



From left: Alan King, Steve Pascoe, RDCA umpire, Marty McCarthy, Ian Woolf, Alan Cornell, Robert White, Chris England, John Chapman, Bruce Taylor, David Stickels, Brian Cleaves, Graham Lawrence, Barry Johnson.

Dismal Dytes herald change

By CLINTON GRYPAS

Warrandyte Cricket Club have bid farwell to a disappointing 1998-99 RDCA season and are promising change for the turn of the millenium.

The season ended with none of the four senior teams returning a positive win-loss record, the Chandler Shield firsts losing four of their five completed games in the run home to bow out of the finals race after a promising start.

Bushrangers president David Gee was re-elected at the annual general meeting last month and said the club had to turn around their fortunes both on and off the field.

"At the meeting I addressed the people and asked them as to which direction the club was going and where did they want it to go.

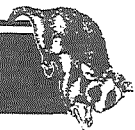
"We were finding it pretty hard to fill four teams on a Saturday this season, which is disappointing."

Gee said that while many at the meeting were the "same old faces", there were some positive signs.

"It stirred a few of them up. The majority of the committee has been maintained but we have co-opted more people on to help," he said. "This season there were some administrative things which were not as good as they should have been."

He said that while captain-

SPORT



coach Paul Montgomery would stay with the club next season he was yet to be reappointed to either position.

"Paul is an asset and has been terrific for the club, above what we expected. He is happy to stay with the club in whatever capacity we see fit, whether that be as coach or not," said Gee.

"He may well stay on, but if we find a well-credentialed coach willing to take the role we will pursue it."

Montgomery collected 11 wickets for the season at an average of 22 and averaged 18.9 with the bat.

The firsts won four of their 11 matches with one washout — a disappointing finish given their 3-2 start to the season.

The final game underlined the end-of-season slump as the Bushrangers were routed for just 97 by Wonga Park. Only a knock of 44 by Greg Tregear avoided a more embarrassing situation as a middle-order collapse saw the score tumble from 3/70 to 8/77. In reply, Wonga Park made 224.

The seconds won three and lost six games for the season while the thirds went 1-8 and the fourths 0-9, all three teams having their match against

CRICKET DETAILS

FIRSTS: Warrandyte 213 (White 84) drew with Kilsyth 0/2 — washed out. Warrandyte 97 (Tregear 44) and 3/34 lost to Wonga Park 224 (Gay 3/44).

SECONDS: Warrandyte drew with Kilsyth 6/301 (White 2/37) — washed out. Warrandyte 168 (Wellesly 45 n.o.) lost to Wonga Park 269 (Davis 5/104, Beardall 3/54).

THIRDS: Warrandyte 3/43 drew with Kilsyth 174 (Vitoritti 4/33, Cloke 3/32) — washed out. Warrandyte 165 (Kline 76 n.o., J. Cloke 50) and 174 (Goddard 74) lost to Wonga Park 5/207 and 0/18.

Kilsyth washed out.

One positive to emerge, however, has been the strong showing by the junior teams, with both the Under-12s and under-14s making the finals.

Gee said the club would make it their goal next season to promote the juniors and ensure more flowed through to senior ranks.

"The highlight of the season was the performance of the very strong junior group," he said. "We have a good crop of juniors and a clear policy for us will be to push them through as high as they can next season."

Those in contention include under 16-players Nick Taylor and Matt Gamble and Adrian

FOURTHS: Warrandyte 249 (D. Gee 69, Croft 54) drew with Kilsyth 0/29 — washed out. Warrandyte 149 (D. Gee 46, Sharpe 29) and 3/91 (D. Gee 38) lost to Wonga Park 7/369 (D. Gee 3/80).

VETERANS: Grand Final: Warrandyte 3/134 (McCarthy 40 n.o., White 35 n.o., Pascoe 24) defeated Norwood 6/132 (King 2/13).

JUNIORS: Under-14 Semi-final: Warrandyte 88 lost to East Ringwood 3/110. Under-12 Semi-final: Warrandyte 7/143 (Cloeke 30 n.o., Jurey 30 n.o.) defeated North Ringwood 8/125 (Cleaves 3/24).

Wilson from the Under-14s, all of whom represented the RDCA this season.

The Under-14s lost their semi-final to East Ringwood by 22 runs, just the second defeat for the season for the team coached by Gavin Gamble.

The Under-12s coached by Greg Thomas beat North Ringwood in their semi-final by 18 runs, reaching 7/143 as both Travis Cloke and Brentan Jurey reached 30 before retiring. Justin Cleaves took 3/24.

Their grand final is against Ainslie Park this weekend (March 13 and 14) from 8.30am at Barnegeong Reserve in Croydon.

Junior presentation day will



David Gee: 'Same old faces but positive signs'.

be at the clubrooms on Sunday, March 21, from 10.30am.

At the other end of the age scale, the veterans capped a fine season with a premiership, beating Norwood by seven wickets in the grand final.

Norwood declared at 6/132 after 30 overs as Alan King (2/13) and Barry Johnston bowled

tightly. In reply the Bushrangers cruised to victory, with Marty McCarthy retiring at 40 and Rob White reaching 35 not out.

Senior presentation night will be at the clubrooms this Saturday night (March 13) from 7.30pm. Tickets are \$15 for the spit roast dinner.