

# COACHES' ASSOCIATION (HKHDCCA)



## AUSTRALIA-INDIA WOMEN'S CRICKET ASSOCIATION



## UNDER 17 GIRLS TOUR TO INDIA

13 – 25 April 2024



SUPPORTED BY **NORTHERN DISTRICT CC**





## LEADERSHIP TEAM ON TOUR



From left: **Sue Gregory** (Girls Co-ordinator / Umpire), **Megan Chinniah** (Vice-Captain), **Ron Woods** (Head Coach), **Aanya Siingh** (Captain), **Bruce Wood OAM** (Manager)

## Team photo

(front cover)

**Back:** Emma Rippon, Phoebe Laws, Audrey Kirk, Hannah Rose, Aimee Ravot, Ron Woods (Head Coach), Shree Swarup, Nandha Sajish, Arika Singh, Keerti Vatul (w-k)

**Front:** Sue Gregory (Girls Co-ordinator / Umpire), Yanee Bhatia, Megan Chinniah (v-c), Aanya Siingh (Captain), Kuhu Nanda, Jaaniya Shah, Bruce Wood OAM (Manager)





## ITINERARY – GIRLS U/17 CRICKET TOUR TO INDIA

13 – 25 APRIL 2024



Saturday	13 April	Day 1	0645am – Team and travelling parents assemble at Sydney International Airport. 0945am – Air India (flight AI301) – arrive Delhi 1810pm. [duration – 12h 30m] Escort to Hotel Eros, Nehru Place, New Delhi.
Sunday	14 April	Day 2	0830am – After breakfast, leave for Delhi sightseeing tour – explore Old Delhi streets on a rickshaw ride, spice market, India Gate, etc. 1515pm – Leave for 2-hour training session (1600 – 1800pm) at Billabong High International School, Kangaroo Kids, A-73, Sector-34, Noida.
Monday	15 April	Day 3	1100am – Leave for Gaur City Sports Complex, GH-01, Sector-4, Greater Noida (W), Noida, Uttar Pradesh. <b>Matches 1 &amp; 2</b> – 1200pm start – two T20s against the Sai Cricket Academy.
Tuesday	16 April	Day 4	0745am – Leave for Jamia Hamdard University Cricket Ground, Hamdard Nagar, Mehrauli Badarpur Road, Delhi. <b>Match 3</b> – 0930am [40 overs] v. Bal Bhawan International School Cricket Academy.
Wednesday	17 April	Day 5	0745am – Leave for Billabong High International School, Noida. <b>Match 4</b> – 0930am [40 overs] against Wonders Cricket Academy.
Thursday	18 April	Day 6	0830am – Check out of Hotel Eros and travel by air-conditioned coach to Agra (200 kms – 3.5 hours). 1400pm – After lunch, check into Hotel Trident, Fatehabad Road, Agra. 1500pm – Leave for 2.5 hour guided tour of Taj Mahal in Agra.
Friday	19 April	Day 7	0800am – Check out of Hotel Trident, Agra, and travel by air-conditioned coach to Jaipur (230 kms, approx. 4-5 hours) 1300pm – Check into the Ramada By Wyndham Hotel, Govind Marg Raja Park, Jaipur, Rajasthan. 1630pm – Explore the traditional Bazaars (shopping markets) in Jaipur.
Saturday	20 April	Day 8	0745am – Leave for Aravali Cricket Ground, Jaipur (near Vadanta International School), Hathoj, Rajasthan. <b>Match 5</b> – 0930am [40 overs] against KT Cricket Academy.
Sunday	21 April	Day 9	0930am – Check out of Ramada By Wyndham Hotel, Jaipur, and relocate to the Trident Hotel, Amber Fort Road, opposite Jal Mahal, Jaipur. 1100am – Visit the Ladli Vocational Training Centre for orphaned children at 74 Govindpuri, Rakdi Sodala, Jaipur. Engage in arts and crafts with skill-based wage earners. 1500pm – Jaipur sightseeing tour, including Amer Fort, Hawa Mahal, Jal Mahal, observatory Jantar Mantar, and block printing factory.
Monday	22 April	Day 10	0730am – Leave for Lakshya Cricket Ground, near Govt. Sec. School, Boythawala, near Benar Road, Niwaru, Jaipur. <b>Match 6</b> – 0930am [T20] against Lakshya Cricket Academy.
Tuesday	23 April	Day 11	0815am – Leave for Jaipuria Cricket Ground, Plot no. 266, behind Jain Mandir, Tonk Road, Mahavir Nagar, Durgapura, Jaipur. <b>Match 7</b> – 0930am [35 overs] v. Jaipuria Cricket Academy. 1830pm – Farewell speeches; presentation of tour awards and medals; cultural folk dance; final dinner with the team.
Wednesday	24 April	Day 12	0630am – Check out of Trident Hotel, Jaipur; travel by air-conditioned coach to Delhi Airport (220 kms – 4 hours) 1420pm – Air India (flight AI302) – depart Delhi Airport [duration – 12h 30m].
Thursday	25 April	Day 13	Anzac Day – Public Holiday in Australia. 0710am – Arrive at Sydney International Airport. Clear customs and immigration. HOME.





20 February 2024

Bruce Wood OAM  
President, Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA)  
Manager, U/17 Girls Cricket Tour to India – April 2024

I would like to wholeheartedly support your exciting U/17 Girls Representative Cricket Tour to India, which has been organised by the Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA), in partnership with the Australia-India Women's Cricket Association (AIWCA), and Northern District Cricket Club (NDCC) in north-western Sydney. I would like to congratulate all the partners that have come together to make this tour a reality. Your 14 young female players (and three coaches / officials) will have a unique opportunity to develop as cricketers, while they embrace a cultural experience like no other.

Cricket NSW takes great pride in assisting the development of our players, coaches, and umpires. This would not be possible without the support of organisations like the Coaches' Association, volunteers and parents. I am impressed with the wide range of development opportunities that the Coaches' Association provides for boys and girls, ranging from beginners, club and representative players, overseas tours, special representative matches, and pathways to higher level cricket. This outstanding work includes specialised coaching of junior male and female players, and professional development of accredited cricket coaches.

I have recently been made aware of the exciting work being undertaken by your partners on this tour, the Australia-India Women's Cricket Association (AIWCA). I am advised that AIWCA has been formed to provide opportunities for Australian female cricketers, primarily of Indian descent, to play high level representative cricket in Australia and on overseas tours. The AIWCA executive committee and senior coaches are clearly committed to providing exemplary leadership in the Australia-India women's cricket community.

Your other partners on this tour, Northern District CC, are a terrific nursery of junior cricket talent, having won the NSW Premier Cricket AW Green Shield competition (undefeated) and the NSW U/16 State Challenge Final in 2018-19 and 2020-21, as well as back-to-back Club Championships in 2020-21 and 2021-22. NDCC also has strong female Grade teams and high level coaches. Cricket NSW was pleased to contribute significant funding toward the impressive new indoor centre at Mark Taylor Oval, Waitara (home of Northern District CC).

I note that this is the fifth overseas cricket tour that you have organised on behalf of the Coaches' Association, after memorable U/15 Boys tours to Sri Lanka in 2015, Barbados in 2017, India in 2019, and India in 2023. These were highly successful junior cricket tours, both on and off the field, and contributed to the pathway of many talented cricketers. No doubt this will continue in the future with your talented female players.

CRICKET NSW

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Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127

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India is one of the great destinations for a cricket tour, with its passion for cricket, fanatical supporters, vibrant atmosphere and cultural diversity. I note from your tour itinerary that you will be playing matches in Delhi and Jaipur, visiting the Taj Mahal, and attending an IPL match. What an amazing experience lies ahead for your team and supporters.

To the tourists, the people of India are exceptionally knowledgeable about cricket and their young players are very talented. You will enjoy the hospitality of the Indian people off the field and highly competitive matches on the field. You will no doubt play against future first-class players and possibly some future international cricketers. Good luck on your tour and enjoy this 'once in a lifetime' experience.

Yours sincerely,

Lee Germon  
Chief Executive Officer  
Cricket NSW





**HKHDCCA / AIWCA / NDCC U/17 GIRLS TOUR TO INDIA – 13 - 25 APRIL 2024 – OFFICIALS**

This U/17 female cricket tour to India has been organised by the Hornsby, Ku-ring-gai & Hills District Cricket Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA), in partnership with the Australia–India Women's Cricket Association (AIWCA), and Northern District CC (NDCC) in Sydney. The touring party comprises 14 players, 3 officials and 9 supporters (total 26 people). Our experienced Indian travel agents are **Sohan Kadian** and **Nikita Rathore** from [www.melshsportstours.com](http://www.melshsportstours.com), who looked after us so well on previous tours to India in 2019 and 2023.

**Ron (Tiger) Woods** (Head Coach) became an ICC Global High Performance (Level 3) accredited coach in Dubai in 2019 and has coached Women's Cricket for over 20 years at Parramatta DCC, Penrith CC, North West Hurricanes CC, Cricket NSW, Perth, Malaysia and Ireland. Ron is currently the Head Coach of the Northern District CC U/18 Women's Brewer Shield team that won the Minor Premiership in season 2023-24 in Sydney. He played in the First Grade squad at Sturt CC in Adelaide at the age of 18, before joining the Army, where he played cricket for the Australian Defence Force team for 15 years. Prior to attaining his ICC Level 3 qualification, he completed the Cricket Australia Representative (Level 2) accredited coaching course. Ron holds a Certificate IV in Sports Coaching through Sport NSW (2010). Graduate Certificate in High Performance Sport. Sport Psychological Perspectives Course – Elite Sport Performance (2018-19). Data Analysis and Interpretation for High Performance Sport. Leadership and Culture in High Performance Settings. Ron has coached at least 7 elite female players, including Kate Peterson, a pace bowler who plays First Grade Premier Cricket and WBBL in Adelaide; and Phoebe Litchfield, a left-handed batter who is a current Australian Test, ODI and T20 player. Ron is also the Head Coach of the newly formed [Australia–India Women's Cricket Association \(AIWCA\)](http://www.aiwca.com.au).



**Bruce Wood** OAM (Tour Manager) received an Order of Australia Medal in 2022 for his extensive service to cricket. He was recognised by Cricket NSW and Cricket Australia as the *Community Match Official of the Year* at the national 'A Sport For All' Awards in 2020; and featured in the Cricket Sydney publication: [bit.ly/BGW-Cricket-Oct-2020](https://bit.ly/BGW-Cricket-Oct-2020). He is an experienced Representative (Level 2) accredited coach, having coached school, club, rep. and touring teams since 1997-98, including HK&HDCA's undefeated U/15 Weblin Shield Boys premiership team in 2005-06. He is the Founder (and President) of Sydney's first *not-for-profit* district Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA) in 2010, which is responsible for implementing a wide range of coaching initiatives in north-western Sydney, including junior cricket clinics during the school holidays. He was Head Coach on HK&HDCA's first overseas tours to India in 2006, and New Zealand in 2007. He was the Manager (and umpire) on the HKHDCCA / NDCC U/15 Boys tours to Sri Lanka (2015); West Indies / USA (2017); India (2019); and India (2023). The Association's prestigious *Coach of the Year* annual perpetual trophy (Bruce Wood Cup) is named in his honour in recognition of his exemplary work and achievements in the field of cricket coaching over more than two decades. Bruce is an experienced NSWCUA Level 2 qualified umpire who has officiated in 781 matches since 2001-02, including 60+ Grand Finals (one at the SCG and one at Bradman Oval, Bowral). He is a respected Life Member of four cricket bodies – HK&HDCA; Coaches' Association; Barker CC; and Normanhurst-Warrawee CC. He is also President of the [Australia–India Women's Cricket Association \(AIWCA\) Inc.](http://www.aiwca.com.au) Bruce jointly holds the HK&HDCA record for the highest 5<sup>th</sup> wicket batting partnership in any Senior grade since inception in 1926-27 – 320\* runs set in 2000-01 for Normanhurst-Warrawee CC (Bruce scored 138 no).



**Sue Gregory** (Girls Co-ordinator / Umpire) is a NSWCUA Panel 1 Women's umpire who has regularly umpired NSW Premier Cricket Men's Second Grade and rep. matches. She was captain of her high school's 1<sup>st</sup> XI Girls team (wicket keeper / LH batter), and played in the CGSSA girls representative teams. Sue played women's grade cricket for Ku-ring-gai CC (which later merged with Gordon CC) in the 1980s and early 1990s. She was elected as the Training Officer (a committee member) for the Sydney Women's Cricket Umpires' Association (SWCUA), and has conducted Level 2 cricket laws courses for NSWCUA on a voluntary basis for two years. She has also presented at Professional Development one day courses for NSWCUA at local and regional umpires associations. Sue has three daughters and is passionate about female sport and Girls Cricket in particular. She has coached, managed and scored for her daughters' local association cricket teams. Sue is also an Executive Committee member of the [Australia–India Women's Cricket Association \(AIWCA\) Inc.](http://www.aiwca.com.au), which has been established to provide opportunities for Australian female cricketers of Indian descent (and others) to play high level representative cricket in Australia and on overseas tours. Sue will play an important role on tour, being the first point of contact for the 14 female players for all matters aside from cricket coaching. Sue is also looking forward to umpiring some of the Girls matches in India for the first time.



**1. Aanya SINGH (Captain)**

RHB (top-order); RAB (fast-medium pace)

Main cricket teams / achievements in 2023-24

NDCC – U/18 Brewer Shield – Minor Premiers – 425 @ 35.4; 17 wickets @ 13.4

Central Coast Senior Women 1st Grade – 378 runs @ 75.6; 19 wickets @ 5.2

Represented NSW Metro at the Cricket Australia U/16 National Championships in Tasmania – 73 runs @ 14.6

Inner West Harbour JCA – U/15 Margaret Peden Shield – 166 @ 33.2; 5 wickets @ 7.6

Cricket NSW U/15 Female State Challenge – 60 runs @ 60; 1 wicket @ 30.0

2024 – Cricket NSW U/16 Female Metropolitan Academy Squad

Highlights in 2022-23 – 127 no in Brewer Shield; 100 no in Margaret Peden Shield

Coaches' Association / Northern District CC cricket clinic at Mark Taylor Oval, Waitara in October 2020 – won the Phillip Hughes Medal

**2. Megan CHINNAH (Vice Captain)**

LAB (spinner); LHB (middle-order)

Main cricket teams / achievements in 2023-24Northern District CC – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade / U18 Brewer Shield – Minor Premiers – 35 runs @ 7; 2 wickets @ 27.5, BB 1/1Abbotsleigh 1<sup>st</sup> X1 (Captain) – 116 runs @ 58; 6 wickets @ 9.7; BB 3/13  
NSJCA Winner Term 1

Northern District CC – U/18 Brewer Shield – Captain) 2022-23

Abbotsleigh 1<sup>st</sup> X1 (Vice-Captain) 2022-23 NSJCA Winner Term 1

Northern District CC – Jim Barrett Cup Winner 2020-21

Northern District CC – Training Award Winner 2021-22

**3. Yanee BHATIA**

RAB (pace), RHB (middle-order)

Main cricket teams / achievements in 2023-24

Penrith Women's CC – First Grade – 6 wickets @ 18.33

Penrith Women's CC – Second Grade – 50 runs, HS 19no, 12 wickets, BB 4/23

Ponds CC – Under 17's (semi-finalists): 7 wickets

The Ponds High School cricket team – Captain – BB 4/10

Combined High Schools (CHS) – grand final winners

NSW All Schools Cricket team

Hills Barbarians CC – Coaches Award; Best Fielding Award

Thunder Nation Cup – represented Rest of the World team – runners up in final (best bowling figures)

**4. Audrey KIRK**

RAB (leg-spin); RHB (middle-order)

Main cricket teams / achievements in 2023-24

Lane Cove CC – Stage 3 – 10 wickets @ 16.6, BB 2-16; 110 runs, HS 27\* (runners-up)

Lane Cove CC – best bowler award

Gordon Women's CC – U/18 Brewer Shield – 12 wickets @ 23.33, BB 4/35 v. NDCC; 39 runs @ 4.33, HS 8

Formerly rep. cricket for North Shore JCA (U/15 Margaret Peden, and U/13 Mollie Dive Shield)

**5. Phoebe LAWS**

RAB (medium-pace); RHB (middle-order)

Main cricket teams / achievements in 2023-24

Northern District CC – U/18 Brewer Shield – Minor Premiers – 41 runs @ 13.67, HS 13, 10 wickets @ 9.8, BB 5/23

South West Rocks CC – 81 runs @ 20.25, HS 34; 5 wickets @ 22.4, BB 5/23

Second Grade – Best &amp; Fairest award; Junior Development Scholarship

North Coast Chargers (Plan B Bash) (non-batter) 2 wickets @ 2, BB 2/4

North Coastal U/19 (Country Champs) 55 runs @ 27.77; 4 wickets @ 12.5, BB 3/6





**6. Kuhu NANDA**

RAB (pace); LHB (top-order)

Main cricket teams / achievements in 2023-24

HK&amp;HDCA U/15 Margaret Peden Shield – 79 runs @ 11.29, HS 31; 5 wickets @ 26.4, BB 2/14

Blacktown DCC – U/18 Brewer Shield – 126 runs @ 15.75, HS 49; 5 wickets @ 18.2, BB 3/4

Kellyville SuperSonics U/15, Div 2 – 132 runs @ 13.2, HS 27; 7 wickets @ 20.57, BB 4/4

Seniors B10 – 21 runs @ 10.5, HS 15; 8 wickets @ 13.38, BB 5/20

Thunder Girls – Stage 3 – MVP R15

**7. Aimee RAVOT**

RAB (leg-spin); RHB

Main cricket teams / achievements in 2023-24Penrith CC – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade debut – 27 wickets @ 14.6, BB 5/37 (Bowler of Year)

NSW Premier Cricket – First Grade Women's Merit XII – Team of the Year

NSW Women's Indigenous Championships – 11 wickets @ 9.0, BB 4/12

Named in the Indigenous top 11 players for the tournament and awarded an Australian Indigenous baggy black cap

National Australian Indigenous female team – toured Vanuatu – trained and played trial matches at MCG

**8. Emma RIPPON**

RAB (off-spin); RHB (top-order)

Main cricket teams / achievements in 2023-24

Western CHS Open State Championships

Western U/16 Female Academy Country Championships

HK&amp;HDCA U/15 Margaret Peden Shield – 29 runs @ 5.8; 3 wickets @ 36.3

Metro U/15 State Challenge – Scorpions team – tournament winners

WPHCCC Stage 3 – U/17 Girls – 155 runs @ 77.5, HS 35no; 8 wickets @ 8.38, BB4/1; Spirit of Cricket award

Northern District CC – U/18 Brewer Shield – Minor Premiers – 121 runs @ 17.3, HS 62, 6 wickets @ 10.5, BB 2/4

2024 – NSW CHS U/15 team selection

**9. Hannah ROSE**

RAB (pace), RHB (middle-order)

Main cricket teams / achievements in 2023-24

Marrickville CC – 244 runs @ 48.8, HS 45; 2 wickets, BB 2/11

Sydney CC – U/18 Brewer Shield – 78 runs, HS 38, 8 wickets @ 20.5, BB 2/31

St Scholastica College representative cricket team

**10. Nandha Sajish**

RAB (pace), RHB (middle-order)

Main cricket teams / achievements in 2023-24

Northern District CC – U/18 Brewer Shield – Minor Premiers – 57 runs @ 14.3, HS 33, 7 wickets @ 14.8, BB 2/6

Castle Hill RSL CC – Girls U15 Lightning team – Batting Award – Player's Player Award

Represented Sydney East School championship team for the past 3 years

Selected in Combined High School (CHS) 2<sup>nd</sup> XI team in 2024

Parramatta DCA – U/14 Div. 2 Blue Girls team in 2020-21 – highest wicket taker award (21 wickets); Hat-trick in quarter final match against an U/14 Boys team

Gordon Women's CC in 2021-22 – U/18 Brewer Shield – Spirit of Cricket Award.

2020 – first girl selected in Kellyville Public School's cricket team in 145 years of co-ed

St. George Girls High School – opened batting in an inter-school T20 championship match – scored 69 not out off 41 balls, and took 3 wickets

Coaches' Association / Northern District CC cricket clinic at Mark Taylor Oval, Waitara in October 2020 – won the Phillip Hughes Medal





**11. Jaaniya SHAH**

RAB (pace); RHB (top-order)

Main cricket teams / achievements in 2023-24

Northern District CC – U/18 Brewer Shield – Minor Premiers – 243 runs @ 17.36,

HS 52; 14 wickets @ 13.57, BB 3/7

Parramatta U/15 Peden Shield – Premiers – winning captain – 151 runs @ 21.57,

HS 70 no; 11 wickets @ 11.0, BB 5/15

Lisarow CC – Senior Women First Grade - 123 runs @ 30.75, HS 69 no; 3 wickets

@ 21.0, BB 2/16

Parramatta U/15 Div. 2 – 221 runs @ 24.56, HS 73 no; 12 wickets @ 8.8, BB 4/6

Cricket NSW U/15 Female Metropolitan Academy Squad – 2023 and 2024

**12. Arika SINGH**

LHB (top-order); RHB (spin)

Main cricket teams / achievements in 2023-24

Northern District CC – U/18 Brewer Shield – Minor Premiers – 52 runs

Northern District CC – Second Grade - HS 19 runs

The Ponds High School cricket team (winning captain) – HS 58 runs; BB 3/5

Thunder Nation Cup – represented Rest of the World team – runners up in final

Hills Barbarians CC – Batting award, Coaches award

Hills Barbarians CC – Grand final win, HS 24, 3/10 @ 5.6; one day (50 overs)

**13. Shree Swarup**

RAB (pace); RHB (middle-order)

Main cricket teams / achievements in 2023-24

Northern District CC – U/18 Brewer Shield – Minor Premiers – 8 wickets @ 13.38,

BB 3/16; 41 runs @ 13.67, HS 26

Cricket NSW academy squads: 2018 – 2022 (captained U/13, U/14, U/16)

Cricket NSW Metro Sixers squad – 2022

Penrith CC – U/18 Brewer Shield 2022-23 – HS 64 runs off 80 balls, and 61 runs off 78 balls. Player of the season.

Penrith CC – Second Grade : 5/29 in 2022-23, and 4/24 in 2021-22.

Made First Grade debut in 2022-23.

Northern District CC - selected to play against Singapore National Cricket Team - 2023

Xavier College – Sporting Red Awards (representing NSW) – 2019, 2020, 2022

Xavier College – Senior Sports Person of the Year – 2023

**14. Keerti VATUL**

Wicket-keeper; RHB (top-order); RAB (medium-pace / off-spin)

Main cricket teams / achievements in 2023-24

Kellyville Supersonics PDCA U/15 (Captain) – 84 runs @ 16.8, HS 23 no; 3 wickets

@ 12; 12 w-k dismissals

HK&amp;HDCA U/15 Margaret Peden Shield (V-C) – 127 runs @ 21.17, HS 61 no;

7 w-k dismissals

Orange District Cricket Association – January Carnival – 53 runs @ 26.5, HS 37;

6 w-k dismissals

Blacktown U/18 Brewer Shield – 137 runs @ 10.54, HS 50 no; 13 w-k dismissals

2023 – Pacific Hills Christian School – NSWISCC Wiburd Shield

2023 and 2024 - Cricket NSW U/15 Female Metropolitan Academy Squad

2024 – NSW Combined Independent Schools (CIS) U/15 Female Squad

**THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE SINCERELY THANKS THE 9 FAMILY SUPPORTERS ON THIS TOUR**

Rajiv Chinniah, Adam Kirk, Cassandra Kirk, Rebecca Laws, Lance Laws,  
Yash Swarup, Neeta Matiyani, Karthik Sivaram, Neel Vatul

Link to Coaches' Association's previous cricket tour reports – [bit.ly/HKHDCCA-overseas-tours-Reports](https://bit.ly/HKHDCCA-overseas-tours-Reports)

**MATCH 1** [T20] v. **Sai Cricket Academy** (Delhi)

**Venue** – Gaur City Sports Complex, GH-01, Sector-4, Greater Noida (W), Noida, Uttar Pradesh

**Date** – Monday, 15 April 2024

**Toss** – Sai Cricket Academy chose to bowl

**Coaches** – Ron (Tiger) Woods (Sydney) / Nazim Ali (Sai Cricket Academy)

**Umpires** – Jatindra Singh (Delhi) and Pratap Rawat (Delhi)

**SCORES** – HKHDCCA / AIWCA / NDCC U/17 – 35 [13 overs] (Parshavi 4/9, Bharti 3/3) lost to Sai Cricket Academy – 4/36 [13.1 overs] (Shivali 19 no) by 6 wickets









**MATCH 2** [T20] v. **Sai Cricket Academy** (Delhi)

**Venue** – Gaur City Sports Complex, GH-01, Sector-4, Greater Noida (W), Noida, Uttar Pradesh

**Date** – Monday, 15 April 2024

**Toss** – HKHDCCA / AIWCA / NDCC U/17 chose to bat

**Coaches** – Ron (Tiger) Woods (Sydney) / Nazim Ali (Sai Cricket Academy)

**Umpires** – Sue Gregory (Sydney) and Bruce Wood OAM (Sydney)

**SCORES** – HKHDCCA / AIWCA / NDCC U/17 – 56 [13.2 overs] (Aanya Siingh 18, Chhavi 2/0, Bhoomi 2/6, Madhuri 2/15) lost to **Sai Cricket Academy** – 2/57 [7.3 overs] (Katyayni 22 no) by 8 wickets









**MATCH 3** [40 OVERS] V. **Bal Bhawan International School Cricket Academy** (Delhi)

**Venue** – Jamia Hamdard University Cricket Ground, Hamdard Nagar, Mehrauli Badarpur Road

**Date** – Tuesday, 16 April 2024

**Toss** – HKHDCCA / AIWCA / NDCC U/17 chose to bowl

**Coaches** – Ron (Tiger) Woods (Sydney) / Rajesh Nagar (Bal Bhawan)

**Umpires** – Ravi Rawat (Delhi) and Rajesh (Delhi)

**SCORES** – HKHDCCA / AIWCA / NDCC U/17 – 104 [30 overs] (Jaaniya Shah 48, Nisha 3/1, Mayuri 2/3) lost to **Bal Bhawan Cricket Academy** – 5/230 [40 overs] (Apeaksha 61 ret., Sacchi 47, Rishika 42 ret., Aanya Siingh 2/38) by 126 runs









**MATCH 4** [40 OVERS] v. **Wonders Cricket Club** (Delhi)

**Venue** – Billabong High International School, A-73, Shahid Gulabsingh Lodhi Park Rd, Block A, Sector 34, Noida

**Date** – Wednesday, 17 April 2024

**Toss** – Wonders Cricket Club chose to bat

**Coaches** – Ron (Tiger) Woods (Sydney) / Phoolchand Sharma (Wonders CC)

**Umpires** – Sue Gregory (Sydney) / Ravi Rawat (Delhi) and Aakash Maurya (Delhi)

**SCORES** – HKHDCCA / AIWCA / NDCC U/17 – 7/171 [40 overs] (Aanya Siingh 36, Hannah Rose 36, Shree Swarup 33, Kajal 2/7) lost to **Wonders Cricket Club** – 8/237 [40 overs] (Pragati 81, Ekta 44, Gurleen 22, Preeti 16, Shree Swarup 2/15) by 66 runs









**MATCH 5** [40 OVERS] V. **KT Cricket Academy** (Jaipur)

**Venue** – Aravali Cricket Ground, Jaipur (near Vadanta International School), Hathoj, Rajasthan

**Date** – Saturday, 20 April 2024

**Toss** – KT Cricket Academy chose to bat

**Coaches** – Ron (Tiger) Woods (Sydney) / Kailash Meena (KT Cricket Academy)

**Umpires** – Sue Gregory (Sydney) / Lucky Chhedwal (Jaipur) and Meghraj Meena (Jaipur)

**SCORES** – HKHDCCA / AIWCA / NDCC U/17 – 101 [35.4 overs] (Jaaniya Shah 20, Aanya Siingh 17, Shree Swarup 16 no, Anita 2/9, Shama 2/12, Shrijiti 2/18, Sanjivani 2/31) lost to **KT Cricket Academy** – 4/315 [40 overs] (Rama 133, Yashtka 90 no, Shubhanght 37) by 214 runs









**MATCH 6** [T20] v. **LAKSHYA CRICKET ACADEMY U/17** (Jaipur)

**Venue** – Lakshya Cricket Ground, near Govt. Sec. School, Boythawala, Benar Rd, Niwaru (Owner – Anuj Tyagi)

**Date** – Monday, 22 April 2024

**Toss** – Lakshya Cricket Academy chose to bat

**Coaches** – Ron (Tiger) Woods (Sydney) / Pramod Yadav (Lakshya)

**Umpires** – Sue Gregory (Sydney) and Bruce Wood OAM (Sydney)

**SCORES** – HKHDCCA / AIWCA / NDCC U/17 – 3/119 [20 overs] (Kuhu Nanda 25 ret, Audrey Kirk 18 ret, Yanee Bhatia 13 no, Keerti Vatul 12 ret, Aimee Ravot 12 ret.) lost to **Lakshya Cricket Academy – 3/148** [20 overs] (Tanika Sharma 52 ret, Vanshika Yadav 51 no, Phoebe Laws 2/15, Jaaniya Shah 2 catches) by 29 runs









**MATCH 7** [35 OVERS] V. **JAIPURIA CRICKET ACADEMY U/17** (Jaipur)

**Venue** – Jaipuria Cricket Ground, Plot No. 266, Jain Mandir, Tonk Road, Mahavir Nagar, Durgapura, Jaipur

**Date** – Tuesday, 23 April 2024

**Toss** – HKHDCCA / AIWCA / NDCC U/17 chose to bowl

**Coaches** – Bruce Wood OAM (Sydney) / Pankaj Gupta (Jaipuria)

**Umpires** – Sue Gregory (Sydney) / Mahendra Singh (Jaipur)

**SCORES** – HKHDCCA / AIWCA / NDCC U/17 – 5/146 [24 overs] (Aanya Siingh 50 no, Aimee Ravot 21, Nandha Sajish 17, Khushi Jain 3/28) def. **Jaipuria Cricket Academy – 144** [35 overs] (Mahi Seth 26, Kavya Bishnoi 25, Khushi Jain 24, Akshita Sharda 17, Nandha Sajish 2/9, Jaaniya Shah 2/12, Yanee Bhatia 2 catches) by 5 wickets



youtube.com

**WOMEN U-17 Jaipuria V/S Coaches Association ( HKHDCCA) 2023-2024 #cricket #youtubesh...**









**HEAD COACH'S ASSESSMENT OF PLAYERS – RON (TIGER) WOODS**

NO.	PLAYER	BRIEF COMMENTS
1	Aanya Siingh (Captain)	Our Captain led from the front in all aspects of the tour and her outstanding leadership qualities shone through both on and off the field. She did well managing her captaincy and delivered with the bat, winning our Batting Award (133 runs @ 44.3 average). Aanya scored a superb 50* in our team's victory over the Jaipuria Cricket Academy in Match 7 of the tour. It was a pleasure to have Aanya leading the team on our inaugural tour.
2	Megan Chinniah (V-C)	Megan performed well on tour and as Vice-Captain played a very important role as a leader. Her spin bowling was accurate and forced the opposition to play a different line coming from a left arm spinner, she was fantastic on this tour both on & off the field. Megan was outstanding in the field and received the tour Fielding Award.
3	Yanee Bhatia	One of our most energetic and never say die players, Yanee was one of our strike bowlers and ran in and bowled with heart and passion every game. Her contribution was fantastic around the group both on & off the field and her friendship to everyone was extraordinary.
4	Audrey Kirk	Audrey played her best in every game and would have learnt a lot from this tour. Her batting and bowling improved and she will take a lot of information from this tour that will assist her in the future. She scored 18 ret. and took 1/14 off 6 overs in Matches 6 & 7.
5	Phoebe Laws	As our Liaison Officer, Phoebe was excellent both on & off the field with all her peers enjoying her company. Her bowling was outstanding and the opposition found her hard to play with her great line and length. She was a leader within the group and worked hard at her game. Phoebe received the tour Bowling Award for the most wickets taken in India.
6	Kuhu Nanda	Kuhu worked hard in every game she played, her bowling and batting improved and threatened to bowl good batters out with her much improved bowling. Her cricket knowledge is very good and we wish her all the best for the future. She opened the batting in Match 6 v. Lakshya Cricket Academy and scored a very good 25 (retired).
7	Aimee Ravot	Aimee's leg spin bowling was outstanding, she troubled batters every game she played. Her batting has improved and she was working hard for the whole team, a great representation of team first and it was a pleasure to have her on the tour.
8	Emma Rippon	It was a pleasure to have Emma on tour, her relaxed and friendly outlook towards her teammates and with her determination to succeed at every opportunity was a delight to witness. She never complained about anything on tour and worked hard at playing for the team result. Her skills are very good in all three facets of the game and she will take a lot from the tour.
9	Hannah Rose	Hard working on the field towards her game, always willing to learn and grow, Hannah was fantastic on and off the field, and contributed in all the games she played. Her batting and bowling improved every game she played and will benefit from the tour. She scored an aggressive 36 runs off just 23 balls against Wonders Cricket Club in Match 4 on tour.
10	Nandha Sajish	Nandha is a good allrounder, her bowling is accurate and very difficult to play. Nandha enjoyed the competitive approach and worked hard with the team in every game. She adds a lot of skill to the team when fielding and plays with passion. Nandha contributed well to our victory in the last match, scoring 17 runs (off 17 balls) and taking 2/9.
11	Jaaniya Shah	Jaaniya is a fantastic allrounder, fast bowler with plenty of energy and a hard-hitting top order batter. She works hard on the field and enjoys competitive games, Jaaniya can change a game very quickly with both bat & ball, it was a pleasure to have her on tour. She top-scored with a fantastic 48 runs (including 9 x 4s) against the Bal Bhawan International School Cricket Academy in Match 3 of the tour.
12	Arika Singh	A batter with outstanding potential, Arika has great footwork and is always willing to learn, she has learnt a lot from this tour and it was great to have her with this team. Arika enjoyed the social time with her teammates and was always smiling, it was a pleasure to have her on the tour. Her direct hit Run Out was pivotal in our win against Jaipuria Cricket Academy.
13	Shree Swarup	Tall fast strike bowler who bowled really well, Shree never gave up and always gave 100% for the team and she was also a leader in the group. Shree batted very well and received the Player of the Tour Award. She scored 33 runs and took 2/15 against Wonders CC in Match 4 on tour. She has a great future and it was a pleasure to have on the tour.
14	Keerti Vatul (w-k)	Our wicket-keeper played every game and Keerti did her best in very different and difficult conditions. She was always working hard for the team and would have taken away a lot of knowledge from this tour, we wish her all the best in her future. Keerti took a brilliant catch standing up at the stumps off Phoebe's bowling to take the last wicket on tour.



## AWARDS FROM THE INDIA TOUR – APRIL 2024



From left: **Phoebe Laws** (Bowling Award), **Shree Swarup** (Player of the Tour), **Aanya Siingh** (Batting Award), **Megan Chinniah** (Fielding Award)





**SUE GREGORY – GIRLS CO-ORDINATOR AND UMPIRE'S REFLECTIONS OF THE TOUR**

I am an umpire who officiates predominantly in NSW Premier Cricket (women's and men's) and accompanied the tour as Girls Co-ordinator. I was also fortunate to have the opportunity to umpire on tour. Bruce Wood (OAM), a NSWCUA member since 2002; CAS Umpires Co-ordinator; and President of both the tour partners – AIWCA and Coaches' Association, was the Tour Manager; while Ron Woods was Head Coach. We were a group of 26, including parents and a sibling on tour, ready to take in the sites, smells and experience, on & off cricket fields in India. The 14 players selected to tour all play in the SCA Women's competition, the majority play Brewer Shield (u18s competition) as well as players with second grade experience, and a player in her first season of first grade.

The tour was a good mix of cricket matches and sightseeing, which enabled us to experience the culture and visit historic and interesting sites. We started the tour in Delhi and after a tour of Old Delhi, rickshaw ride, visit to the spice markets and a Sikh temple. Our first two matches were T20s at Gaur City Stadium against the Sai Cricket Academy, representing the Lucknow Super Giants. Bruce Wood and I umpired the second match and upon inspecting the pitch, it struck me as being very narrow. The groundsman came over and said to me the pitch is 4 feet each side from middle stump – a foot short on either side! The scorer turned up, set up a trestle table, put cloth around 3 sides of it, got a plastic tablecloth out and then produced a staple gun and stapled the tablecloth to the table. Chair covers more akin to being on chairs at a wedding were also set up for players and spectators.

The following day was a 40 over a side match against the Bal Bhawan International School Cricket Academy, representing the Delhi Capitals franchise. The match was umpired as scheduled by 2 local umpires. There were some 'interesting' decisions which favoured the local team, so I resolved with the full support of our touring party to ensure I was on field at one end for all remaining matches on tour.

The next match saw our girls playing the Wonders Cricket Academy at Billabong High International School in a 40 over a side match. This ground did not have a square, just one pitch of rolled and baked dirt. The boundary and fielding circle were marked by spreading chalk with hands. I umpired this match and conditions were quite pleasant. My umpiring colleague decided when standing at square leg, to stand very deep on the boundary so he could stand in the shade of a tree. He also called out and encouraged me to stand at (deep) point so I could do the same, which



I politely declined! The Indian team's head coach advised me that there are 700 girls in 4 academies that he manages, with 21 coaches. The girls all train before school Monday to Friday, after school, and on Saturday & Sunday when they don't have a match. It's a bit of a tradition for the visiting umpire to exchange new shirts with the local Indian umpire, so I purchased some NSWCUA field shirts before I left Sydney and distributed them to colleagues I umpired with after some of the matches. Bruce Wood also had some umpire's shirts to exchange.

I unfortunately got 'Delhi Belly' on the day we had a 4 hour coach trip to Agra, so I was taking meds to try and settle the stomach and avoid an immediate and dire need for a bathroom. We visited the Taj Mahal in the afternoon and it was noticeably humid and the air was still. To get to the Taj Mahal, we had to decamp our coach, walk to large oversized open sided golf cart type transport to take us to the security checkpoint. The Taj Mahal was beautiful and there are other historic buildings around it which are overshadowed by the white marble beauty.





A 5 hour coach trip from Agra took us to Jaipur, and our next match was against KT Cricket Academy at Aravali Cricket Ground. I don't envisage ever calling a pitch in Australia 'a road' again after experiencing another rolled, cracked dry pitch of mud, not a blade of grass in sight. The edge of the pitch was marked with bricks laid on their side! The dressing room for the girls was a temporary structure with curtains and one toilet for all for the day. There was little bounce in the pitch and nothing for the bowlers – the Indian batters built a sizeable total. It was the first and hopefully only time I have had to leave the field during play to dash to the bathroom, as Delhi Belly struck again. I used my emergency supply of Jatz for lunch, which I had packed from home in case of such an occasion. After the match, the Academy coach thanked me for umpiring and remarked about how good it was to have a female umpire, as he sees very few. He added that it is good for the game and the girls to see and experience a female umpire. Upon heading back to our air-conditioned coach to travel back to the hotel, who should be there, in what felt like the middle of nowhere, was Steve Waugh. He took a photo with us all and posted the photo on his social media pages. A thrill for the girls and story to relay to the folks back home.

The next day was a rest day and we visited the Ladli Vocational Training Centre for orphaned and abandoned children in Jaipur, which was both inspiring and heartbreaking. The young children are housed, educated and allowed to remain when they have completed their schooling. After participating in some craft making, our players joined a dance class in an adjacent room – it was heart-warming to watch. Yash popped out of the orphanage and bought snacks and a drink for all the children. What also pulled the heart strings was how tight they hung onto the snacks until finally they opened them. In the afternoon we had a tour of the palace section of the vast Amer Fort where we spent a few hours looking around, and which also had beautiful views over the valleys and hills. Some of the historic buildings are 1,000 years old!

The next match was a standalone T20 match against Lakshya Cricket Academy. Bruce Wood and I were together again as the on-field umpires for the hottest day on tour. After watching the sprinklers on their automatic timer run through their watering of the outfield 15 minutes before play was due to start, we started on time as it was never in doubt the puddles and surface water would disappear quickly in that heat.

Our final match was a 35 over a side fixture against Jaipuria Cricket Academy on their lovely home ground, and will be remembered for having to halt play for a native beast to run across the field. It was a great win by the girls to finish the tour under tough circumstances. The bonding amongst the players was evident and grew as the tour went on, with friendships formed for many years to come. I'm certain the girls learnt a lot, both on and off the cricket field, a taste of Indian food, culture, sights and sounds (including many a vehicle horn!).

The parents: what an experience and opportunity you gave your daughters. To the parents at home, your daughters were well looked after by the management team and Melsh Sports Travel. For the parents on tour, thank you for your friendship and support. We never seemed to run out of conversation or particularly for those of us who had a bird's eye view out the front windows of the bus, ooh, aah, how did that miss, as many a calamity on the roads was narrowly avoided. We all had the same seats on tour (thanks to Cassandra for the 'Family Table' rule). Tour highlights included the camaraderie of the tour group, the sightseeing, looking out the bus windows to see all the activity and life going on, umpiring in different conditions, the girls' excellent performance in the last match of the tour, and the multiple bowls of ice cream consumed by Bruce Wood at dinner each night!

Thank you to the Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA); AIWCA and their sponsors (Obanato and WPE), and Northern District CC, as their support contributed to the tour. Opportunities for tours such as this do not get off the ground without amazing committees and sponsors. Well done to all including Tiger for the preparation and training sessions before we left. A big thank you to Bruce Wood for all his work in organising the tour and for compiling this comprehensive Tour Report. A lot of work is required behind the scenes to organise an overseas tour such as this. See media articles – [bit.ly/AusToday-AIWCA](https://bit.ly/AusToday-AIWCA) and [AIWCA: For girls who eat, sleep, dream cricket - Indian Link](#). Finally, thanks to all the photographers on tour for taking such great photos in India, particularly Karthik Sivaram.





**PLAYERS' REFLECTIONS OF THE TOUR**

No.	PLAYER	BRIEF COMMENTS
1	Aanya Siingh (Captain)	Embarking our tour to India with the Coaches' Association and AIWCA was an extraordinary adventure. The accommodation was impeccable with meticulous care from Sue, Bruce and Ron. The services provided were of the highest calibre, and the hotel staff exuded unparalleled politeness. The stay in Jaipur was particularly remarkable, with its luxurious amenities and breathtaking vistas. The exploration of India's iconic monuments was a cultural feast for the senses. Although we missed the excitement of the IPL, the majestic palaces of Jaipur more than compensated for it. As the captain, I felt a profound sense of support from the entire staff, with special gratitude towards our head coach, Ron Woods, for his unwavering guidance and support from Sue and Bruce. Some of the cricket grounds were truly exceptional. The tour was a resounding success, fostering camaraderie and lasting friendships among the team. This journey has not only brought all of us closer, but has also enriched my skills and deepened my understanding of cricket, both on and off the field. It was a privilege to lead such a dedicated team, and I return home with a treasure trove of knowledge and unforgettable memories.
2	Megan Chinniah (V-C)	The opportunity to play cricket in India has deepened my love and respect for the game. Witnessing everyone's commitment and passion for cricket was inspiring, and it was a good challenge playing on wickets very different to those in Australia. As a spinner, I learnt valuable lessons from the Indian bowlers in maximising spin and accuracy on the wicket. There were many memorable moments off the field as I formed lifelong friendships and immersed myself in the vibrant Indian culture, from visiting the Taj Mahal to navigating the bustling streets of Delhi. One of the highlights would have to be dancing with children from the orphanage in Jaipur and sharing in their joy and excitement. Many great friendships were made on tour as we played ping pong, ate ice cream and had lots of fun. I am grateful to Sue, Bruce and Tiger for their immense support and guidance throughout the tour and look forward to following everyone's journeys in the future.
3	Yanee Bhatia	Playing cricket overseas was a blast! I had a great time on those Indian pitches, facing all kinds of challenges like not being able to swing the ball or getting very low to play spin. But the best part was making awesome friends and really connecting with people. Off the field, our hotel stays were like one big party. We had so many hilarious stories and memories that we'll never forget. From late-night chats to wild celebrations, every moment was a blast. This trip wasn't just about cricket for me; it was about building bonds and having the time of our lives and developing connections which I hope will last a very long time. My favourite moment was all those fun bus rides with the whole team singing and dancing together and that last game when we won! The team was so happy, everyone ran on the field. That will definitely be very memorable! I am so grateful we had such a great support team from Bruce to Sue to Tiger and all the parents who came with us.
4	Audrey Kirk	On my tour to India, I was provided with the opportunity to meet some of the best girls and built better connections with some of the girls I had met in the past. Throughout the tour we also had the privilege to meet and chat to some of the girls from the opposition who were all the nicest girls and were all so dedicated to their cricket. On the field all girls were able to have a go and use the games to adjust and learn the ropes of playing on a pitch in India while building a good atmosphere and having a great time on the field. In the hotels, we always made sure to utilise the pool and other types of entertainment including a billiard table, ping pong table and puppets shows, always having a great time whether that was dancing in the pool or working on our pool skills on the billiard table. We also had the chance to see some of the greatest attractions of India including the Taj Mahal, Amer Fort, Jal Mahal and visited the Jaipur Bazaars for some afternoon shopping. Overall, my trip to India was a once in a lifetime opportunity.
5	Phoebe Laws	Receiving the opportunity to travel with the Under 17s Coaches' Association / AIWCA tour to India earlier this year has given me a number of new skills both on and off the cricket pitch. Before even leaving for the tour, I was honoured to meet with some of the most wonderful humans I have met and created life long friendships that will be cherished for a lifetime. Our trip certainly maintained and allowed growth of these friendships, sharing meals, going swimming together, bus trips and rooming together meant a lot of quality time sharing special memories. The highlight of my trip was certainly our last day / match in Jaipur. After a few hard losses, close games and almost two weeks spent together, the team really banded together, backing one another to achieve our first win. The encouragement present on the field that day was unmatched and seeing all of the girls using what we had worked so hard for truly came together. Being able to play in such different and difficult conditions was certainly something that I believe has truly motivated me to work harder and become a better cricketer both physically and mentally. I would love to extend a massive thank you on behalf of all the girls to everyone behind the scenes for truly making the tour come together, we all had an incredible time and loved to experience this once in a lifetime opportunity.



6	Kuhu Nanda	Being on this tour involved a number of new experiences for me personally, and I found the tour overall really enjoyable. This was my first time travelling without my parents or family, but I had endless fun with my friends and grew closer with all of the girls. On the field I felt supported and encouraged by the team, whether that be when batting, bowling or fielding. The girls were always cheering each other on, and it was great to see the camaraderie formed between all of us. A highlight for me was our second last match in Jaipur against Lakshya Academy. I had a really good bat, making my best score of the tour, which was a very good match overall, and a close game. Our final game was also a moment to remember, especially our victorious bus ride back to the hotel. Other tour highlights were the visit to the Taj Mahal, which was an unforgettable experience, and some of the smaller moments such as the bus rides, going swimming together and our meals. I'm so grateful that I got to be a part of this India Tour, and I value the skills and knowledge that I gained from playing under different and new conditions.
7	Aimee Ravot	The India tour for me was a great learning curve for the following points, cricket skills, playing with a new team, playing against girls with a different culture, and cricket fields that are completely different from Australia. Further to this, the friendships I made will be for life – they are now an extension of my cricket family including support staff, coaches and players. The experience included not only playing cricket but experiencing the Indian culture and visiting important landmarks was a great experience and one I will never forget. An exciting part of the tour was living the Indian culture and trying all their different foods. My favourite highlights were going to the orphanage kids school and learning there how to make jewelry and interacting with the young children, learning their dance moves. Also visiting the Taj Mahal, Amer Fort, finally the support of my teammates whilst playing cricket in a different country is something I'll never forget.
8	Emma Rippon	I have always wanted to go to India, not only to play cricket, but to experience the incredible culture. The U/17s tour to India was an incredible experience, as well as a big learning opportunity. I have personally taken a lot away from this trip when it comes to my perspective on the game. Just watching the way the opposition teams went about their cricket has taught me a great deal. The memories from this trip will forever be cherished, it wasn't just the memories on the field; whether it was going to puppet shows, chasing pigeons or watching Love Island on TV at 11 o'clock at night. Seeing the colour everywhere and how everything worked was amazing. The traffic in India is something I will never forget. And the food... ahh the food, I'll just say I was missing the lamb chops. The language was also another interesting aspect of the Indian culture, I really felt the language barrier when I had to ask a lady for toilet paper. I haven't only left this trip with great memories, but with life long mates. I'm extremely grateful to have had this opportunity and tour with such a lovely group of players, parents and coaches, Tiger, Bruce and Sue.





9	Hannah Rose	Playing for AIWCA has been a life-changing experience. Being selected for the inaugural girls' tour to India was an incredible honour. I created countless amazing memories and moments, both on and off the field, that I will always cherish. Forever friendships that will last a lifetime. Together we shared laughter, challenges, victories, and the joy of embracing India together. Everything about this trip was beyond incredible. From the intense cricket matches to the lively streets filled with some of the most amazing people. My most memorable moments of the tour would be our very last game where we went out with a WIN! I will never forget running onto the field with screams of joy and excitement. The feeling was truly something else. You could tell from the vibe amongst the girls that we were in it to win it. Laughter in the field made all the difference. Brushing off the mistakes and moving on with a smile. Dancing and cheering all around! The bus rides home after both good and bad games were something else. Singing and dancing to playlist after playlist at the top of our lungs. A day that I will always remember was when we visited the orphanage in Jaipur. Making bracelets with some of the older women, playing games and dancing with the children, brought so much joy to everyone's hearts. It was a humbling experience that reminded us of the importance of giving back to those in need. This tour was truly an experience of a lifetime that I will never forget. Thank you to all the coaches, umpires and parents but an even bigger thank you to all the teams that hosted us and showed us what the game of cricket really looks like.
10	Nandha Sajish	It was a pleasure to be part of this incredible India U17 cricket tour with selected team mates. The tour infused many new personal experiences, and I found it thoroughly enjoyable. It was my first time travelling without my parents or family, but I had endless fun with my friends and grew closer to all the girls. On the field, I felt supported and encouraged by the team in all formats - batting, bowling, and fielding. The girls always cheered each other, and it was wonderful to see the friendships that formed among us. A highlight for me was the final match, where I excelled in both batting and bowling, scoring 17 runs off 17 balls and taking 2 wickets. Other unforgettable moments included the lively bus rides with singing, dancing and laughter, swimming together after playing matches in scorching heat, sharing meals, playing ping pong as a team, raiding each other's hotel rooms randomly, and visiting famous sites like the Taj Mahal. I deeply appreciate the experience, knowledge and skills I gained from playing in India and treasure the memories.
11	Jaaniya Shah	My experience during the 2024 India trip was amazing. I was able to learn and enhance my personal game in many ways, as well as understand the different pitches and conditions of playing in another country. While there, we were able to see the other teams and how talented they truly are. We embraced Indian culture with food, music, and landmarks. Throughout this trip, what I enjoyed the most was being able to spend this time making connections with my teammates and enjoying ourselves both on and off the field. Overall, this trip was something that I will keep with me forever and implement what I have learnt in my future game.
12	Arika Singh	My recent cricket tour in India was an unforgettable experience filled with memorable moments and valuable lessons. The tour provided a unique opportunity to meet and interact with many talented young girls, creating friendships that I will cherish forever. Playing cricket with them was not just about the game; it was about the camaraderie and the shared passion for cricket that brought us together. One of the most heartwarming aspects of the tour was visiting an orphanage, where we spent quality time with the children. Their enthusiasm and joy were infectious, and it was incredibly fulfilling to bring smiles to their faces. Dancing with them, them teaching us new skills, and simply enjoying each other's company made the visit truly special. I am very grateful to our coaches, whose guidance and support were instrumental throughout the tour. The entire experience was enhanced by their commitment to our growth as players and individuals. This tour was not just about cricket; it was about building connections, making memories with the girls. Thank you to everyone who made this journey so remarkable.
13	Shree Swarup	Throughout my time within the development squad, I encountered many lessons which taught me skills, both on and off the field. These opportunities allowed me to develop myself as a person, both physically and mentally, helping me to become stronger as a person. Team bonding played a major role in the lessons, it taught me how to communicate effectively with each player and how to respond to different scenarios. Furthermore, this tour taught me how to have an effective overseas routine, the major learning opportunity was my dietary intake, the need to fuel yourself for a match is extremely important and starts days before the game. For an athlete to perform to the best of their abilities they have to fuel themselves days prior to the match, especially if it's back to back.
14	Keerti Vatul (w-k)	One of the best parts of the India tour was making new friends within the team. Before the trip, I didn't know many of the girls, but by the end, we had all become good friends. The camaraderie and team spirit were amazing, and I'm so grateful for these new friendships. The cultural experience was particularly special for me, being of Indian origin. We visited the Taj Mahal, which was absolutely breathtaking. Seeing the sights and immersing myself in a culture that is part of my heritage was eye-opening. From the vibrant markets to the delicious food, every day was an amazing adventure. The different conditions required me to adapt my skills in both batting and wicket-keeping. The low bounce meant I had to be quicker and more agile, which has definitely sharpened my abilities. I know this experience will make playing in Australia easier and has made me a better player overall. Overall, the tour was incredibly fun. Every match, every outing, and every new friendship made it a trip I will always remember.



## SPONSORS



AIWCA would like to sincerely thank its first major sponsor Obanato.

Welcome to Obanato [www.obanato.com.au](http://www.obanato.com.au) where shopping meets philanthropy in a seamless fusion of consumerism and compassion. At Obanato, we believe in the power of giving back, and we've transformed the traditional e-commerce experience into a virtuous circle of generosity.

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What sets Obanato apart is the freedom we give you to direct your contribution. Our platform will host a diverse array of registered charities, spanning from environmental conservation and healthcare to education and humanitarian aid. When you shop with us, you're not just acquiring products; you're actively participating in creating positive change. The simplicity of Obanato is part of its charm. When you make a purchase, you'll be prompted to choose a charity from our carefully curated list. Once selected, 15% of your spending goes directly to support that cause. Our feedback system ensures you are informed of the tangible impact of your contributions, fostering a sense of connection and accountability.

But it's not just about giving; it's about creating a community of conscientious consumers. Obanato provides a platform for like-minded individuals to share their favourite charities, shopping tips, and success stories. Together, we amplify our collective ability to drive meaningful change.

Join us on this journey where every click, every purchase, becomes a force for good. At Obanato, we envision a world where businesses and consumers unite to make a positive impact, one transaction at a time. Shop with purpose, shop with Obanato – because your choices matter.

The AIWCA committee would like to thank **WPE** (Western Parcel Express) for its generous sponsorship of our female cricket programs. We are delighted to have WPE as a major sponsor and look forward to a mutually beneficial partnership, as both organisations grow and prosper in future.

Our players and officials proudly wore their WPE polo shirt during the HKHDCCA / AIWCA / NDCC Girls U/17 cricket tour in India between 13 – 25 April 2024. We are excited about the impact that AIWCA can have on women's cricket and the community, and it's wonderful to have partners like WPE joining us on this journey.

WPE [www.wpe.com.au](http://www.wpe.com.au) is a family-owned business, the success of its business is based on its knowledge, staff and 'can-do' attitude towards Supply Chain Management and partnerships of continuity.

WPE's critical service is its fastest delivery option to ship your freight door to door, this service is available 24/7 and has a dedicated driver and vehicle for your very important consignment, optimising its technology, strategic network of depots and underpinned by its reliable staff who know priority sequencing to ensure your item is delivered as fast as possible.

Whether its major infrastructure projects, healthcare, mining or food and beverage, by partnering with WPE, you will receive seamless transport and logistics results. WPE's specialist teams are equipped with the skills and knowledge to transport and deliver your freight, to the next town or across the country.

WPE has professional long-term partnerships with some amazing clients; they provide open communication and trust, which is the backbone of any effective relationship, and they are flexible enough to work with your needs and allocate dedicated resources to service your business.





Player # 1 – Aanya SIINGH (Captain)









Player # 2 – Megan CHINNIAH (Vice-Captain)









Player # 3 – Yanee BHATIA







Liked by yanee\_bhatia and others  
penrith\_cricket\_club PCC 2023/24 SEASON  
PRESENTATION!  
\* David Williams, women's coach, presented these women's awards:  
- Fielder of the Year: Samantha Arnold  
- Wicketkeeper of the Year to Eloise Williams  
- Most Improved to Karly Woods  
- Emerging Cricketer of the Year to Yanee Bhatia



Player # 4 – Audrey Kirk









Player # 5 – Phoebe LAWS





## Phoebe Laws to represent Australia in inaugural under-17 India cricket tour



By Mardi Borg

Updated March 14 2024 - 11:00am, first published March 9 2024 - 4:00am



Phoebe Laws has been selected for the inaugural under-17 India Cricket tour. Picture by Mardi Borg.

Rising South West Rocks cricket [star Phoebe Laws](#) is set to embark on an exciting journey as she joins the inaugural under-17 India Cricket tour.





Player # 6 – Kuhu NANDA









Player # 7 – Aimee RAVOT







## 2023/24 WOMEN'S MERIT XII TEAM OF THE YEAR

### CAPTAIN

**RHIANNON DICK** | ST GEORGE-SUTHERLAND WCC - 472 RUNS & 34 WICKETS

### BATTERS

**LAUREN KUA** | MANLY WARRINGAH DCC - 578 RUNS  
**CLAIRE KOSKI** | CAMPBELLTOWN CAMDEN CC - 483 RUNS  
**FRANKIE NICKLIN** | SYDNEY UNIVERSITY CC - 459 RUNS  
**ELISE NOBLE** | PENRITH CC - 446 RUNS  
**EMILY SIDGREAVES** | GORDON WDCC - 405 RUNS

### WICKETKEEPER

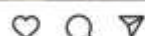
**ALEXANDRA TIMS** | SYDNEY CC - 25 DISMISSALS

### BOWLERS

**KIRA CHURCHLAND** | SYDNEY CC - 26 WICKETS  
**AIMEE RAVOT** | PENRITH CC - 25 WICKETS  
**EMMA HUGHES** | PENRITH CC - 23 WICKETS  
**SARA CHUN** | GORDON WDCC - 23 WICKETS  
**JACLYN VICKERY** | ST GEORGE-SUTHERLAND WCC - 23 WICKETS



MAJOR PARTNER



Liked by kforrest58 and others

penrith\_cricket\_club PCC 2023/24 SEASON  
PRESENTATION!

Congratulations to the winners of our major awards:

- Women's Batter of the Year: Elise Noble
- Women's Bowler of the Year: Aimee Ravot, presented by past player and current women's coach, Paul Grosse.



Player # 8 – Emma RIPPON









Player # 9 – Hannah ROSE









Player # 10 – Nandha SAJISH









Player # 11 – Jaaniya SHAH









Player # 12 – Arika SINGH









Player # 13 – Shree SWARUP









Player # 14 – Keerti VATUL (Wicket-keeper)









## SUPPORTERS' REFLECTIONS OF THE TOUR

### ADAM KIRK (PARENT)

My wife, Cassandra and I were lucky enough to join an amazing group of parents on the recent Girls U17 cricket tour to India.

From the moment we landed at New Delhi airport, it was an assault on our senses!

Our first full day was spent touring both Old and New Delhi, the traffic was beyond anything we had seen before with crowded street markets, people crossing roads within cm's of cars, buses and motorbikes. The motor bikes could have 4 people on them, some riding side saddle, some babies and most without helmets!

We felt sorry for our cyclists on our pedal powered Rickshaw rides through tiny market streets, avoiding bumps, cars and the many people to arrive at the largest Spice market where we could smell (and buy) amazing spices and teas.

The next three days were spent watching our amazing girls face some very talented Indian teams, most of whom trained twice a day and many who were significantly older! The competition was tough but our girls continued to improve and whilst we "came second", the girls attitude was great and they put up a good fight.

Day 6 we were lucky enough to tour one of the 7 Wonders of the World, the Taj Mahal and to say it didn't disappoint would be an understatement! It was extraordinary, we learnt so much from our tour guide (and our unofficial tour guide – Yash!)

Day 7 was spent travelling to Jaipur and visiting the markets where the girls and the touring party picked up some amazing bargains for ourselves and family at home.

Our first hotel in Jaipur was interesting to say the least with the girls taking on some of their own private detective work to try to catch a thief "Charlie's Angel style"! I have to thank Bruce, Sue, Tiger and Melsh Tours for recognising the need to change hotels and making the process of moving to a much better (and safer) hotel as seamless as possible.





Despite our girls rising to the challenge, wins continued to allude us until our very last game where we saw our girls come together in their best performance against a very good academy team to come out victorious – what a great way for the girls to finish their development tour!

Day 9 was a real highlight, as we visited the Ladli Vocational Training Centre for under-privileged, orphaned and abandoned children in Jaipur. Watching our amazing girls and their parents interact with the children who, despite their hardships were happy and delightful, was a very humbling and beautiful experience. Watching the amazing Yash lead a class and provide treats for the children brought a tear to more than one eye!

A special thank you from all of us to Lance, who with his exceptional counting skills ensured all girls (and parents) always returned on the bus – 43 seemed to be the golden number even though there were only 27 on tour!

On a personal note, it was a pleasure to watch our girls interact with their competition in India and many international friendships were built – I, and I am sure all the other parents on the tour, were so proud to see the great sportsmanship and camaraderie the girls displayed both on and off the field. We had so many great and funny times and I look forward to building on the friendships we developed for many years to come.











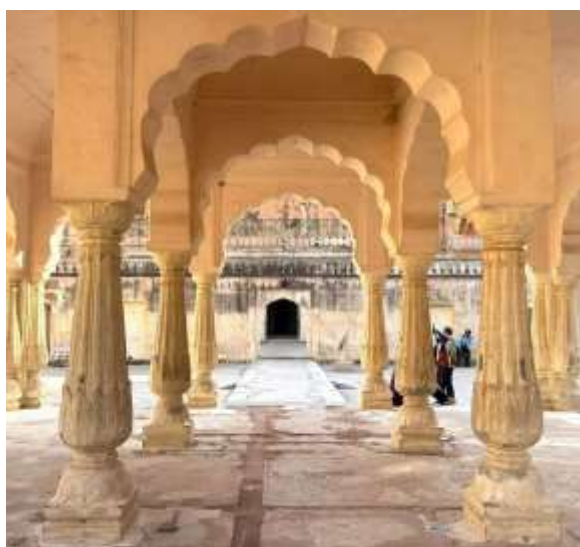






































## AUSTRALIA–INDIA WOMEN'S CRICKET ASSOCIATION (AIWCA)

An exciting new cricket association was formed in July 2023 – the Australia–India Women's Cricket Association (AIWCA) [www.aiwca.org](http://www.aiwca.org). AIWCA is an innovative, not-for-profit sporting organisation that provides opportunities for Australian female cricketers of Indian descent (and others) to play high level representative cricket in Australia and on overseas tours. AIWCA plans to select an Open age group squad, an U/18 squad, and also support younger female teams / players.



One of AIWCA's first ventures is to partner with the Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA), and Northern District CC, on an exciting Girls U/17 Cricket Tour to India in April 2024. AIWCA will organise other cricket tours for older female teams on a national basis in future. AIWCA is proudly sponsored by **Obanato** Pty Ltd [www.obanato.com.au](http://www.obanato.com.au) and **WPE** [www.wpe.com.au](http://www.wpe.com.au). AIWCA played its first match on 10-Sept-23, an U/16 trial against the Canterbury-West's U/14 Boys Moore Shield rep. team at Blick Oval, Canterbury (see team photo below).

AIWCA provides exemplary leadership and networking in the Australia–India women's cricket community, and fosters cricket development, especially at the more advanced levels of the female game. AIWCA is run by a dedicated committee of volunteers and experienced coaches (see photo below), including **Bruce Wood** OAM (President); **Dave Williams** (V-P); **Vipin Virmani** (Secretary); **Abhi Siingh** (Treasurer); **Ron Woods** (Head Coach); and **Petar Sredojevic** (website), **Sue Gregory**, **Mala Mehta** OAM and **Michelle Goszko** (Executive Members).



Email – [info@AIWCA.org](mailto:info@AIWCA.org)

Phone: +61 435 444 942

Website – [www.aiwca.org](http://www.aiwca.org)



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ABN – 11357291021

Incorporated – INC 2300920 (18 August 2023)



## COACHES' ASSOCIATION (HKHDCCA)

The **Coaches' Association** (HKHDCCA) is a leading *not-for-profit* cricket coaching organisation responsible for recruiting and accrediting young coaches from within HK&HDCA and north-western Sydney; and conducting junior cricket clinics during the school holidays. HKHDCCA designs and implements coaching programs aimed at increasing the cricket participation, skills and enjoyment of boys and girls aged 5 – 15, including beginners, club players, representative standard players, and children with special needs.

HKHDCCA has experienced significant growth since its inception in 2010 and aims to continue to expand its subsidised (or free) coaching programs to a wider cross-section of the community, many of whom have encountered barriers or lack of opportunities to participate in cricket, including disadvantaged groups, children from non-English speaking communities, and children with special needs. We also strongly support the growth of Girls' cricket from grassroots through to representative level. The successful implementation of these initiatives assists in facilitating sporting, cultural and social inclusion for these community groups, while also promoting healthy, active lifestyles, and increasing the participation rate in cricket in NSW. Responsibilities include:

- raising the profile of cricket coaching and giving coaches a collective 'voice' within the Association;
- organising annual Community (Level 1) accredited coaching courses for HK&HDCA and NDCC members.
- organising junior cricket clinics at Waitara, West Pennant Hills, Cherrybrook, Normanhurst, Hornsby and/or Dundas, in partnership with Northern District CC, during the January, April, July and Sept. / Oct. school holidays;
- providing active Coaches' Association members with professional coaching opportunities at our cricket clinics in the school holidays, and the annual HK&HDCA U/15 Ross Turner Cup and U/13 Glenn Hourigan Cup fixtures;
- recognising excellence in cricket coaching at club, representative or Coaches' Association levels through our HKHDCCA *Coach of the Year* award (Bruce Wood Cup);
- arranging HKHDCCA / AIWCA / NDCC Boys and Girls representative cricket tours at least every two years;
- increasing the participation of girls in cricket, in consultation with Cricket NSW (Sydney Sixers) and the HK&HDCA Girls Cricket Co-ordinator, through targeted coaching programs and liaison with schools and clubs;
- conducting free Beginners sessions, teaching cricket fundamentals to 'first time' players;
- assisting clubs by running an annual coaching session and demonstrating coaching drills to new club coaches;
- providing a mentor service to coaches as required, especially new or young coaches seeking guidance;
- holding two free annual clinics each year for Blowfly cricketers (children and adults with special needs), plus ad-hoc coaching at other programs; and providing volunteer services at Blowfly Cricket fund-raising events;
- seeking corporate sponsorship and Government Grant opportunities to provide additional funding to expand and further subsidise our coaching programs, and purchase additional equipment as required; HKHDCCA's current sponsor is Parramatta Leagues Club – [www.parraleagues.com.au](http://www.parraleagues.com.au)
- ensuring that all coaches aged 18 and over have a current *Working with Children* Check 5-year clearance.

**Bruce Wood** OAM has been President of the Coaches' Association since 2010-11, and is supported by **Braden Cheng** (Vice-President), **Josh Miller** (Secretary), **Rod Hokin** (Head Coach), and **Dylan Bish** (Treasurer).

The Coaches' Association has five distinguished Patrons – **Ross Turner**, **Mark Rushton**, **Alf James** OAM, **Denise Anderson** (Annetts), and **Matt Kean MP** (Member for Hornsby; Shadow Minister for Health).

### HORNSBY, KU-RING-GAI & HILLS DISTRICT CRICKET COACHES' ASSOCIATION (HKHDCCA) INC.

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[instagram.com/coaches.association](https://instagram.com/coaches.association)

ABN – 51497033810

Incorporated – INC 1200016 (29 October 2012)





Players & coaches at school holiday junior cricket clinic – Mark Taylor Oval, Waitara on 23-24 January 2024



Coaches engaged at the HKHDCCA / NDCC junior cricket clinic at MTO, Waitara on 23-24 January 2024

Back row: Nick Hook, Andrew McAllister, Tyler Lang, Bruce Wood OAM, Chris Green, Ben Randall, Corey Miller, Nick Miller

Front row: Connor Hindmarch, Cam Tunks, Ed Hills, Ben Burrows, Elysa Oliveri, Jake Daly, Zac Dalziel, Jaden Sequeira



## NORTHERN DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB

Northern District CC (NDCC) is delighted to be associated with the junior development tours organised by the Coaches' Association (HKHDCCA) over the past decade. This exciting U/17 Girls tour to India follows the highly successful U/15 Boys tours to India in 2019 and 2023; West Indies in 2017; and Sri Lanka in 2015. These tours have delivered great results for players and I'm sure the 2024 Girls tour to India will continue this standard. The cricket is likely to be challenging, which is a good thing. Tours of this kind tend to highlight and speed up the progress of talented players, even if that's not obvious until after the tour itself. Moreover, they build camaraderie and friendship, which helps in all manner of ways, on and off the field. The tour leadership and coaching team of Ron (Tiger) Woods, Bruce Wood and Sue Gregory will undoubtedly ensure quality coaching and a well-organised tour.



NDCC was established in 1925 and is based at Mark Taylor Oval in Waitara. It is the northernmost of the 20 clubs that form the Sydney Cricket Association (SCA) and develop players to represent NSW and its BBL T20 franchises, Sydney Thunder and Sydney Sixers. NDCC is the Club of former international players such as Peter Taylor, Brad Haddin, Adam Gilchrist & Neil Harvey and currently has Stella Campbell and Nathan Lyon in the playing ranks. It has a growing female playing base, having operated as an integrated club since 2005. NDCC won the Women's Premier Cricket First Grade premiership in 2020-21 (runners-up in 2022-23). Lauren Smith plays for Sydney Thunder in the WBBL T20 national competition and many former players such as Sam Bates and Katie Mack are representing at first class level interstate. Last summer, Grace Dignam was NSW Women's Premier Cricketer of the Year (and Captain of the Merit XI) in a high-performing season which led to a contract to play with ACT. We are proud to say that we have more female players in the NSW pathways programs than any other Premier club.

In 2022-23, we saw Chris Green and Toby Gray make their NSW Sheffield Shield debuts, while Ross Pawson played his first BBL match for Sydney Thunder. Chris Green, captain of Sydney Thunder, made his T20 international debut for Australia in 2023. Former HKHDCCA West Indian tourist, Lachy Shaw, has a Cricket NSW Rookie Contract and is a member of the Sydney Sixers squad. NDCC Men's First Grade team were Limited-Overs champions in 2022-23 and 2023-24, winning the first final at Cricket Central, Silverwater. NDCC is a high achiever within Sydney cricket, having won back-to-back Club Championships in 2020-21 and 2021-22. NDCC is also regarded as a club that "plays the right way" – twin Spirit of Cricket Awards in those Club Championship years is a testament to that.

The Club is excited to have opened (in February 2023) the Mark Taylor Oval (MTO) Indoor Cricket Centre, adjacent to the oval named after our most famous former player. A new playing surface for the oval and new turf training nets will be ready for action in 2024-25, while work on a new multi-purpose pavilion and scoreboard is expected to commence in 2024. The 99-year-old ground is in the process of being turned into a modern Centre of Excellence and will become a hub for cricket in Sydney's north. A big Centenary is being planned for NDCC in 2025.

At NDCC, we enjoy welcoming players to the Club early in their cricketing journey. We enjoy making new friends as well, and the Club has friends all over the world. We look forward to welcoming you to MTO soon. I trust that all players, their families and the coaches will have a really enjoyable and successful tour. If like previous HKHDCCA Boys tours, it will be an experience that inspires the Girls along their cricketing journey in the seasons ahead.

**Jeremy Hook**, President, Northern District CC

[www.northerndistrictcricket.com.au/](http://www.northerndistrictcricket.com.au/)





**COACHES' ASSOCIATION / NORTHERN DISTRICT CC U/15 CRICKET TOUR TO INDIA – APRIL 2023**

Our touring party comprised 14 players, 3 officials and 11 supporters (total 28 people), and the tour ran from 7 – 23 April 2023. This was HKHDCCA's fourth overseas cricket tour (joint venture) in partnership with Northern District CC, after previous successful U/15 Boys tours to Sri Lanka in 2015, Barbados in 2017, and India in 2019.

Our team in 2023 played 9 cricket matches (7 x 40 overs; 2 x T20s) in Bangalore, Pondicherry, Chennai and Goa, with a win / loss ratio of 4 / 5. The itinerary included attendance at an IPL match at Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bangalore, and a range of Indian tourist attractions / cultural sites on the non-match days. Our team acquitted themselves well against talented Indian academy / school teams, playing in hot conditions on dry, dusty pitches.



Back row – Bruce Wood OAM (Manager), Dan Friedrich (Coach); Keshav Krishnan; Ed Hills; Henry Abood (Captain); Will Byrom (Captain); Alex Au-Yeung; Alex Fitzgerald; Josh Miller (Head Coach).

Front row – Jared Fernandes; Ayden Bolger; Aryn Vinod; Ahan Vinod; Zac Haddin; Zach Rapa; Max Guazzarotto; Liam Bradey.

All our players improved significantly on tour and will no doubt increase their confidence and skills as they move towards the 2023-24 cricket season in Sydney, especially the Boys U/16 AW Green Shield competition for NDCC. The best performers on tour were: Henry Abood – Best Batter (262 runs @ 43.7, HS 100 no.); Max Guazzarotto – Most Wickets (9 wickets @ 15.11, BB 3/25); Alex Au-Yeung – Super Strike Rate (223 runs @ 129.7 strike rate, including 11 x 6s); and Ahan Vinod – Most Catches (6 w-k catches).

Special thanks to our fantastic coaches, Josh Miller and Dan Friedrich, as well as Bruce Wood (Manager) for his detailed planning and implementation of the tour program, in consultation with our experienced travel agents in India, Sohan Kadian and Nikita Rathore from [www.melshsportstours.com](http://www.melshsportstours.com). Bruce Wood produced an informative India Tour Report, which can be accessed via – <https://bit.ly/HKHDCCA-overseas-tours-Reports>





**COACHES' ASSOCIATION / NORTHERN DISTRICT CC U/15 CRICKET TOUR TO INDIA – APRIL 2019**

Our touring party (total 28 people) visited Mumbai, Jaipur, Agra and Delhi between 12 – 27 April 2019. The team played 7 matches against talented local academy sides on excellent ovals, winning 3 matches and narrowly losing 4 others. Our best batsman on tour was Cam Tunks, who scored 217 runs @ 54.2 average (HS 73). Our most successful bowler in India was leg-spinner, Oliver Jennings, who took 9 wickets @ 10.4 average (BB 4/21). The top all-rounder was Spencer White who scored 195 runs @ 48.8 average and took 7 wickets. The other individual award winners were: Star Performance – Anthony Bartlett (two half-centuries); Fielding – Nick Hook (4 catches and a Run Out); Best Team Player – Avi Lath; and Best all-rounder (on & off the field) – Jack Nati. In total, seven of our batsmen made at least one half-century on tour.

On top of the experience of playing cricket in India, the touring party enjoyed lots of memorable off-the-field highlights, including attending two IPL T20 matches involving the Mumbai Indians (the eventual champions); visiting the Gateway of India in Mumbai; the majestic Taj Mahal in Agra; Hawa Mahal and Jantar Mantar in Jaipur; an elephant ride and tour of Amber Fort; shopping in the street markets in Jaipur (pink city); and Mother Teresa's Missionary of Charity in Agra.

The touring team witnessed first-hand what an amazing country India is with its contrasting culture, classes, opportunities and lifestyles. Everyone in our touring team had an amazing experience, both on and off the cricket field. India is a perfect destination for a cricket tour, as the locals are so passionate about the game, and so welcoming off the field. Refer to the Tour Report: <https://bit.ly/HKHDCCA-overseas-tours-Reports>



*Photo credit – Julian Andrews (AAP)*

**Back row:** Bruce Wood (Manager), Anthony Bartlett, Jack Nati, Spencer White, Rod Hokin (Head Coach), Ryan Swain (Captain), Marcus Ridley, Will McFadden, Josh Miller (Treasurer / Assistant Coach),  
**Front row:** Nick Hook, Cameron Tunks, Oliver Jennings, Abhi Singh, Felix Booth, Avi Lath, Alistair Weston



**FLASHBACK TO HK&HDCA'S U/15 REPRESENTATIVE CRICKET TOUR TO INDIA – APRIL 2006**

The Hornsby Ku-ring-gai & Hills District Cricket Association (HK&HDCA) in Sydney sent an invitational U/15 representative team on a development tour to India from 16 – 30 April 2006. Bruce Wood was Head Coach on that tour and returned to India in 2019 and 2023 as Manager / Umpire of the Coaches' Association's U/15 rep. team.

The touring team in 2006 included some members of Hornsby's U/15 Weblin Shield 2005-06 premiership team. The Sydney team arrived in Bangalore and stayed at the National Cricket Academy, M. Chinnaswamy Test Stadium. Three matches were played against the Karnataka U/15 State team, which included three future Indian Test players, K. L. Rahul (highest Test score 199); Karun Nair (HTS 303 no); and Mayank Agarwal (HTS 243).

The Hornsby U/15 team was captained by Andrew Casey and included Liam Robertson, who went on to captain the Sydney University CC First Grade team to premierships. The team travelled to Mumbai and played against the MIG Bandra Cricket Academy U/15 team, which included 16-year-old Ronan Tendulkar (Sachin's nephew), who scored 114 runs and took 3/31. The touring team travelled by coach to Pune and played against the Cadence Academy U/15 team and the Maharashtra U/15 State team, while staying at the beautiful Poona Cricket Club.

Our leading batsmen on that tour were Tom Gurka (264 runs @ 44.0 average), Liam Robertson (247 runs @ 35.3 ave.), and Daniel Wood (159 runs @ 26.5). Andrew Casey, Chris Aldersley and Alex Mihalyka also hit half-centuries on tour. Our bowling attack was led by Tom Gurka (13 wickets @ 15.1 ave.), off-spinner Taylor Paton (10 wickets @ 25.6), and Anuj Devalia (8 wickets @ 22.4, including a hat-trick). Dougal Robinson (w-k) had a great tour behind the stumps, snaring 18 dismissals (14 catches, 1 stumping & 3 run outs). Overall, this initial tour to India 17 years ago was a wonderful experience for all concerned, both on and off the cricket field.



Tour Report – [bit.ly/HKHDCCA-overseas-tours-Reports](http://bit.ly/HKHDCCA-overseas-tours-Reports)



Captains – Andrew Casey & KL Rahul (Bangalore 2006)



Back: Bruce Wood (Coach), Liam Robertson, Tom Gurka, Daniel Wood, Alex Mihalyka, Chris Aldersley (v-c), Dougal Robinson (w-k),  
Front Row: Jarrod Rixon, Richard Nash, Taylor Paton, Andrew Casey (Captain), Dean Norris, Anuj Devalia, Bruce Rixon (Manager)



