive experience for all participants. His commitment goes beyond the referee's chair, as Ben is an enthusiastic team player, regularly competing in pennant for the club and contributing to the vibrant community spirit at Briars Squash. His presence at club events is a testament to his passion for the sport, always bringing energy, encouragement, and a friendly smile.

Ben exemplifies all the qualities recognised by the Doug Vanderfield Trophy. His value as a team member and club representative is unmatched, consistently showing keenness, sportsmanship, and a drive to improve his game. On the court, Ben is known for his fairness and respectful conduct, making him a role

model for others. Whether playing, officiating, or simply supporting fellow players, Ben's dedication and enthusiasm have made him an indispensable part of the Briars Squash family.

# Briars Netball

## Presidents Report

Bindi March-Ali



### Highlights

*I am pleased to announce that the following teams were premiership winners.*

*U10/1 Blossoms (minor and major) premiers*

*U11/1 Roses (minor) premiers*

*U15/1 Marigolds (minor and major) premiers*

*U15/3 Ambers (minor) premiers*

*Cadet 1 Gemstones (minor) premiers*

*C5 Lapis Lazuli (minor) premiers*

We have been very proud of all our players, umpires, coaches and supporters this season.

Everyone played and supported with such positivity, inclusion and friendship. It truly has been a great season - except for the weather.

We started the season with 40 teams. approx. 380 players. We had 6 modified teams, 26 teams across our juniors and cadets and 8 senior teams plus 23 players in our little Net Set Go program. 15 teams reached the semi-finals and 9 made it to the Grand Final. And we were awarded the Founders Trophy (U10/1 Blossoms), the Denise Phillipson Trophy (U15/1 Marigolds) and the Lynette Chalk Trophy Senior Club Champions for 2024.

Our grading system is working very well with all our graded teams, except for one team, making the final series rounds.

This season could not have been possible without our amazing volunteers and Executive team. This team amazingly juggles their club roles with full-time careers and families.

The Club has had the same executive committee structure from when the BNC started with 2 teams. Due to the size of the club, with now averaging over 40 teams for the last number of years, we needed to create more roles to lighten the load on some. We now have 2 vice presidents, Rosie Ryan and Kath Walkley, who not only do this role, but Rosie is also our Coaching Convenor and coaches one of our senior teams, and Kath is our Senior Registrar, managing 2 teams. They both go above and beyond, and they have supported me to ensure that we are making the right decisions for our players.

We have two amazing secretaries, let's face it, they do the most, what they cover off and think of keeps this club going. Christine Eastlake and Kristy Chan work tirelessly for this club, from sorting out gear, uniforms, correspondence and everything in-between. Our club is so indebted to these two fabulous people!

The Briars Netball Club continues to work with "players come first" for all our decisions and we are continuing a fabulous community club in which we have happy players within a supportive community.

We look forward to supporting all our players, volunteers and community this summer series, October - December 2024, we have 22 teams playing, and in the next winter season 2025.

Thank you to Briars Sports Club for their unwavering support.



## Junior Modified Netball

### U8 Bellflowers

Janice Padovani, Natasha Moaudis & Alisarar Khalil | Coaches & Manager

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It was a fun first season of Netball for the Under 8 Bellflowers. Whilst the team was sad to miss games due to wet weather, we had fun on the courts when we played! It has been lovely to watch this team grow, have fun, improve their netball skills and work well as a team. Looking forward to the 2025 Season. Well done, Bellflowers!

**The team:** *Ayla Lor, Amelie Padovani-Ginies, Imogen Partis, Georgia Colussi, Georgia Khalil, Livia Marshall, Perri Morgan, Zoe Maoudis, Zoe King.*

### U8 Lilacs

Kelly Pisani & Erin Wood, Connie Mamone, Jaime Campbell | Coach & Managers

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This season has been an incredible journey for our Under 8's netball team, with each player showing remarkable improvement since the first week. All the girls have developed impressive shooting skills, agility in defence and increased passing accuracy. I have been very proud to coach such a great group of athletes.



Well done to all the girls on such a successful first season of netball. A big thank you to Olivia for being the assistant coach this season and to Erin, Connie and Jaime for sharing the manager role. Congratulations to Sophie, who received the Coach's Award for her exceptional dedication and skill development throughout the season.

**The team:** *Cienna Oddo, Elizabeth Pankhurst, Emily Pisani, Jessica Gurung, Lexi Zeidan, Sara Mamone, Sophie Hales, Willow Jackson, Stella Wood.*

### U8 Tigerlillies

Janice Padovani, Natasha Moaudis & Alisarar Khalil | Coaches & Manager

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It was the first time playing and coaching for our team, the Tigerlillies, and what a fabulous first season we had. Each player genuinely enjoyed coming to training and the games on Saturday. Everyone learnt new skills and developed a lovely team bond. Some games were just magic! Catherine, Izzy and Jen are so proud of their Tigerlillies and look forward to the years of netball ahead. Thank you, parents for your enthusiasm and support. Coaches award goes to Gemma Ferretti for her energy and enthusiasm that she put in on and off the court! Her fierce defence was impressive. Well done, Gemma!

**The team:** Aaliyah Mariano, Ava Sherlock, Ciara White, Fiadh Downey, Gemma Ferretti, Helena Mansfield, Isla Stellino, Melina Watt, Rose Cassidy.

## U9 Bindis

Renee Bitmanis & Ngoc Crisafulli | Coach & Manager

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We began the season with seven returning players and welcomed a new teammate into the Bindis family. Right from the start, the team picked up where they left off last season, working hard on their skills and teamwork. Their greatest strength this season was their strong bond and understanding of every game play,



which translated into excellent on-court collaboration. This dedication earned them victories in every game but one. I'm incredibly proud of how the Bindis gave their all throughout the season. Congratulations, Bindis!

**The team:** Aqeela Mubarak, Celia Bitmanis, Eloise Crisafulli, Emily Shipley, Matilda Shou, Mila Monaco, Neve Wright, Sophie Roach & Tahlia McLeod.

## U9 Brambles

Cristina Saija & Alison Ferris | Coach & Manager

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**The team:** Alissa Amiouni, Annabelle Ferris, Charlotte D'agostino, Chloe Vicano, Eda Rose Ozcicek, Hailey Chan, Ilaria Saija, Sanna Arora & Soraya Ronsisvalle-Obaid.

## U9 Brambles

Sierra Sparrow, Claire Turner & Alison Ferris | Coaches & Manager

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This season the girls played with passion and determination. For most of the girls, this was their first season playing netball and they have grown into great young players with lots of potential. They showed



up to the games with big smiles on their faces ready to give it their all. They all encourage one another to try their best and have formed many friendships. We as coaches are very proud of all their efforts this season.

**The team:** Aaliyah Michail, Abigail Rollason, Catalina Oddo, Emilie Di Stefano, Ilaria Mamone, Madalyn Hakim, Milani Casamento, Scarlett Griffiths, Talia Di Pietro

## Junior Netball

### U10 Blossoms | Minor Premiers & Grand Final Premiers

Michelle Mitchell & Sonya Amede | Coach & Manager



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
<b>BNC Blossoms</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
HNC Comets	12	19	9	2	1
LWNC Red Reindeer	12	14	5	3	4
TNC Bengals	12	14	6	4	2
FDAS Flamingos	12	8	2	6	4
BUNC Ravens	12	5	1	8	3
LWNC Black Orcas	12	3	0	9	3

**The team:** *Cara Montuori, Chiara Canturi, Eloise Bitmanis, Eve Ghaly, Eve Kelly, Evelyn Cantley, Lorelei Haddo, Tayla Winstanley*

### U10 Asters

Katrin Hodder, Nicole Schojer & Alison Turner | Coaches & Manager

While many of the team members had played netball before this was the first year we played as a team. It was a challenging season with BYE's and wet weather so not many games at the beginning of the season. We spent all the first half of the season at the bottom of the table. However the girls did not give up. They turned up to training each week and gave their best at the games on Saturday. This paid off as the season progressed. The girls started to fall into their positions in the new team and learned how to work together. We finished the season in 2nd place. This was a credit to the entire team, and we are very proud of them.



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
LWNC Red Puffins	12	15	6	3	3
<b>BNC Asters</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>
FDAS Merlins	13	11	4	6	3
FDAS Bowerbirds	12	8	2	6	4
TNC Cubs	12	6	1	7	4

**The team:** *Ava Charlwood, Charlotte Banh, Elise Schojer, Isabel Humphreys, Isabella Gentile, Kiira Hodder, Ruby James, Zara Rizk*

### U10 Blazingstars

Esther Holding, Alana Sparrow & Cath Rogerson | Coaches & Manager

It has been a pleasure coaching these girls this season and seeing them play together as a team and work their way up the ladder. They started with a range of abilities from having played for Briars previously to never playing netball before, but they have all grown in their skills over these past few months and always make us laugh.



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
FDAS Starlings	15	23	9	1	5
<b>BNC Blazingstars</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
HNC Dynamos	15	16	6	5	4
LWNC White Emperors	15	15	5	5	5
ANC Wallabies	15	10	3	8	4
SHLNC Cockatoos	15	9	2	8	5

**The team:** Anna Sweeny, Belle Trewick, Chloe Zeidan, Ilana Kotselas, Jessica Rogerson, Emily Nasr, Zoe Paterakis, Angelique Tannous

## U10 Lavender

Aarani Posener, Yameena Mubarek & Lucy Aldini | Coaches & Manager

The Lavenders had a great season winning almost every match and were on track to the finals. It was our first season of coaching, and this team made it incredibly easy, they all have incredible skill that they never failed to execute every week. Regardless of them starting with an almost completely new team they quickly learnt to play together and the chemistry they had on court was a joy to watch. They never let any losses bring them down they only took it as a way to learn and continue to be better. We are so proud of how far they have come!



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
ANC Koalas	14	25	11	0	1
SHLNC Goannas	15	25	11	1	0
<b>BNC Lavenders</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>
LWNC Black Penguins	15	11	4	8	3
LWNC Black Ice	15	10	3	8	4
FDAS Kingfishers	15	9	3	9	3

**The team:** Eva Aldini, Isabella D'Annunzio, Jessica Ronan, Kiera Ainsworth, Maya Minh Anh Nguyen, Mia Shou, Sophia Raad, Violet Marshall.

## U11 Wattle

Shayla Naidoo & Melanie Taylor | Coach & Manager



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
HNC Jaffas	14	25	11	0	3
LWNC White Koalas	14	19	8	3	3
LWNC Black Wallabies	14	19	8	3	3
<b>BNC Wattle</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>
TNC Kittens	14	12	4	6	4
HNC Lillies	14	10	4	7	4
TNC Munchkins	14	9	3	8	3
SHLNC Wallaroos	14	3	3	11	3

**The Team:** Abigail Taylor, Addison Nasr, Alexia Alfarah, Ava Karam, Everly Dang, Maria Olkina, Sandra Kasiria, Sienna Michail, Zara Zeidan

## U11 Orchids

Grace Campbell, Jane Campbell & Emma Pier | Coaches & Manager



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
HNC Bears	14	23	10	1	3
GNC Calais	14	21	9	2	3
ANC Waratahs	14	17	8	3	3
HNC Violets	14	14	5	5	4
<b>BNC Orchids</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>
BNC Tulips	14	9	3	6	3
LWNC Red Emus	14	7	2	9	3
ANC Wombats	14	6	1	9	4

**The Team:** Billie Lademann, Clare Campbell, Emma McCutcheon, Inaya Sharma, Jacinta Cortis-Jones, Maddison Dao, Mira Sharma, Samira Meate, Thisha Vishaal

## U11 Bluebells

Rebecca Devine & Tanya Nicoll | Coach & Manager

The Bluebells have been together for 3 years now and moved their way up to Division 2. It's been a funny year with all the wet weather, but the girls have persisted all season. We lost a couple of games but learnt from these losses and tried new strategies. The girls have learnt new skills at training and used them effectively come game day, improving with every round. We have some killer defensive players and consistently good shooters. We are finishing in 3rd place on the ladder and their teamwork will have them in good stead for the final rounds. We were premiership winners last year and hope to be again this year!



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
BUNC Silver Stars	15	25	11	1	3
LWNC Black Quolls	15	19	7	3	5
<b>BNC Bluebells</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
FDAS Pelicans	15	16	6	5	4
LWNC White Quokkas	15	7	2	10	3
FDAS Sandpipers	15	5	1	10	3

**The Team:** Elizabeth Noyes, Gabriella Elazzi, Isabella Carroll, Amelia Seminara, Zara Gomez, Isla Devine, Erin Stafford, Clarissa Nicoll & Evie Monaco.

## U11 Tulips

Megan Varlow, Abbey O'Neil & Carley Masiello | Coaches & Manager

After a challenging season last year, the Tulips had a great 2024, relishing the opportunity to be competitive and trying hard each week. While where to stand for throw ins continues to be a work in progress, the Tulips are showing significant improvement in their netball skills and knowledge which has translated to some

great games and increased confidence within the team. Congratulations Tulips for sticking with it and improving so much this year.



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
HNC Bears	14	23	10	1	3
GNC Calais	14	21	9	2	3
ANC Waratahs	14	17	8	3	3
HNC Violets	14	14	5	5	4
BNC Orchids	14	13	5	6	3
<b>BNC Tulips</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>
LWNC Red Emus	14	7	2	9	3
ANC Wombats	14	6	1	9	4

**The Team:** Alyssa D'Agostino, Caitlin Cox, Claudia Harrison, Ella Vicano, Isabelle Kavich, Lucia Brown, Matilda Armour, Sophie McInnes, Stella Masiello

## U11 Roses | Minor Premiers

Bindi March-Ali & Karen Brown | Coach & Manager

Our 11/1's, Roses had a wonderful season, minor premiers and grand finalists. In their second year together, they learnt to play more strategically as a team and improve their skills. Unfortunately, just missed out on the grand final win, but the team, who have been undefeated for two seasons, will learn from this and come back bigger and better.



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
BNC Roses	<b>12</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
LWNC Red Kangaroos	12	18	8	2	2
TNC Kitty Kats	12	7	2	6	3
ANC Wattles	12	7	2	7	3
SHLNC Wallabies	12	6	2	8	2

**The Team:** Amalia Wickham, Charlotte McCarthy, Eleanor Lodewijks, Evelyn Ianni, Georgia Ferris, Ivy Dimassy, Juliette Dick & Mikayla Brown.

## U12 Violets

Celeste Jackson-Snow & Narelle Horton | Coach & Manager

The U12 Violets welcomed two new players to the team this year, Indiana and Olivia. The girls quickly adopted and welcomed our new players into the team. Everyone soon became well-versed in each other's playing styles and played well during our Saturday games. Every girl was motivated to improve, learn and further their netball skills both at training and during games. The Violet's had a good season finishing 6th out of 8 teams overall.

The Violet's team members have grown stronger together, not only as a team but as friends, and they continue to improve and develop their netball skills each year. I hope to continue coaching the Violet's in 2025 – bring on Winter 2025!



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
LWNC Red Starfish	14	22	10	1	2
LWNC Red Corals	14	20	9	3	2
BNC Mayflowers	14	19	8	3	3
BUNC Sunflowers	14	16	6	4	4
BNC Azaleas	14	11	4	7	3
<b>BNC Violets</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>
ANC Daffodils	14	7	2	9	3
FDAS Seagulls	14	6	0	8	6

**The Team:** Lexie Gigante, Olivia Nichols, Camille Borozan, April Horton, Zoe Crane, Olivia Bruneau, Eliza O'Neill, Ava Ngo, Indiana Bohl

## U12 Azaleas

Siobhan Heathcote, Anna Wilkins | Coach & Manager

U12 Azaleas moved up to division 2 this season and welcomed 3 new lovely players to the team. It was a bit of a different season with so many washed out games.

Having started the season a little slow, being a new team dynamic, the girls improved week by week. They came together each Saturday and played their hearts out! They played every game with passion and spirit. I am very proud to have coached the girls this season. It's been so rewarding to watch their progress throughout the year.



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
LWNC Red Starfish	14	22	10	1	2
LWNC Red Corals	14	20	9	3	2
BNC Mayflowers	14	19	8	3	3
BUNC Sunflowers	14	16	6	4	4
<b>BNC Azaleas</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>
BNC Violets	14	11	4	7	3
ANC Daffodils	14	7	2	9	3
FDAS Seagulls	14	6	0	8	6

**The Team:** Charlize Oddo, Charlotte Heathcote, Eve Maoudis, Georgia Hansen, Havana Khalil, Kaelee Arthur, Mia Colussi, Mila Wilkins, Sophie BouAntoun

## U12 Snapdragons

Nicole Smith, Kellie McLeod & Megan Belanger | Coach & Manager

It was a tough season for the girls stepping up into a new combined division with 13 Division 1 and 12 Division 1 being placed together. We also had most of our girls step up to Inner West Rep commitments for the first time and we spent the year managing loads and injuries. However, it has been probably the season we have had the most fun training and focusing on different things in games other than the score board. It was a season we will be better off from, and the girls are to be congratulated for their positive mindset and attitude they continued to bring each week.



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
HNC Jellybeans	15	24	10	1	4
LWNC Black Finches	15	21	8	2	5
TNC Snow Leopards	15	19	8	4	3
BNC Daffodils	15	16	6	5	4
<b>BNC Snapdragons</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>
HNC Sparkles	15	5	1	11	3

**The Team:** Madeleine Jovcevski, Sarcha McLeod, Hannah Ryan, Ellen Newton, Andie Belanger, Jasmine Leaeno, Emily Tydd & Ravie Dieleman.

## U12 Mayflowers

Anna Chan, Elizabeth Broadbent & Saira Bansal | Coaches & Manager

This year Elizabeth and I have had the pleasure of coaching the U12 Mayflowers. This season the girls have massively improved their skills and teamwork. The girls have consistently developed as a team throughout the season but have also developed as individuals. This came through in each girl's hard dedication they have displayed throughout the season. The girls had great outcomes in their games and constantly persisted throughout the challenging games. We are extremely proud of how the girls have developed and played this season and cannot wait to see what they can do in the future. Well done to the Mayflowers this year.



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
LWNC Red Starfish	14	22	10	1	2
LWNC Red Corals	14	20	9	3	2
<b>BNC Mayflowers</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
BUNC Sunflowers	14	16	6	4	4
BNC Azaleas	14	11	4	7	3
BNC Violets	14	11	4	7	3
ANC Daffodils	14	7	2	9	3
FDAS Seagulls	14	6	0	8	6

**The Team:** Amanda Houltham, Billie Qalilawa, Charlotte Casamento, Gemma Walliker, Grace Morgan, Isabelle Tydd, Maeve Doyle, Sabine Bansal & Sophie Gong

## U12 Dahlias

Lily Butcher & Dimitra Kaloudis | Coach & Manager



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
SHLNC Sugar Gliders	14	21	9	2	3
LWNC White Sharks	14	17	7	4	3
SHLNC Koalas	14	15	6	5	3
FDAS Sparrows	14	15	6	5	3
TNC Pouncers	14	15	6	5	3
BUNC Swifts	14	13	5	6	3
<b>BNC Dahlias</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>
FDAS Penguins	14	6	1	9	4



**The Team:** Emma Curley, Gianna Kaloudis, Grace Rizk, Katia Di Pietro, Kritha Moudgalya, Lorelai Chung, Reese Tiglao, Sahana Ramesh & Sarah Briggs.

## U13 Daffodils

Kelly Pisani, Karen Tancred & Ngoc Crisafulli | Coaches & Manager

Our Under 13's team has had an exciting first season together, forming not only a new team but also a close-knit group of friends who share a passion for netball. From the very first game, the girls have shown incredible determination and commitment, quickly developed their skills and improved with each match. Their love for the game is evident in every training session and game day, where the team spirit is always high, and everyone supports each other both on and off the court. Congratulations to Alani, Madison, Ella, Emilia, Olivia, Lili, Sarah, Juliette and Isla for a very successful season. The daffodils finished in fourth place this year which was a great achievement considering the hard competition. A big thank you to Karen for co-coaching the team with me and to Ngoc for being an amazing manager. Congratulations to Madison who was elected as the player's player for 2024 by her teammates.



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
HNC Jellybeans	15	24	10	1	4
LWNC Black Finches	15	21	8	2	5
TNC Snow Leopards	15	19	8	4	3
<b>BNC Daffodils</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>
BNC Snapdragons	15	5	1	10	3
HNC Sparkles	15	5	1	11	3

**The Team:** Alani Singh, Ella Tancred, Emilia Ghaly, Isla Casamento, Juliette Nichols, Madison Crisafulli, Olivia Pisani, Lilyana Canturi, Sarah Arnold.

## U13 Camellias

Daniel Ivanac & Carley Masiello | Coach & Manager



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
FDAS Herons	14	25	12	1	1
GNC Jackaroos	14	17	8	5	1
BUNC Smoothies	14	17	8	5	1
HNC Legends	14	13	6	7	1
HNC Freckles	14	13	6	7	1
TNC Leopards	14	13	6	7	1
SHLNC Quokkas	14	11	5	8	1
<b>BNC Camellias</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>

**The Team:** Annabelle Cameron, Alexandra Yeates, Celine Leaper, Eden Rose Merhi, Eva Masiello, Evie Wilson, Luella Liebenberg, Sophia Fam.

## U14 Junipers

Ian Allan & Rebecca Nichols | Coach & Manager

After a tough year last year, we gained three new Junipers and had a bit more fun. Getting their first win in the rain was a highlight and then another game in the rain, with players missing and some playing sick was an entertaining draw. Towards the end of the season the team was looking comfortable, happy and managed the swapping out of the extended bench well. Finished with a strong win and more optimism for next year.



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
BUNC Sapphires	14	19	8	3	3
FDAS Doves	14	18	8	4	2
GNC Commodores	14	14	6	6	2
LWNC White Asters	14	14	6	6	2
TNC Lions	14	12	5	7	2
<b>BNC Junipers</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>
LWNC Red Lillies	14	6	2	10	2
IWNA Reps	14	0	10	2	2

**The Team:** Audrey Allan, Betsi Lee, Charlotte Allan, Elizabeth Allan, Emily Horton, Grace Fowler, Lily Germain, Olivia Rogerson, Ruby Nichols

## U14 Poppies

Luci Rima & Mary Turner | Coach & Manager



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
ANC Rockets	12	20	10	2	0
HNC Starburst	12	19	9	2	1
RNC Kookaburras	12	14	6	4	2
LWNC White Ash	12	12	5	5	2
HNC Foxes	12	9	4	7	1
LWNC Red Correas	12	5	2	9	1
<b>BNC Poppies</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>

**The Team:** Charlotte Mansfield, Claire Turner, Jane Campbell, Jessica Garigliano, Leiana-Paige Taria-Rima, Maggie Quinlan, Mia Dimassy, Veronica Ha, Violet Quinlan

## U15 Marigolds | Minor Premiers & Grand Final Premiers

Daniel Ivanac & Leanne Kolokouris | Coach & Manager

**The Team:** Chiara Biviano, Lilian Amede, Sienna Orlich, Sierra Sparrow, Simaema Wickham, Tehya Sivanesarajah, Zali Mitchell, Zara Kolokouris.



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
<b>BNC Marigolds</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
LWNC Red Toucans	12	16	7	3	2
ANC Meteors	12	13	5	4	3
SHLNC Joeys	12	12	5	5	2
TNC Bobcats	12	10	4	6	2
LWNC Redbacks	12	7	3	8	1
FDAS Falcons	12	3	1	10	1

## U15 Azurites

Linda Smith & Kate Alam | Coach & Manager



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
FDAS Cockatoos	14	20	9	3	2
RNC Finches	14	20	9	3	2
LWNC Black Hawks	14	17	7	4	3
LWNC Black Bilbies	14	16	7	5	2
HNC Giants	14	12	4	6	4
SCHOLS Mangoes	14	11	4	7	3
LWNC White Lions	14	11	4	7	3
<b>BNC Azurites</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>

**The Team:** Ava Alam, Nina Chashchina, Beth Eccleston, Isabella Nunez, Jenelle Melhem, Harini Umopathy, Lara Moussa, Sophie Flood & Isabel Revello.

## U15 Turquoise

Catherine Ballesty & Donna Harris | Coach & Manager

**The Team:** Alia Coubrough, Bianca Harris, Elissa Soltani, Ella Haugen Peninton, Emma Hunt, Isabel Ballesty, Scarlett Reynolds, Keira Drummond, Liberty Matthews.

TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
TNC Jungle Cats	13	23	11	1	1
HNC Wildcats	13	19	9	3	1
LWNC Red Frogs	13	15	7	5	1
SCHOLS Strawberries	13	15	7	5	1
FDAS Owls	14	13	6	7	1
RNC Cassowaries	13	7	3	9	1
<b>BNC Turquoise</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>
SCHOLS Lychees	13	3	1	11	1

## U15 Ambers | Minor Premiers

Laura Eastlake, Amelia Walkley & Louise Quinlan | Coaches & Manager

The girls had an amazing year, managing to end the regular season as undefeated minor premiers.

Despite a disappointing final, the girls played amazingly, and we are very proud of them all.



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
<b>BNC Ambers</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
LWNC White Foxes	13	18	8	3	2
ANC Saints	13	16	7	4	2
SCHOLS Bananas	13	13	6	6	1
RNC Hawks	13	12	5	6	2
LWNC Red Rosellas	13	12	5	6	2
BUNC Sparkles	13	2	0	11	2

**The Team:** Ava Jackson, Milla Dickson, Chloe Gardiner, Lara Quinlan, Nina Edmiston, Miya Phibbs, Mia Amparo & Sarah McCamley.

## Cadet Gemstones | Minor Premiers

Bindi March-Ali & Amanda Ivanac | Coach & Manager

Our Cadet 1's, Gemstones, took out the Minor Premiership and were undefeated until the grand finale. They went down fighting and nearly got there. Proud of this team who are 14- and 15-year-olds, playing against 16–17-year-old players. Well done girls. - commendable season.



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
<b>BNC Gemstones</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
FDAS Gold	12	19	9	2	1
LWNC Black Jaguars	12	14	6	4	2
FDAS Jets	12	9	3	6	3
FDAS Emeralds	12	5	2	6	1
SHLNC Bilbies	12	4	1	9	2
IWNA Reps	12	0	4	7	1

**The Team:** Kiana Mitchell, Indiana Middleton, Tara McCall, Emily Broadbent, Evelyn O'Neill, Tully Smith, Lily Ivanac & Anna Chan.

## Cadet Tanzanites

Sienna Tierney & Pauline Tierney | Coach & Manager

**The Team:** Lily Cameron, Elissa Barzan, Elyssa Ghaly, Zara Portolesi, Anique Michel, Eve Quinlan, Leyla Tierney & Arabel Best.



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
LWNC Red Comets	12	22	10	0	2
LWNC Black Blitz	12	20	9	1	2
RNC Lorikeets	12	15	7	4	1
LWNC Black Cats	12	11	5	6	1
RNC Roosters	12	11	5	6	1
<b>BNC Tanzanites</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>
BUNC Stars	12	1	0	11	1

It has been a season full of wins and losses, but the girls pushed through with their heads held high and played every game with a great attitude, I am so grateful to have coached this wonderful team.

## Cadet Pyrites

Donna Wollen & Kath Walkley | Coach & Manager

**The Team:** Aarani Posener, Chloe Walliker, Georgina Walkley, Harriet O'Connor, Laura Sendall, Mackenzie Pate, Sibelle Tevfik, Yameena Mubarak & Matilda Ryan.



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
LWNC White Fireballs	12	23	11	0	1
LWNC Black Vipers	12	17	8	3	1
LWNC Black Flares	12	15	7	4	1
FDAS Rubies	12	13	6	5	1
HNC Bumblebees	12	6	2	7	2
<b>BNC Pyrites</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>
HNC Twisties	12	3	2	9	1

## Cadet Pearls

Ayla Ali & Kate Campbell | Coach & Manager

The Cadet Pearls had an outstanding year this season, we welcomed 2 new girls into our team and went up 3 divisions. We played some amazing games, and had a couple of injuries, but team loved playing together and the girls created some lovely bonds with each other.



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
SHLNC Taipans	14	24	11	1	2
HNC Hedgehogs	13	23	10	0	3
RNC Sandpipers	13	15	7	5	1
BUNC Dodgers	14	12	5	7	2
LWNC Red Giants	13	9	5	7	1
LWNC White Sparks	13	9	4	8	1
<b>BNC Pearls</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>

**The Team:** Alana Sparrow, Ava Brailey, Chloe Burrows, Esther Holding, Grace Campbell, Jinte Dieleman, Riley Goyal, Riyaa Panchal & Shayla Naidoo

## Senior Netball

### Onyx

Donna Wollen, Kath Walkley & Jaye Stevenson | Coaches & Manager

**The Team:** Abbey O'Neill, Abigail Wollen, Amelia Walkley, Charlotte Dick, Elizabeth Broadbent, Josie Walker, Laura Eastlake, Lily Butcher & Nellie Ebenezer.



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
BUNC Roses	14	25	12	1	1
<b>BNC Onyx</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
SCHOLS Watermelons	14	18	8	4	2
SUNC Ocelots	14	17	8	5	1
HNC Whiskers	14	11	5	8	1
BUNC Vibe	14	9	4	9	1
SHLNC Lyrebirds	14	5	2	8	1
BWNC Phoenix	14	3	1	12	1

## Rubies

Rosie Ryan & Danielle Davis | Coach & Manager



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
ANC Aces	14	23	11	2	1
HNC Dazzlers	14	19	9	4	1
BNC Larimars	14	19	9	4	1
WMNC RAVENS	14	16	7	3	2
SHLNC Dingoes	14	16	7	5	2
<b>BNC Rubies</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>
LWNC Red Rubies	14	7	3	10	1
GNC Vectras	14	3	1	12	1

**The Team:** Aadhya Dhanpal, Alice Whitmore, Amy Davis, Despina Stamoulos, Elyana Qutami, Lily Sauran, Lucy Dent-Ratcliffe, Niamh McInerney & Sienna Quinlan

## Larimars

Nicole Smith & Louise Quinlan | Coach & Manager



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
ANC Aces	14	23	11	2	1
HNC Dazzlers	14	19	9	4	1
<b>BNC Larimars</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>
WMNC RAVENS	14	16	7	3	2
SHLNC Dingoes	14	16	7	5	2
BNC Rubies	14	9	4	7	1
LWNC Red Rubies	14	7	3	10	1
GNC Vectras	14	3	1	12	1

**The Team:** Alana Winstanley, Alexandria Liu, Caitlin Merrick, Leila Hahnel, Natasha Iacono, Orla Turner, Peri Tevfik, Ruby Slade & Tyla Janes

## Opals

Vanessa Stanmore | Manager



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
TNC Kool Kats	12	19	9	2	1
FDAS Phoenix	12	19	9	2	1
BUNC Barracudas	12	15	7	4	1
SUNC Fisher Cats	12	12	5	5	2
HNC Hustlers	12	11	5	6	1
<b>BNC Opals</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>
SUNC Bobcats	12	3	1	7	1

**The Team:** Aadhya Dhanpal, Despina Stamoulos, Jessica Buckley, Kelly Fung, Leila Rahme, Samantha Hamilton, Vanessa Stanmore, Virasha Singh, Zahra Hamilton

## Moonstones

Kate Crawford | Manager

**The Team:** Beth Munsie, Candice Wright, Christine Kanofski, Karen Tancred, Kate Crawford, Natasha Xenakis, Phoebe Stewart, Reanna Merhi, Stacey Hearn, Taryn Tyler & Paige Crawford

TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
SHLNC Possums	14	25	10	0	1
TNC Prowlers	14	22	7	4	0
HNC Pythons	14	16	3	6	1
<b>BNC Moonstones</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>
IWNA Reps	14	12	6	4	1

## Quartz

Rebecca McLachlan | Manager

Quartz having been playing together for the past few years as a social team. It has been great playing with friends and being competitive even against the 'young teams'. This year has seen our best result making the grand finale. Well done to a great friendship group playing hard each week and becoming finalists for 2024. Congratulations!!



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
SUNC Cheetahs	14	20	9	3	2
<b>BNC Quartz</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>
BUNC Tigerlily's	14	15	7	6	1
FDAS Raptors	14	13	6	7	1
HNC Sapphires	14	12	5	5	2
PNC Mojitos	14	9	4	8	1
SUNC Lynxes	14	3	1	11	1
IWNA Reps	14	0	9	3	2

**The Team:** Amanda Ainsworth, Amelia McAllan, Anne-Maree Zietsch, Celeste Jackson-Snow, Courtney Miller, Kate Burnicle, Naomi Roberts, Rebecca McLachlan, Samantha McLachlan & Sarah Kennedy

## Lapis Lazuli | Minor Premiers

Hannah Ellis | Manager



TEAM	P	Pts	W	L	D
<b>BNC Lapis Lazuli</b>	14	19	9	3	1
HNC Diamonds	14	16	7	4	2
SCHOLS Raspberries	14	16	7	5	2
HNC Warriors	14	13	6	4	1
HNC Falcons	14	11	5	3	1
GNC Geminis	14	9	4	9	1

**The Team:** *Claire Morris, Eleanor Payne, Elise Anderson, Emily Pich, Georgia Wyatt, Hannah Ellis, Jesse Nguyen, Jessica Trinh, Lauren Gupta, Lucy Lukabyo, Rebekah Harrison & Rena Tang.*

This was our first year with Briars, and we all had a great experience! We were Runners Up in the C5 division, which was exciting for our first season!



# Greenlees Park Bowling Club



## Women's Bowls

### Presidents Report

Gwen Bonett



It gives me great pleasure to present this report to the Briars Sports community, noting some of the Events that shaped our Women's Bowling Club throughout the year 2024.

Change was a catch word of our early days into this year. As reported by Margaret Truesdale towards the end of her last report, as President; We celebrated the history of our Macquarie District as we moved to become a part of the Met Northwest Region, in line with our Men's Regional experience of administration. The original confusion within the change was challenging but I believe we have just about found our place in this new regime. Many more clubs and more distance between, two streams of competition; a larger administrative and more diverse group.

At our local level, the year began with a sad loss to all of us in the passing of Carole Pomroy, a good lead bowler and great club person which was evidenced by the show of members who made up a guard of honour at her funeral, RIP Carole.

Comings and goings are marked by the welcome return of Jill Young, and more recently Patricia Stewart, other new Bowlers increased with Maureen Ward, Gunay Cabadag and Mary Kennedy.

Presidents Day was held in June and was once again a fun day with bowls, lovely food and which coincidentally occurred on a very important birthday for our President Margaret, we did give her a little "roast" and yes, she was still smiling after. As always thanks to Gai Shirvington and Maureen Picone for all that they do to make these days a great success.

Eight of our members attended the State Carnival at Forster over a week in early May.

We entered teams to most of the Regional Championships at Senior level and as usual they acquitted themselves very well.

Single Gender Pennants held August-September involved our club entering two teams, One Grade 2 and another Grade 3. Grade 2 played to an excellent standard, winning all but 2 matches, and came in as runners up to Hills Red who were victorious in Competition B. The Grade three team found it hard to compete at this level and will more than likely be able next year to move to Grade 4 as they had initially requested.

Thanks to Gai and Gladys for managing Pennant Teams and to Maureen for Catering, also Bob Mayor for making himself available to Umpire all Home games for Greenlees Women.

Our AGM saw change in the Leadership, with Margaret Truesdale finishing her time as President and many thanks to Margaret for stepping into the role three years ago for the second time. I (Gwen Bonett) was proposed and elected President, Vice President/s role was claimed by Margaret Truesdale and Imma

Fonti, Treasurer, Gai Shirvington, Match Convenor Ros Lightfoot. Secretary Gladys Barnes, Social Lorraine Keenan.

May I take a moment to say a big thanks to the people who keep us bowling week after week, the General Committee, Match Committee, Social Committee, Welfare person. Jason. Monique, Ben and team. Our fellow members in the Men's Club who are always generous with their time and expertise, when we ask for it. Last but by no means least our Green Keeper, Peter Neary who will leave us at year end, to begin a well-deserved retirement, Thanks you Peter for giving us the best greens in Sydney and best wishes to you and Vicky for every day from here on.

### 2024 Club Championships Results

		Winner	Runner-up
<i>Major Singles</i>		Angie Alvarez	Mary Kang
<i>Major Pairs</i>	Skip Lead	Ros Lightfoot Jill Young	Judy Coulson Teri Cutrupi
<i>Triples</i>	Skip Second Lead	Ros Lightfoot Jennifer Leek Anne Hare	Margaret Cunningham Pamela Jones Pam McDermott
<i>Fours</i>	Skip Second Third Lead	Gladys Barnes Margaret Truesdale Eva Mihaljek Marlene Dunn	Jaye Stevenson Pam McDermott Therese Cutrupi Giovanna Caccaviello
<i>Minor Singles</i>		Angie Alvarez	Mary Kang



Fours Winner



Fours Runner-up



Major Pairs Winner



Major Pairs Runner-up



Triples Winner



Triples Runner-up



Major Singles Winner



# Greenlees Park Bowling Club

## Men's Bowls

### Presidents Report

Ric Cilona



It is with great pleasure that I submit the annual report for 2024. This has been a strong year of consolidation and growth for the club across several significant areas including Club and Regional competitions, Finances and Infrastructure. In terms of Welfare the Club has been proactive in providing ongoing support to several initiatives including Charity support and the production of a 'Welcome to Greenlees' Manual to facilitate entry to the Club.

#### Finances

The Clubs solid financial position in 2023 was consolidated in 2024 with continued sponsorship revenue to support our yearly tournaments. Thanks to our major sponsors IGA Breakfast Point, Burwood RSL and Burwood Diggers, Trevor Lee and Sons Funeral Directors and Mannings Funerals. Your continued support of Greenlees Park Bowling Club is noted and valued.

Throughout the year the Club was able to support our bowlers in regional competitions including Rookies at Raymond Terrace and our Grade 6 Finalists at Yamba on the NSW North Coast.

#### Club Championships

At the time of writing several Club competitions were nearing completion and unfortunately could not be acknowledged here. Recognition of those results will be forthcoming in the following years report. To some extent this has been the result of the previous year's realignment to a financial year structure rather than a calendar year program.

#### **2024 Club Championship Results:**

<i>Competition</i>	<i>Winner</i>	<i>Runner-up</i>
<i>Major Singles</i>	Not Complete	Not Complete
<i>Minor Singles</i>	Not Complete	Not Complete
<i>Major Pairs</i>	David O'Connell Bryan Coulthart	Colin Darlington Myron Kubyk
<i>Minor Pairs</i>	Chris Landis Gary Savvidas	Jaye Stevenson Ryan Marangon

<i>Club Triples</i>	David Matterazza David O'Connell Bryan Coulthart	Ric Cliona Chris Landis Kevin Hapgood
<i>Club Fours</i>	Eddie Truesdale Ronan Coombes Mark Gorlicki John Houteas	John Goulding Chris Landis David Little Garry Savidas
<i>Club Champion</i>	Not Complete	Not Complete

The Club Major and Minor Singles have not been completed with both Finals scheduled for December 2024.



### **Pennants 2024.**

NSW Bowls moved to a Regional Structure in 2024 which has meant that Greenlees Park was no longer in Zone 10 but within the new Regional structure of North West Region.

The Club managed 3 Grades in the abbreviated competition of 6 weeks this year with a particularly stunning result for our Grade 6 team who managed to win in their grade as regional Champions and progressed to the State Finals in Yamba NSW against the other Regional winners from the State. Whilst not ultimately successful in the Finals the progression itself was outstanding and merits acknowledgement. Well Done Grade 6 – the regional Pennant Flag sits proudly on our flagpole!

To the other Pennants sides – well played and hopefully more success in 2025.

The tables reflect the starting line ups for each grade. Several other bowlers stepped in as required over the 6 weeks and on behalf of the club and particularly the selection committee our thanks to you.

### ***Pennant – Grade 4***

#### *Player Names*

<i>Lo Hin Lam</i>	<i>John Houteas</i>	<i>David O'Connell</i>
<i>Col Darlington</i>	<i>Mark Gorlicki</i>	<i>Maurizio Falcone</i>
<i>Myron Kubyk</i>	<i>Wayne Comber</i>	<i>Steven White</i>
<i>Marc Devillecourt</i>	<i>Eddy Truesdale</i>	<i>Bryan Coulthart</i>

## **Pennant - Grade 6**

### *Player Names*

<i>David Puckeridge</i>	<i>Mark Leslie</i>	<i>David Matterazza</i>
<i>Jeff Wheatley</i>	<i>Paul Koziollek</i>	<i>Margaret Truesdale</i>
<i>Richard Thorpe</i>	<i>Ronny James</i>	<i>Adrian Crump</i>
<i>John Goulding</i>	<i>Myron Kubyk</i>	<i>Anthony Fullagar</i>

## **Pennant - Grade 7**

### *Player Names*

<i>Ryan Marangon</i>	<i>Debbie Fenton</i>	<i>Chris Maxfield</i>
<i>Matt Brown</i>	<i>Ric Cilona</i>	<i>Terry Dickson</i>
<i>Terry O'Kane</i>	<i>Remo Veneran</i>	<i>Alan Windle</i>
<i>David Little</i>	<i>Greg Russell</i>	<i>Kevin Hapgood</i>

Our thanks again to all bowlers who contributed to what was a very successful Pennant's competition. Adding to the success of the Grade 6 team, Greenlees also entered a team in the Midweek Pennant Division 2 Competition with a most positive outcome - the team having gone through undefeated over all rounds. Well done!

## **Midweek Team Division 2**

### *Player Names*

<i>Gino Borg</i>	<i>John Goulding</i>
<i>Bryan Coulthart</i>	<i>John Houteas</i>
<i>Mark Gorlicki</i>	<i>David O'Connell</i>
<i>Jeff Wheatley</i>	

## **Rookies 2024**

At the time of writing the Rookies competition will be completed at Raymond Terrace over the 4 days November 21st-24<sup>th</sup> we have 4 representatives from Greenlees and our very best wishes to all who will play in the finals – Jaye Stevenson, Garry Nicholls, Ethan Murphy and David Little. Well Done Guys!

## **Mollymook**

Our traditional end of year trip to beautiful Mollymook on the NSW South Coast was completed in November and as usual we played for the MollyGreen Cup. Unfortunately, without success we were required to relinquish the Trophy won last year. Fortunately, the great company, good food and beverage over the 3 days eased the pain – looking forward to next year!



### **Final Thoughts**

The Club would not survive and prosper as it has without the efforts of numerous people who have contributed as ever over the year. To the Committee who met, organized, ran and made it work – my thanks on behalf of all bowlers. To Wayne for the never ending administration of Bowls related events particular thanks. To Bryan who did all of the leg work with Bowls Link and Cock of The Walk on Fridays – brilliant. To Ronny Kubyk for the coaching as required across the year – outstanding. To Josh Doyle for creating and promoting our communication channels- it's good to have a young bloke around who understands stuff a lot of us don't. To the Match and selection Committee for making it all work seamlessly – don't think we haven't noticed.

### **Peter Neary**

Not much can be said about an outstanding greenkeeper who has provided the best greens going around for the best part of a quarter of a century. Enjoy and prosper in your retirement and know yours are very big shoes to fill. Keep on drinking the Tooheys and we will miss you. You are a genuine legend.

### **2024 Men's Bowls Committee**

<i>President</i>	Ric Cilona
<i>Vice President</i>	Bryan Coulthart
<i>Treasurer</i>	Ben Williams
<i>Bowls Coordinator</i>	Wayne Comber
<i>Chairman Selection Committee</i>	Myron Kubyk
<i>Selectors</i>	Marc Devillecourt & Col Darlington
<i>Chairman Match Committee</i>	Myron Kubyk
<i>Match Committee</i>	Ron James & Steven White
<i>Returning Officer</i>	Wayne Comber
<i>Welfare Officer</i>	Ric Cilona
<i>Scrutineer</i>	Mark Cooper
<i>Chairman/Coordinator Junior Bowls</i>	Ric Cliona
<i>Zone 10 Delegate</i>	Mark Gorlecki
<i>Publicity Marketing &amp; Development</i>	Josh Doyle



# Briars Sports Trophies

## J H Stone Trophy

Awarded to **Laura Eastlake**

*Laura has been an outstanding member of the Briars Sports for the past 6 years, making significant contributions both this year and in previous years. This year, she coached a team of teenagers, leading them to a near-grand final appearance. Her team demonstrated great sportsmanship and progress throughout the season. Laura also umpired regularly, served on the Umpiring Committee, and helped coach and roster umpires.*

*Additionally, Laura volunteered her time managing the club's social media, ensuring timely, clear, and positive updates for players and the community. She also contributed to stocktaking and managing equipment for both the winter and summer seasons, as well as preparing for the 2025 season.*

*Throughout the years, Laura has consistently volunteered in various capacities, including as a representative player for the Inner-West Netball Association, filling in for other teams, and assisting with the Net Set Go program for younger players. She is always willing to help with a smile.*

*This year, she has taken on additional roles, becoming the Assistant Umpiring Convenor and Social Media Coordinator. Laura is an exceptional role model for both seniors and juniors, and the club is proud to have her as a dedicated member.*

The J H Stone Trophy named after the first President of The Briars Sporting Club, the late John Stone, was first awarded in 1950. The name of John Stone's home was called "The Briars". This Trophy can only be won by a club member under the age of 25 years who made an outstanding contribution to the club's welfare during the year.

## The Ted Stockdale Trophy

Awarded to **Jules Boyter**

*Jules has been an integral part of rugby through her support of Seniors rugby and her tireless efforts in setting up Briars Juniors Rugby ten years ago in 2014 and running as president until 2022, leaving the sport in its strongest position for the future, giving back to seniors' rugby once more by having the initial players age out into the seniors' program. Jules has held all roles within the club, from*

The Ted Stockdale Trophy was donated in 1995 by the Board of Directors in recognition of the outstanding contribution made to the Club by Ted Stockdale. It is awarded to a Club member who has made a continuing contribution to the welfare and administration of the Club over a number of years.



Treasurer to President and is a confidante to all at Briars Sports. This year she was honoured with a new juniors' award called the "Jules Boyter, Service to Junior Rugby", acknowledging all her work for Briars Rugby. Her 10 years and counting association with Juniors after being the "everything" for so long. She continues to be an integral part of the whole Briars Rugby experience for our community.

## A J Robinson Shield

### Awarded to **Kylie Norris**

The winner this year has given her heart and soul to Briars Hockey not only this year but for many years. Running the canteen creating a strong profit helping keep fees down for all players, she is in the canteen every week, every weekend managing stock, and volunteers to man the canteen so we can all enjoy a social drink after our game and a great meat pie. She manages maintenance across Cintra, so we all have a clubhouse and pitch we are proud of and call it our home of hockey. She is also one of our Hockey board members, the first Female board member who is always supporting hockey within the sports club.

She also put in a huge effort across the Masters nationals in the canteen and managing Cintra, the wonderful comments we received from Hockey Australia and players in the tournament are a testament to the work she put in.

She is also a team leader in the Briars women's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade helping lead them to a grand final win this year. Her commitment to Briars Hockey and the Briars sports club is what makes our club one of the best to play at and be a part of.

The A J Robinson Shield was donated in 1958 by the late A J Robinson ("Robbie"). The Shield is awarded to the hockey player who has contributed the most to Briars Hockey during the year and which is determined by the most points in the following manner:

Value as a team member	35 points
Value in Hockey Administration	20 points
Value to Club other than Hockey	20 points
Conduct on field of play	15 points
Neatness of dress	10 points
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 points</b>

## R D Vanderfield Trophy

### Awarded to **CJ Holden**

The RD Vanderfield award for junior club person of the year this year went to a player that's a role model for our juniors. He is a valuable member of the U18 team, always shows respect to team mates, umpires, coach, spectators, family and friends on and off the field. He actively contributes to women's training, Sets up and Coded ML1 games on VERO, ball boy for PL1 games and he always jumps into the canteen to help out. He is

The R D Vanderfield Trophy established in 1973 is awarded to a member of Junior Hockey who has contributed most to the junior teams. This award carries the name of a past President who showed interest in the formation of junior teams.

also quick to help carry canteen stock in and put it away and help around cintra where is can.

## R B Clark Scholarship

Awarded to:

- **James Walker** – (Rugby)
- **Henry Tyrell** – (Hockey)

R B (Bob) Clark, the founder of The Briars Sporting Club, bequeathed money on his death to the Club. This bequest is to help young Briars with their education for those members 21 years and under.

## Cricket Memorial Trophy

Awarded to **Alex Favotto**

*Alex has stepped up his commitment to Briars over the last few years, combining his role as a captain on the field (winning back-to-back premierships), with managing the under 24s side, and leading training sessions for the club. Extremely passionate and never short of an idea, his value to the club doesn't go unnoticed.*

The Cricket Memorial Trophy is intended as a remembrance of those who lost their lives during service in World War II and was donated in 1946 by the late H G Whiddon.

The basis of arriving at the winner is as follows:

Value to team as a cricketer	35 points
Conduct	15 points
General keenness	15 points
Value to Club as a member	25 points
Neatness of dress	10 points
Total	100 points

## Gerard Price Jnr. Cricket Trophy

Awarded to **Nirav Sharma**

*Nirav had a great 2022-23 season and the statistics tell the tale. As a batsman he scored 421 runs for the season and took 15 wickets. Nirav enjoyed playing cricket this season and he had an impressive batting run after Christmas where he remained not out on 5 occasions. This shows his dedication and the value he puts on his wicket. Congratulations on a wonderful season and we wish Nirav all the very best in the future.*

The Gerard Price Junior Cricket Trophy was donated by the Board of Directors in 2012 in recognition of the outstanding contribution by Gerard Price over many years as Cricket Chairman of Briars. The Trophy is awarded to a member of Briars Concord Junior Cricket who has contributed to junior teams.

## Matina Moffitt Jnr. Cricket Trophy

Awarded to **Aoife Foley**

*Aoife Foley had a wonderful season. Aoife is a talented bowler taking 16 wickets for the season. Aoife's contribution is not limited to on the field but her enthusiasm and contribution to her team and club was outstanding. Congratulations on a wonderful season and we wish Aoife all the very best in the future.*

The Matina Moffitt Junior Cricket Trophy is in recognition of the outstanding contribution by Matina Moffitt over many years to the female participation program in the local region. This Trophy is awarded to the female player of Briars Concord Junior Cricket who has had an outstanding season.

## Geoff Archibald Trophy

Awarded to **Jerome Williams**

*There was an absolute treat of new players at the top level this year. However, one rose to the top- It has been a fantastic year for Jerome - asked to play almost any position in the backs he was consistently one of the strongest players on the field. His running game, passing, and ability to see space is truly outstanding. Further to that his defensive reads and understanding of the game were fantastic.*

The Geoff Archibald Trophy is awarded to the Rugby player who has made the greatest contribution to the Club in his first year playing Rugby for the Club. This Trophy was first awarded in 1984.

## Gordon Bevan Shield

Awarded to **Adam Muderis**

*Adam's impact this season has been transformative, thanks to his refreshing new approach. Always available to help and consistently showing up to support, even when his grade wasn't playing, Adam demonstrated unwavering dedication. On the field, he gave his all, but what truly sets him apart is his belief in the club's potential. He embraced the vision, saying, "I want to be a part of this and help the club reach its peak," and he delivered.*

*His mindset shift is a reminder that no matter the past, showing up, being present, and supporting your community club makes all the difference.*

The Gordon Bevan Shield was first awarded in 1938. It is awarded to the player who, in the opinion of the Club, has contributed the most during the year towards Rugby and the Club in general. It is presented in memory of a young "Briar" who was tragically killed in a road accident.

The criteria for selection is as follows:

Attendance at training	20 points
Value to the team	20 points
Most improved player	20 points
General keenness	15 points
Value as a Club member	15 points
Neatness of uniform	10 points
Total	100 points

## Briars Women's Rugby Trophy

Awarded to **Serahnade Roache**

*In her second year playing for the club after moving from U18s into the senior team, Serahnade was involved on and off the field from the get-go. Serahnade didn't just come to train and play, she wanted to be part of the club, helping on and off the field, attending all the games and helping in the canteen, running raffles and being involved. On the field her commitment was just as strong, always learning and giving her best. Congrats Serahnade!*

The "yet to be named shield" is awarded to the player who, in the opinion of the Club, has contributed the most during the year towards Women's Rugby and the Club in general.

The criteria for selection is as follows:

Attendance at training	20 points
Value to the team	20 points
Most improved player	20 points
General attitude	15 points
Value as a Club member	15 points
Support Club growth	10 points
Total	100 points

## The Mal Blair & Bill McLaughlin Junior Rugby Trophy

Awarded to **Harley Buchan**

*Although not currently playing with Briars, Harley attended every mini and junior training session mentoring our under 6s and under 12s on the finer points of rugby. Harley regularly took on the role of waterboy, trainer and motivator for our under 12s on match day and took time to develop his own skills by training with our first grade and colts' squads on a regular basis.*

## Doug Vanderfield Trophy

Awarded to **Ben Miller**

*This year, the Doug Vanderfield Trophy was awarded to Ben Miller, a dedicated and passionate member of Briars Squash. As a certified NSW squash referee, Ben generously volunteers his time at major events, including the Australian Junior Championships, ensuring fair play and a positive experience for all participants. His commitment goes beyond the referee's chair, as Ben is an enthusiastic team player, regularly competing in pennant for the club and contributing to the vibrant community spirit at Briars Squash. His presence at club events is a testament to his passion for sport, always bringing energy, encouragement, and a friendly smile.*

*Ben exemplifies all the qualities recognised by the Doug Vanderfield Trophy. His value as a team member and club representative is unmatched, consistently showing keenness, sportsmanship, and a drive to improve his game. On the court, Ben is known for his fairness and respectful conduct, making him a role model for others. Whether playing, officiating, or simply supporting fellow players, Ben's dedication and enthusiasm have made him an indispensable part of the Briars Squash family.*

## Anne Gleason Jnr. Trophy

Awarded to **Daniel Gonzalez-Velancia**

*The Anne Gleason Junior Award for this year is proudly presented to Daniel Gonzalez-Velancia, a remarkable young player who embodies the spirit and dedication celebrated by this honour. Daniel's commitment to squash is evident in his active participation in junior and adult pennant*

The Mal Blair & Bill McLaughlin Junior Rugby Trophy is awarded annually by Junior Rugby to a junior rugby player who has contributed most, both on and off the field.

The Doug Vanderfield Trophy was donated in 1970 by the late R D Vanderfield who was instrumental in commencing Squash in the Club and having it recognised as a major sport.

The Trophy is presented to the squash player who has contributed the most to Squash and the Club in general.

Points are awarded as follows:

Value as a team member	20 points
Value as a member of the Club	20 points
Keeness as a player	20 points
Improvement as a player	15 points
Conduct on the Squash Court	15 points
Neatness of dress	10 points
Total	100 points

This trophy is awarded to a Briars Junior Squash player who has contributed the most to Squash and the Club in general and exemplifies the dedication by Anne Gleason to voluntary work with Squash. Involved with Briars Squash for over 25 years, Anne represented Briars at NSW State level both individually and as a ladies team member. For many years Anne has organised junior squash and

competitions, as well as various club events. During his Duke of Edinburgh program, Daniel chose to dedicate his efforts to the squash club, a testament to his enthusiasm for the sport and community. He has not only excelled on the court but also serves as an ambassador for Briars Squash, frequently encouraging friends to join and experience the game he loves.

Daniel exemplifies all the values represented by the Anne Gleason Junior Award. As a team member, he is reliable, supportive, and always brings positive energy to matches. His keen interest and dedication to improving his skills have been evident in his consistent performance throughout the season. Polite, kind, and respectful, Daniel's conduct on and off the court sets a high standard for his peers, while his neat and professional appearance further reflects his respect for the sport. His passion and pride for Briars Squash has made him a wonderful ambassador, and we are excited to see him continue to grow as both a player and leader within the club.

## Anne Burt Trophy

Awarded to **Donna Wollen**.

Donna is an invaluable member of Briars Netball, known for her exceptional coaching and unwavering support. Her key contributions include:

**Coaching Success:** She has effectively coached the Onyx team, fostering an inclusive environment that attracts and retains teenage girls, even leading a second Cadet team to consecutive wins after a challenging season.

**Mentorship:** Donna actively mentors other coaches and junior players, running training sessions and providing guidance. She has supported multiple teams simultaneously and has stepped in when other coaches were unavailable.

**Community Support:** Always willing to help, she assists with umpiring and supports her daughter's umpiring development. Donna also provides recommendations for players seeking opportunities like Duke of Edinburgh.

A true "quiet achiever," Donna selflessly contributes to the club without seeking recognition. We are incredibly fortunate to have her. Thank you, Donna, for everything you do!

Saturday Pennant and as head coach of the juniors.

Value as a team member	20 points
Value as a member of the Club	20 points
Keeness as a player	20 points
Improvement as a player	15 points
Conduct on the Squash Court	15 points
Neatness of dress	10 points
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 points</b>

The Anne Burt Trophy is awarded to a Senior or Junior netball player or club volunteer who has contributed most both on and off the court to the sport of Netball. Anne was most influential in starting Netball at Briars and has given great service to both junior and senior netball players.

Value as a team member	30 points
Value in Netball Administration	25 points
General Keeness	20 points
Improvement as a player	20 points
Conduct on and/or off the Court	15 points
Neatness of uniform and/or club attire	10 points
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 points</b>

## Bindi March Ali Trophy

### Awarded to **Elizabeth Broadbent**

*This award is for someone who is under the age of 18, has played for Briars for at least 2 years and who represents us as a club in a positive way through their demeanour and attitude, shows leadership through their actions, has positive peer to peer communication and has performed volunteering duties above and beyond the usual.*

*We have had several nominations this year, and I thank all of you, in particular Claire Turner, Shayla Naidoo, Sierra Sparrow and Araani Posenor. However, the recipient of this award this year goes to Elizabeth Broadbent.*

*Elizabeth has helped the club in many ways this year and has volunteered for over 5 years in various roles.*

*This year Elizabeth coached the Mayflowers, played a major role with the Net-set-go program and even volunteered to help coach this group of 5–8-year-olds at the special Gala Day. I loved the way she cared and spoke to these young players, and it was lovely to see how they responded to her. Elizabeth umpires every Saturday, and happy to put up her hand to do extra games when they need covering. Elizabeth has helped in the Uniform shop, has put up her hand to help other teams when short players and overall, is someone very special and we are extremely proud to have her as a Briars.*

*Congratulations on your award.*

Award criteria for the Bindi March Ali Award. The player must have played for Briars for at least 2 years, played in the current season & represents Briars Netball in a positive way through their demeanour and attitude, show leadership through their actions, have positive peer to peer communication and have performed volunteering duties above and beyond the usual.

## Brian Huttly Trophy

### Awarded to **Immacolata Fonti**

*Imma Fonti became a member of Greenlees Park Women's Bowls in October 2017, following the closure of Concord RSL Women's Bowls Club, which led to its bowlers transferring to Greenlees Park.*

*After settling in, Imma served a term on the Match Committee before taking on the role of assistant to Carole Pomroy on the Social Committee, where she contributed for two to three years.*

*Currently, Imma holds the position of Vice-President for 2024/25 and is a well-deserving recipient of the prestigious Brian Huttly Trophy.*

The Brian Huttly Trophy was donated in 2006 by Brian Huttly who for many years has been involved in Bowls at Greenlees Park as an administrator and player. The Trophy is awarded to a lady bowler who has given meritorious service in a voluntary position to Womens Bowls over the year. The award can only be won once in a lifetime.

**BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

ABN 71 001 029 545



# Summary Financial Report

**For the year ended 30 September 2024**

14 Ian Parade, Concord NSW 2137

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# BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED

[A Company Limited by Guarantee]  
ABN 71 001 029 545

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## SUMMARY OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

for the year ended 30 September 2024

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## BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED

[A Company Limited by Guarantee]

ABN 71 001 029 545

### DIRECTORS' REPORT

Your directors present their report on the financial statements of Briars at Greenlees Limited for the year ended 30 September 2024.

#### Directors

The names of the directors who held office at any time during the year ended 30 September 2024 and up to the date of this report are:

Howle, Brett	Moffitt, Matina	Boyter, Aaron
Jaroszewicz, Michael	Norris, Kylie	Price, John
Cilona, Ric	O'Brien, Sarah	

#### Information on Directors

Name	Position	Eligible Meetings	Meetings Attended	Qualifications
Brett Howle	Director/Chairperson	12	12	Company Director
Matina Moffitt	Director/Treasurer	12	10	Executive Director
Aaron Boyter	Director	12	11	Engineer
Michael Jaroszewicz	Director	12	09	Structural Engineer
Kylie Norris	Director	12	12	Sourcing Manager
John Price	Director	12	12	Company Director
Ric Cilona	Director	12	10	Retired Scholl Principal
Sarah O'Brien	Director	12	10	General Manager

#### Membership

Briars at Greenlees Limited, is a company limited by guarantee and is without a share capital. The number of members of Briars in the register of members at the date of this report is:

Category	2024	2023
Full members	1,284	1,210
Social members	3,363	3,316
	<b>4,647</b>	<b>4,526</b>

#### Limitation on members' liability

Briars at Greenlees Limited is a public company limited by guarantee, and in accordance with its constitution, the liability of financial members in the event of the company being wound-up would not exceed \$2.00 per member. The total contribution by financial members in the event of the company being wound-up would be \$9,294 [2023: \$9,052].

#### Operating result

The net profit from trading for the year ended 30 September 2024 [after no provision for income tax] amounted to a profit of \$189,612 [2023: Profit \$297,714] after charging depreciation and amortisation of \$888,117 [2023: \$815,440] and finance costs of \$64,911 [2023: \$53,666]. There was no other comprehensive income for the year.

#### Review of operation

	2024	2023	Increase (Decrease)	+/- %
Poker machine clearances [net]	\$2,673,523	\$3,009,705	- \$336,182	- 11.2
Bar sales	\$1,487,529	\$1,561,373	- \$73,844	- 4.7
Operating and overhead costs	(\$4,921,817)	(\$5,357,678)	- \$435,861	- 8.1

#### Objectives

##### Short term:

Providing for members and guests a social sporting club with the usual facilities of a club and to assist general promotion and promulgation of amateur sport.

## BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED

[A Company Limited by Guarantee]

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### DIRECTORS' REPORT [CONTINUED]

#### Objectives [continued]

##### Long term:

To sustain and enhance our position as a leader in the assistance to selected amateur sports, and to provide a quality environment, providing assistance to the Concord and nearby communities.

#### Strategy for achieving the objectives

The principal strategies which Briars is implementing include the following:

- Maximise advantage from our investments and property holding.
- Maximise advantage from marketing activities.
- Maximise advantage by those sports that have as their fundamental ethos the support and promotion of amateur sports.
- Maintain high customer service standards.

#### Principal activities

The principal continuing activity of the company consisted of maintaining a licensed amateur sporting club for members.

#### How these activities assisted in achieving the objectives

The activities assist in generating revenue to fund the sporting activities and the promotion of amateur sport.

#### Performance measurement and key performance indicators

Performance is assessed regularly against relevant internal and industry benchmarks enabling assessment on the effectiveness of strategic initiatives in achieving Briars short and long-term objectives:

Indicators	2024	2023	+/- %
[a] Employees numbers			
• Permanent	5	6	- 16.7
• Casual	12	13	- 7.7
[b] Employee remuneration			
• Wages	\$812,191	\$818,279	- 0.7
• Superannuation	\$95,679	\$91,318	+ 4.8
• Direct on-costs	\$92,354	\$94,064	- 1.8
[c] Poker machine operations			
• Net poker machine clearances	\$2,673,523	\$3,009,705	- 11.2
• Return to player [turnover %]	92.45%	91.00%	+ 1.5
[d] Bar operations			
• Bar sales	\$1,487,529	\$1,561,373	- 4.7
• Cost of sales	\$541,540	\$572,650	- 5.4
• Gross margin	\$945,989	\$988,723	- 4.3
• Gross margin to sales	63.59%	63.32%	+ 0.3
• Direct expenses	\$506,841	\$528,951	- 4.2
[e] Marketing and promotional expenses			
• Member promotions	\$202,202	\$173,766	+ 16.4
• Other marketing and promotional expenses	\$234,339	\$219,572	+ 6.7
[f] Key metric			
• EBITDA	\$1,142,639	\$1,166,820	- 2.1

**BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

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**DIRECTORS' REPORT [CONTINUED]**

**Auditor's independence declaration**

The Auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 30 September 2024 has been received and is located below.

Dated at Concord this 17th day of December 2024  
In accordance with a resolution of the Directors



.....  
**Brett Howle, Chairperson**



.....  
**Matina Moffitt, Treasurer**

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION  
UNDER SECTION 307C OF THE *CORPORATIONS ACT 2001*  
TO THE DIRECTORS OF BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

I declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that during the year ended 30 September 2024:

- (i) no contravention of the auditor's independence requirement as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contravention of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Dated at Sydney this 18th day of December 2024

  
.....  
**Harley, Russell & Day**  
Chartered Accountants

**Garry William Day**  
Registered Company Auditor

## BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED

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### DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF THE REPORTS

#### General

This Summary of the Financial Statements has been derived from the full financial report of Briars at Greenlees Limited [Briars] for the year ended 30 September 2024. The discussion and analysis are based on those financial reports and is provided to assist members in the understanding of the financial statements.

A copy of the full financial report and audit report thereon will be made available to any member upon request to the General Manager.

#### Statement of Profit/(Loss) and Other Comprehensive Income

Briars total revenue of \$6,064,457 has decreased by \$460,042 (7.05%) compared to last year [\$6,524,499], and operating expenses excluding depreciation, amortisation, and finance costs of \$4,921,817 has also decreased by \$435,862 (8.14%) from last year [\$5,357,679], resulting in net profit before tax of \$189,612 [income tax: \$ Nil] compared to a 2023 net profit of \$297,714 [income tax: \$ Nil].

Individual items and trading conditions that have impacted the 2024 result include:

- Club trading conditions during the year became difficult flowing from the cost-of-living impact on the Australian economy and resulted in a negative impact on revenue at the Club, with bar sales decreasing by \$73,844 (4.73%) and net poker machine revenue decreasing by \$336,182 (11.17%).
- Entertainment, marketing, and promotion expenses increased by \$43,203 (10.98%).
- Depreciation expense increased by \$72,677 [8.91%]. The major categories impacting this increase were:
  - Furniture & Fittings +\$22,518
  - Poker machines +\$20,166
  - Building improvements +\$17,174
  - Plant & Equipment +\$11,072
- Employee benefit expenses decreased by \$29,521 (2.81%):
  - Employee costs decrease resulted from the net of wages increases offset by reduced management positions.
- Other expenses from ordinary activities decreased by \$367,266 (13.45%) and spread across all expense items, but the major items were:

○ Repairs & Maintenance [Burwood Property]	(\$170,173)
○ Sports Provisioning	(\$115,694)
○ Clothing/Uniforms	(\$100,796)
○ Consulting Fees	(\$54,353)
○ Function Expenses	(\$41,102)
○ Electricity	+\$27,376
○ Sports Affiliation/Association Fees	+\$25,966
○ Sports Equipment	+\$22,874
○ Crown Land Lease	+\$17,108
○ Fox Sports Subscription	+\$15,260
○ Interest – CBA Better Business Loan	+\$11,907
- Poker machine direct expenses [taxes and other expenses] decreased by \$51,255 (8.44%) as a direct result of the decrease in net poker machine revenue and flow-on with a drop in poker machine duty.
- Bar sales were down at \$1,487,529 compared to last year of \$1,561,373. A decrease of \$73,844 (4.73%):
  - The gross profit percentage increased marginally from 63.32% to 63.59%.

#### Statement of financial position

Briars net assets have increased by \$189,612 or 2.67% since last year. This change consisted of:

- An increase in total assets of \$407,597; and
- An increase in total liabilities of \$217,985

## **BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

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### **DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF THE REPORTS [CONTINUED]**

#### **Statement of financial position [continued]**

The increase in net assets for the year is mainly attributable to:

- Net increase in property, plant, and equipment of \$686,060 on the Right-of-use assets [ROU] following a review of the Clubhouse and grounds lease which is valued as a perpetuity.
- Net decrease in property, plant, and equipment of \$524,529 comprising work-in-progress, furniture and equipment, and new poker machines, net of depreciation \$781,966.
- Increase in cash and cash equivalents of \$111,920. Transfer of funds to CBA call deposit.
- Increase in intangible assets \$124,000 on purchase of 4 new gaming entitlements.
- Decrease in current financial liabilities on repayment of borrowing totalling (\$695,196). Offset by.
- Increase in non-current financial liabilities following reassessment of the perpetuity value of clubhouse land and grounds [ROU asset] \$758,260 net of payment on lease liabilities and borrowings totalling \$192,977.
- Decreased in current provisions of \$114,930. Repairs & Maintenance [Burwood property] provision \$129,221 and Cintra turf development fund provisions increasing by \$15,000.
- Other liabilities increased by \$420,425 mainly resulting from a NSW Sports grant of \$418,630 for the resurfacing of the synthetic grass at the Cintra hockey complex.

#### **Statement of cash flows**

Operating activities provided net cash inflows of \$1,453,404 compared to \$1,288,850 last year. An increase of \$164,554 (12.77%) due to a large grant of \$418,630 [net of GST].

Net cash used by investing activities of \$381,437 mainly related to the payment for property, plant and equipment and the purchase of four gaming entitlements.

Net cash outflow from financing activities of \$960,047 included the repayment of the CBA business loan \$631,699. This is a temporary measure pending commencement of the Cintra hockey complex resurfacing project.

Cash at year end of the year was \$457,151 compared to \$355,231 last year. An increase of \$111,920 (31.51%).

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**BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

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**STATEMENT OF PROFIT/(LOSS) AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

for the year ended 30 September 2024

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Revenue from the sale of goods	1,608,099	1,686,654
Revenue from rendering of services	4,133,590	4,556,959
Other revenue from ordinary activities	322,768	280,886
<b>Total revenue from ordinary activities</b>	<b>6,064,457</b>	<b>6,524,499</b>
Cost of sales	(541,540)	(572,650)
Directors' expenses	(3,405)	(3,318)
Employee benefit expenses	(1,020,423)	(1,049,944)
Entertainment, marketing and promotion expenses	(436,541)	(393,338)
Poker machine taxes and other expenses	(556,077)	(607,332)
Other expenses from ordinary activities	(2,363,831)	(2,731,097)
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>(4,921,817)</b>	<b>(5,357,679)</b>
<b>Operating profit</b>	<b>1,142,640</b>	<b>1,166,820</b>
Depreciation and amortisation expense	(888,117)	(815,440)
Finance costs	(64,911)	(53,666)
<b>Profit before income tax expense</b>	<b>189,612</b>	<b>297,714</b>
Income tax expense	0	0
<b>Net profit for the year</b>	<b>189,612</b>	<b>297,714</b>
Other comprehensive income	0	0
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>189,612</b>	<b>297,714</b>

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**

for the year ended 30 September 2024

	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
	<b>Retained Earnings</b>	<b>Assets Revaluation Reserve</b>	<b>Briars Equity Transfer</b>	<b>Total Equity</b>
<b>Balance as at 1 October 2022</b>	<b>4,296,575</b>	<b>2,160,358</b>	<b>343,837</b>	<b>6,800,770</b>
Net profit for the year	297,714	0	0	297,714
Other comprehensive income	0	0	0	0
<b>Balance as at 30 September 2023</b>	<b>4,594,289</b>	<b>2,160,358</b>	<b>343,837</b>	<b>7,098,484</b>
Net profit for the year	189,612	0	0	189,612
Other comprehensive income	0	0	0	0
<b>Balance as at 30 September 2024</b>	<b>4,783,901</b>	<b>2,160,358</b>	<b>343,837</b>	<b>7,288,096</b>

**BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

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**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

as at 30 September 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	467,151	355,231
Financial assets	5,000	5,000
Inventories	32,816	34,047
Trade and other receivables	59,745	60,889
Other assets	165,742	153,221
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>730,454</b>	<b>608,388</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	9,670,580	9,509,049
Intangible assets	770,939	646,939
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>10,441,519</b>	<b>10,155,988</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>11,171,973</b>	<b>10,764,376</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	441,051	431,250
Financial liabilities	193,371	879,076
Provisions	614,066	728,997
Other liabilities	769,351	348,927
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>2,017,839</b>	<b>2,388,250</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>		
Financial liabilities	1,847,460	1,265,989
Provisions	18,578	11,653
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>1,866,038</b>	<b>1,277,642</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>3,883,877</b>	<b>3,665,892</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>7,288,096</b>	<b>7,098,484</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Reserves	2,504,195	2,504,195
Retained earnings	4,783,901	4,594,289
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>7,288,096</b>	<b>7,098,484</b>

**BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

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**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

for the year ended 30 September 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Receipts from members and guests	5,632,386	6,112,761
Payments to suppliers and employees	(4,560,278)	(5,182,154)
Interest received	16	708
Rental income received	427,760	392,135
	<b>1,499,884</b>	<b>1,323,450</b>
Finance costs - CBA facilities and other	(46,480)	(34,600)
	<b>1,453,404</b>	<b>1,288,850</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Payment for clubhouse improvements [includes work-in-progress]	(12,355)	(1,030,127)
Payment for furniture, plant, equipment, and poker machines	(245,082)	(785,449)
Payment for intangible assets - gaming entitlements	(124,000)	(65,493)
Proceeds on disposal of plant and equipment	0	8,120
	<b>(381,437)</b>	<b>(1,872,949)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Proceeds from CBA business loan	0	631,699
CBA business loan - repayment	(631,699)	0
Other finance - repayments	(132,640)	(144,167)
Lease liabilities - payments	(195,708)	(137,898)
	<b>(960,047)</b>	<b>349,634</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held</b>	111,920	(234,465)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	355,231	589,696
	<b>467,151</b>	<b>355,231</b>



## **BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

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### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 September 2024**

#### **1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared from the audited financial report of Briars at Greenlees Limited for the year ended 30 September 2024. The audited report for the year ended 30 September 2024 is available on request from Briars at Greenlees Limited.

The financial statements are presented in Australian Dollars which is the entity's functional and presentation currency.

The financial statements, specific disclosures and other information included in the summary financial statements have been derived from and are consistent with the full financial statements of Briars at Greenlees Limited for the financial year.

The summary financial statements do not, and cannot be expected to, provide a detailed understanding of the financial performance, financial position and operating, financing and investment activities of Briars at Greenlees Limited as the full financial report.

The accounting policies have been consistently applied by Briars at Greenlees Limited are consistent with those of the financial year unless otherwise stated.

Briars at Greenlees Limited has adopted all new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current year. Any new or amended Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted.

**BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

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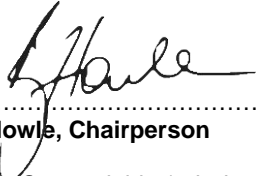
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**DIRECTORS' DECLARATION**

The directors of Briars at Greenlees Limited declare that the summary financial report of the entity for the financial year ended 30 September 2024, as set out on pages 1 to 9:

- [a] complies with the accounting policies disclosed in Note 1; and
- [b] is an extract from the full financial report for the year ended 30 September 2024 and has been derived from and is consistent with the full financial report of Briars at Greenlees Limited.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



.....  
**Brett Howle, Chairperson**



.....  
**Matina Morrill, Treasurer**

Dated at Concord this 17th day of December 2024

## **BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

[A Company Limited by Guarantee]  
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### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF BRIARS AT GREENLEES LIMITED**

The accompanying summary financial statements, which comprises the summary statement financial position as at 30 September 2024, the summary statement of profit/(loss) and other comprehensive income, summary statement of changes in equity and summary statement of cash flows for the year then ended, are derived from the audited financial report of Briars at Greenlees Limited for the year ended 30 September 2024. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on that financial report in our report dated 20 December 2024.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Australian accounting standards – reduced disclosure requirements. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report of Briars at Greenlees Limited.

#### **Director's responsibilities for the summary financial report**

The directors are responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited financial report on the basis described in Note 1: Summary of significant accounting policies.

#### **Auditor's responsibilities**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810: Engagements to report on summary financial statements.

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited financial report of Briars at Greenlees Limited for the year ended 30 September 2024 is consistent in all material respects, with that audited financial report, on the basis described in Note 1: Summary of significant accounting policies.

Dated at Sydney this 18th day of December 2024

  
.....  
**Harley, Russell & Day**  
Chartered Accountants

**Garry William Day**  
Registered Company Auditor

