

Club Archives and History

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The Auburn District Cricket Club—A Condensed History

In 1947 the new Auburn-Lidcombe Municipal Council, with the support of J.T. Lang the local state member obtained a grant of £500 to acquire the five acres of land which was once part of the council tip and is now known as Mona Park. Initially the oval ran east to west and was used only for soccer.

In 1949 a group of players headed by Captain Don Perkins (one of the legendary Rats of Tobruk), Maurice 'Mo' Parry and Mo's younger brother George, met with the New South Wales Cricket Association (NSWCA). This is the Mo Parry after whom the Mona Park memorial gates at the corner of Chisholm Road and Mona Street are named.

An allocation of funds from the Auburn-Lidcombe Combined Sports Committee along with a grant from the Auburn-Lidcombe Municipal Council underwrote a project to create a suitable quality cricket venue at Mona Park. This would consist of reorienting the ground to run North-South and install a turf pitch in the centre of what is today known as the George Parry Oval.

The club was initially called the Auburn-Lidcombe District Cricket Club by Perkins, Mo Parry and his brother George Parry. They then recruited a quality team from various grade clubs and the local Park Competition.

The club played its first match in September 1951 and immediately made its presence felt when the highly competitive squad came third at the end of the season. The club then won its initial first grade Premiership in 1953-54. From that time to the mid-sixties, the Auburn-Lidcombe club was a dominant club in the Municipal & Shire competition winning four more first grade Premierships with George Parry as skipper, and making the semi-finals every season up to the 1966-1967 season. In that era the Premiership was won by the team winning the most games in the regular season and there was no finals series. In this period of success the club won multiple 1st Grade premierships and Club Championships. This would prove to be the clubs most fruitful period until the mid 2000's.

When George Parry finished his playing career, the club was fortunate to retain George as Senior Vice President, then later President for three seasons and then as Senior Vice President up to 1993-1994. However the retirement of George and many of the great players of the era up to the mid 1960's was not easy to recover from.

The club struggled from the mid 1960's through the seventies with only the new C-grade reaching the Finals (there were finals series by then) in 1971-1972 and 1974-1975. The club managed to win the Club Championship in 1978-79 with only B-grade making it to the Finals.

The eighties saw the club improve its competitiveness. In 1984-1985 the new D-grade won it's only Premiership and the subsequent season B-grade won its Premiership. The club also won another Club Championship during this successful period. The rain-drenched season of 1989-1990 was a celebratory one for the Auburn D.C.C. as it was now known when the Club won the A-grade Premiership and also the Frank Gray Shield, which was shared with Roseville after rain defeated all attempts to hold a Grand Final.

Mike Wood took over the Club Secretarial role in 1990-1991, a role he still holds today with honour and distinction. The club was struggling competitively and Wood instituted a long-range plan to make the club now called the Auburn District Cricket Club, not only highly competitive but with a sustainable structure and culture for long term survival.

From 1992-1993 to 1997-1998 Auburn suffered through perhaps its nadir with the club occupying most of the places at the bottom of the Club Championship. However Wood's long-term plans were gradually coming to fruition with a new crop of exciting young players emerging through the 3rd grade 1995-1996 Premiership side which Wood captained.

The core of Wood's plan was to ensure that the club embraced and represented the evolving cultures within the Auburn LGA Region. Evidence of the success of this plan can be found in the multicultural dynamics of the club's playing membership. The Club has over many seasons featured players from a wide cross section of ethnic backgrounds, including players from: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Canada, America, Croatia, Germany, Great Britain, Sri Lanka, India, Holland, Hungary, Malaysia, Mauritius, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Africa, Serbia, Spain, Philippines, Lebanon, Syria, Thailand and Indigenous Australians.

The Club has a clear focus on recruiting and developing local talent, which has over the years seen a number of local players progress through the grades and play 1st Grade for the club.

In 2000-2001 Scott Philipson was recruited by Wood into the Auburn club and subsequently took over the captaincy of the 1st grade team. Scott brought with him superb grade players like Cameron Watson, the Collison brothers and Paul Sullivan to mention just a few. In Scott's first season he reached the Final. With Scott came his dad, Peter Philipson who would serve as Club President for eight seasons. Peter brought extensive management skills to complement Mike's foresight, administrative and cricket talents. This pairing triggered the fruition of Wood's planning and ground

work.

In 1999-2000 and 2001-2002 Raoul Barbon and his 3rd grade side won two Premierships. This started the tradition of Auburn dominating 3rd grade for over a decade. Barbon then moved up to 2nd grade and won Minor Premierships in 2005-2006 and 2006-2007. He then won the 2009-2010 Premiership and Minor Premiership. Barbon, by this time, had developed into one of the best strategic thinkers in the club. He paired this with a thoughtful and analytic approach to on-field tactics to become one of Auburn's best captains. This period also saw 3rd Grade, under skipper Daniel Burton, win the premiership in 2009-2010 after many seasons coming close despite taking out a few Minor Premierships. This golden period also ensured that Auburn D.C.C. were the dominant club in the closing years of the first decade of the new millennium by winning the Club Championship in three consecutive seasons in 2007-2008, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010.

The 2009-2010 season saw the new Auburn junior division play in the Auburn club colours. This came about with the merger of the Berala Sports Club with the Auburn club. This exciting innovation also ensured the flow of quality, well coached juniors into the senior grades.

In 2011-2012 Auburn entered its first team in the Masters Over 40's competition where they immediately made their presence felt and only just missed out on a Premiership finishing 2nd.

Today Auburn DCC can proudly stand as truly representing the diverse ethnic culture of the local community that it represents. Players from various cultural backgrounds are made to feel welcome, with all religious observances respected and allowed for by the club. This helps players to feel comfortable playing within the clubs structure and the friendly and harmonious environment created at the club.

In 2007 the main oval at Mona Park was named George Parry Oval, in honour of club legend and Life Member, George Parry, who was one of founders of the club. George Parry is widely regarded as the finest all-round cricketer produced by Auburn DCC.

In 2007, the number two oval at Mona Park was named Dave Tribolet Oval, in honour of another club legend and Life Member, Dave Tribolet. Dave was a local who had a distinguished administrative career both with Auburn DCC and at the Sydney Cricket Association level. Dave was involved in various administrative roles at the club for over 60 years. The Sydney Shires Competition Club Championship trophy is in fact named the Dave Tribolet Club Championship Trophy, in honour of Dave's services to Shires cricket.

Whilst in 2020, the third oval at Mona Park was named Mike Wood Oval, in honour of club stalwart and long club Executive Officer, Mike Wood.

It is a very unique and rare situation to find three turf wicket cricket ovals all located in the one complex, named in honour of three members of the same club. This is a significant acknowledgement of the link that Auburn DCC has to the local community, as George Parry Dave Tribolet and Mike Wood, all grew up and played cricket in the local area.

In another milestone for the Auburn DCC, the following members have received special recognition for their achievements and contributions to the game both on and off the field.

Life Membership Of The Sydney Cricket Association

- Dave Tribolet
- Mike Wood
- John Aitken

Legend Of Shires Cricket Inductee

- George Parry
- Dave Tibolet
- Mike Wood

The Premierships the Auburn club has proudly brought to the Auburn-Lidcombe region include:

Club Championships	6		
1st Grade	6	4th	1
2nd Grade	3	Grade	1
3rd Grade	6	5th Grade	1
		Frank Gray Shield	1
		Metropolitan Cup	1
		Chappelow Cup	1

Note: Where the grade or competition name has changed, the name by which it is known today is used.

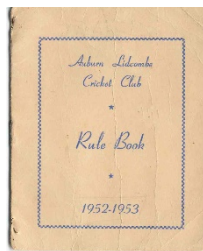
Auburn DCC has developed over many seasons a lot of very good cricketers who have gone on to play Premier Grade Cricket, First Class Cricket for NSW & Tasmania, as well as International cricket for Australia. The players in to achieve the highest honours are Mitchell Starc, NSW & Australia and Andrew Downton, Tasmania.

The Mona Park Complex with its three turf wicket ovals all located within close proximity of each other in the one complex is widely regarded as one of the best cricket venues in NSW. This has resulted in a number of prestigious representative matches being hosted by Auburn DCC at the venue, such as Australian Under 17 & Under 19 Championship matches, Women's Cricket 1st Grade T20 matches, NSW State Challenge Cup match, as well as other minor representative matches.

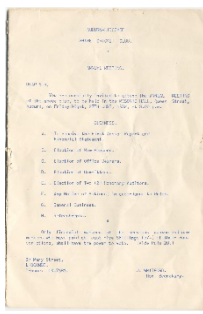
The strong management culture and structure developed by Mike Wood ensures that the Auburn District Cricket Club is well positioned to move forward as a great and competitive club within Sydney Cricket Association turf cricket.

Footnote: The SCA changed the various status of the grades in Shires Competition from A, B, C & D Grades, to 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Grade was added in 2020.

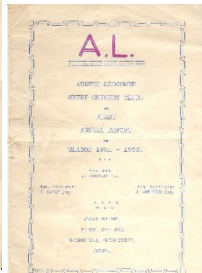
Click on the links below to access important club documents such as the Constitution.



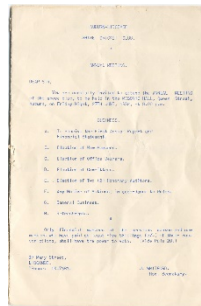
1953 Rule Book (Constitution) cover



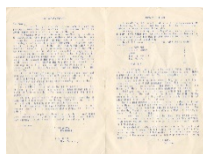
1953 Rule Book (Constitution) page 1



1950-51 1st Annual Report Cover



1950-51 1st Annual Report page 1



1950-51 1st Annual Report pages 2-3



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Maurice 'Mo' Parry Memorial Gates
cnr. Chisholm & Mona

[The ADCC Club Constitution](#)