

Premiers!

Our cricket kids time it nicely

Warrandyte's under-16s completed a rags to riches season by bringing home the Ringwood District Cricket Association premiership.

Third-last on the ladder when the competition recessed for Christmas, the Dytes slipped into the four in the last qualifying round, comfortably won their semi-final and outplayed hot favourites Croydon North in the grand final.

It was a triumph for the timing of coach Tony Graf, who had the boys in peak form at precisely the right time.

Warrandyte Cricket Club's other premiership hopes — the women's team and the under-12 (1) side — were beaten in their grand finals. It was the under-12s first defeat of the season.

In the under-16s match, Warrandyte won the toss, batted and made 166. David Bradley topscored with 51 and he received solid support from Cameron Day (28), Rohan Walker (21) and Jason Graf (18).

The Dytes struck immediately when Croydon North batted, the first three wickets falling at one, two and four.

Croydon steadied a little, but were never able to recover from that initial disaster. Neither could they come to terms with the bowling of Darren Humphries, who took 5/26 off 22 overs.

Graf chipped in with 3/34 and captain-wicketkeeper Jason Kline took three catches and made two stumpings as Croydon North were dismissed for 102.

It was a mature performance from Warrandyte in all departments of the game. Full credit must go to coach Graf for the responsible attitude he has instilled, and to the boys themselves for their positive response to his tuition.

The under-12s started well in their pursuit of Lilydale 8/145 and put on 85 for the first wicket. However, they fell behind in the run rate and wickets tumbled as they tried to force the pace. The last four wickets fell without addition to the score and Warrandyte were all out for 131.

The women's team were always struggling for runs as they chased East Ringwood's formidable 338. Jenny McLaws top-scored with 81 in Warrandyte's total of 190.

The club thank Peter McDougall and Associates, Lou's Fish Shop and West End Meats for their sponsorship throughout the season.

GRAND FINAL DETAILS

WOMEN: Warrandyte 190 (McLaws 81, Chapman 18, Martin 18) lost to East Ringwood 338 (Chapman 4/45, Martin 2/64).

UNDER-16: Warrandyte 166 (Bradley 51, Day 28, Walter 21, Graf 18) d. Croydon North 102 (Humphries 5/26, Graf 3/34).

UNDER-12 (1): Warrandyte 131 (Comrie 32, Valentine 31 n.o., Wickes 20, Jacobs 16) lost to Lilydale 8/145 (Wickes 2/16).