



Leichhardt Wanderers Cricket Club

Rep Cricket &
Transitioning Beyond
Club Cricket (Feb 2025)



Introduction

Participants:

- ✦ Stu McCarthy - IWHJCA Rep Convenor
- ✦ Karen De Wit
- ✦ Adrian Russell - LWCC committee, coach & parent
- ✦ Mudge Wakeling - LWCC / IWHJCA coach & parent

Contents:

- ✦ Welcome to rep cricket: trials, pre-season & season overview
- ✦ Rep cricket - pathways for boys
- ✦ Rep cricket - pathways for girls
- ✦ Rep cricket - a parent's perspective
- ✦ Transitioning to adult cricket
- ✦ Question time



Welcome to rep cricket

- 1 For the benefit of those that are new to rep cricket, it is a different beast to what the boys & girls experience at club level.
- 2 The focus is not about each player bowling the same amount of overs or facing the same amount of balls every game.
- 3 We are playing against the best cricketers from each of the competing associations and with an aim to develop and improve the players as cricketers (& hopefully young men & women), as teams we are playing to win.
- 4 The game situation and opposition may require us to change batting and bowling orders from game to game to achieve the best outcome for the **TEAM**.





2025-26 trials (boys)

• **NETS (Cricket Central)**

- ✦ Sundays - mid-March through to early-April
- ✦ Younger age groups are the most difficult to select given the number of players who trial, so we trial in the following order: U12 (52) > U13 (45) > U14 (37) > U15 (42)

• **CENTRE WICKET for those who progress (Greenlees Park)**

- ✦ Sunday 13th April @ Greenlees (Centre Wicket) (U12s) - 9.30am, 2.30pm
- ✦ Remaining Centre Wicket trials for U13s, U14s & U15s will take place after Sydney Winter Cricket comps conclude mid to late July (TBC)



2025-26 pre-season (boys)

- Players progress to pre-season based on their performance in the trials and/or representative cricket in previous seasons
- Generally, no more than 30 players are selected per age group for pre-season
- Whilst we are still awaiting final confirmation of pre-season training dates, the season will more than likely be made up of the following dates:
 - ✦ Pre-season training commencing Sunday **10th August** (3pm-5pm), continuing on Sunday **17th, 24th & 31st August** (3pm-5pm)
 - ✦ Three trial games leading up to the competition proper on Sunday **7th, 14th & 21st September**
- Depending on numbers, regrettably two to four of the boys will not make the final division 1 & 2 playing squads. In assessing the final squads, we are looking at each of the boy's skills in their chosen discipline(s), fielding, as well as their attitude at training and towards their teammates. We are looking to cut the squads prior to either the first or second trial and will contact the unsuccessful players to explain why they did not make the final teams.



2025-26 season (boys)



- **Once the teams are finalised (div 1 - 12 players, div 2 - 12, plus 2 or 3 shadow players):**
 - ✦ Three trial games leading up to the competition proper on Sunday **7th, 14th & 21st September**
 - ✦ There will be a uniform presentation on either **8th or 9th October**
 - ✦ Training on **Friday afternoons** throughout the competition season - we may run through school holidays for those available - but officially commencing **10th October**
 - ✦ 7x competition (40- or 50-over) games commencing on Sunday **12th October**
 - ✦ The possibility of three further finals matches on Sundays from **30th November** (if we qualify)
- Please note, due to ground and umpire availability, **U14 & U15 div 2 competitions start later** (December), then break for Christmas/January & resume/conclude in February. As a result, trial games and training schedules vary accordingly.





2025-26 season (girls)



- Girls compete in **U13 & U15 CNSW Youth Champs competitions as a joint venture with Canterbury Wests**
- Ross Martin (Rep Convener from Canterbury Wests) oversees the program
- **Trials** take place at the end of the Club season at Cricket Central
- Squads are selected for both age groups
- Players are invited to take place in an **optional Winter Academy**
- **Final Centre Wicket trials** are held in **September** at Greenlees Park

- 2024-25 season:
 - ✦ **U13 Girls Youth Champs** commenced on Sunday December 1 with games then played on Sunday 8th, 15th & 22nd December, Saturday 18th January, Sunday 2nd, 9th 16th February. Finals take place over the next three Sundays.
 - ✦ **U15 Girls Youth Champs** is condensed over the school holidays and commenced this season on Tuesday 17th December with games then played on Monday 23rd December, Tuesday 7th January, Thursday 9th January, Sunday 12th January, Tuesday 14th January, Thursday 16th January. Semi Finals were on Sunday 19th January. Grand Final was on Sunday 26th January



2025-26 season

🔴 COMMITMENT REQUIRED:

- ✍ If for any reason you cannot make a particular session, then please advise your coach or manager at your earliest convenience
- ✍ Representative cricket requires a higher level of commitment to the team than club. If you feel that you or your son or daughter cannot commit to this level of demand or are unavailable on multiple playing dates, then it is best to take them out of the squad before the start of the season.
- ✍ It is expected that all players arrive at training prior to the nominated start time and are ready to start training as soon as the coaches commence
- ✍ Arrival at games is usually 60-75 minutes prior to the start of play.
- ✍ *By proceeding with this program, you must understand and accept this condition.*



Pathway to Premier Cricket

- **Inner West Harbour JCA** is about to sign a *Memorandum of Understanding* with **Sydney Cricket Club** (based at Drummoyne Oval) to establish much closer links and create a genuine pathway for IWHJCA juniors to **Green Shield** (U16 boys) & **Brewer Shield** (U18 girls) and then beyond to open age **Premier Cricket**.





Rep cricket -
pathway for
boys

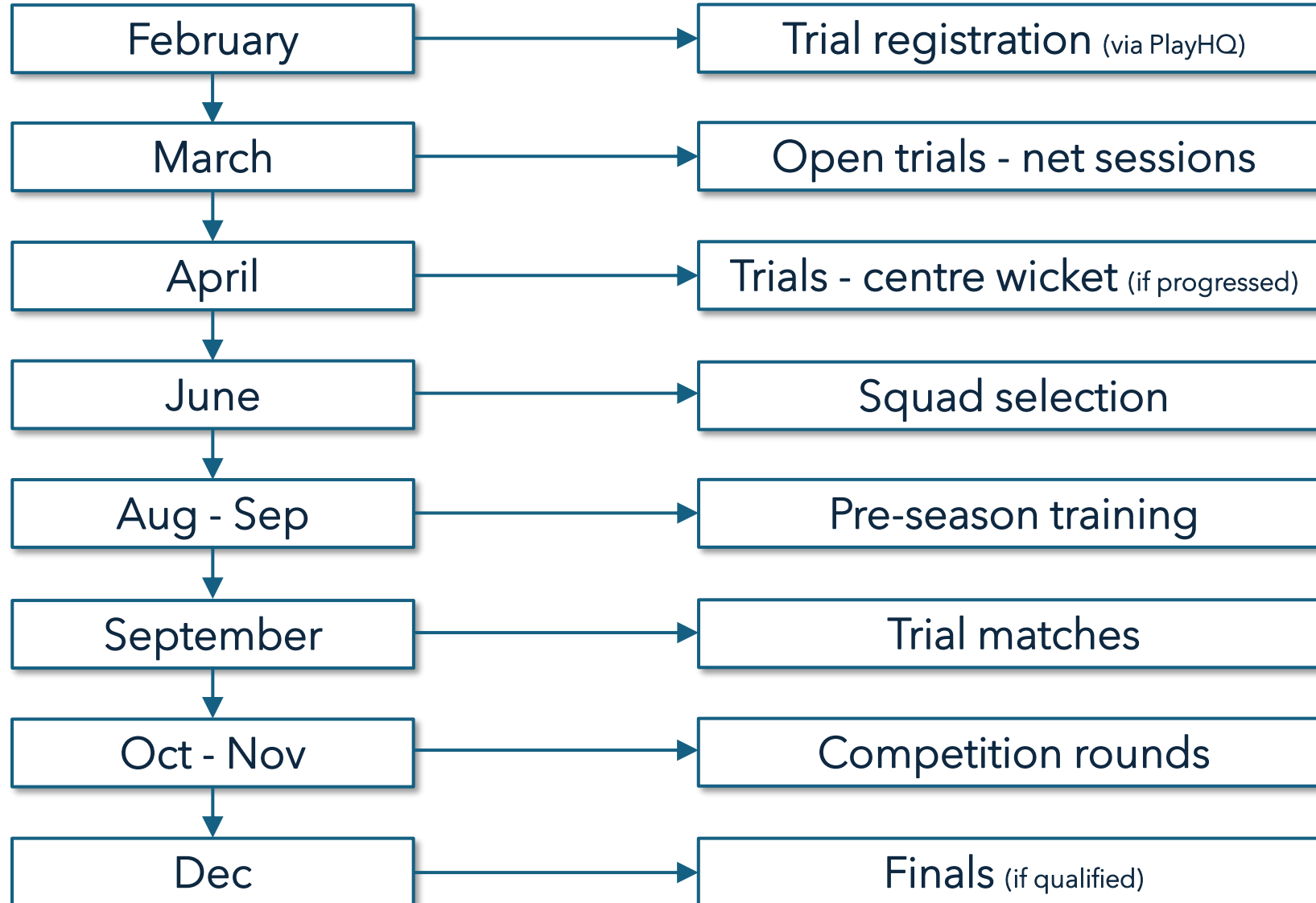


Rep cricket – pathway for boys

- Locally, boys compete for **Inner West Harbour**
- Competitions – **NSW Metro Youth Championships (MYC) & Independent Cricket Association (IDCA)**
- Under 12s:
 - ✦ Div 1 – Cawsey Shield (MYC)
 - ✦ Div 2 – Foster Shield (MYC)
- Under 13s:
 - ✦ Div 1 – Gee Shield (MYC)
 - ✦ Div 2 – Creak Shield (MYC)
- Under 14s:
 - ✦ Div 1 – Moore Shield (MYC)
 - ✦ Div 2 – Anthony Neale Cup (IDCA)
- Under 15s:
 - ✦ Div 1 – Weblin Shield (MYC)
 - ✦ Div 2 – President Cup (IDCA)



Rep cricket - calendar (boys)



Indicative only & subject to change





Rep cricket –
pathway for
girls

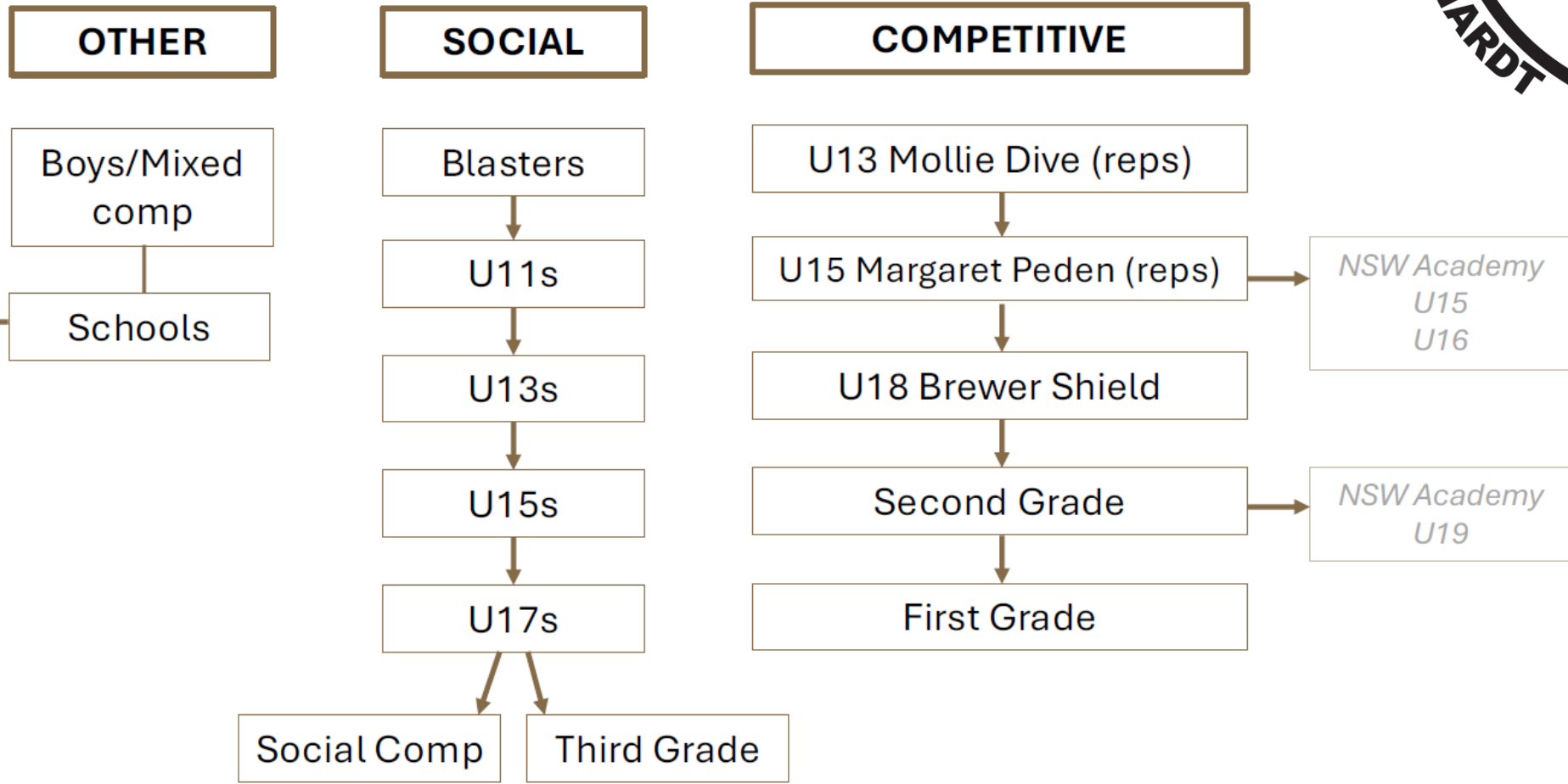


Rep cricket – pathway for girls

- Locally, girls compete for **Inner West Harbour-Canterbury West**
- Competition – **NSW Metro Youth Championships**
- Under 13s:
 - ✦ Mollie Dive Shield
- Under 15s:
 - ✦ Margeret Peden Shield



Rep cricket - pathway for girls



Notes: Girls only juniors play in the 'Sixers Cricket League'. Local Women's Senior Grade Club is 'Sydney Cricket Club'.

Rep cricket - calendar (girls)



COMPETITION

INFORMATION (dates subject to change)

U13 Mollie Dive

March/April: Trial for squad
July: Off-season training
Sep/Oct- Final trial for team
Dec – Feb: Competition x8 games + finals (30 overs, Sunday)

U15 Margaret Peden

March/April: Trial for squad
July: Off-season training
Sep/Oct- Final trial for team
Mid-Dec – Jan: Competition x7 games + finals (20/50 overs)

Notes: Age is as of 31 Aug each year; Local Rep Association is Inner West Harbour; Competition is 'NSW Youth Championships'

Rep cricket - 2024/25 calendar



METRO YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS



MALE

Round	Date
1	Sunday, 13 October 2024
2	Sunday, 20 October 2024
3	Sunday, 27 October 2024
4	Sunday, 3 November 2024
5	Sunday, 10 November 2024
6	Sunday, 17 November 2024
7	Sunday, 24 November 2024
Quarter Final	Sunday, 1 December 2024
Semi Final	Sunday, 8 December 2024
Grand Final	Sunday, 15 December 2024
Reserve Grand Final	To be confirmed, this will be communicated once confirmed.

PEDEN SHIELD

Round	Date	Format
1	Tuesday, 17 December 2024	T20 (4.30PM Start)
2	Monday, 23 December 2024	One Dayer
3	Tuesday, 7 January 2025	One Dayer
4	Thursday, 9 January 2025	One Dayer
5	Sunday, 12 January 2025	One Dayer
6	Tuesday, 14 January 2025	T20 (Start Time TBC)
7	Thursday, 16 January 2025	One Dayer
Semi Final	Sunday, 19 January 2025	One Dayer
Grand Final	Sunday, 26 January 2025	One Dayer

DIVE SHIELD

Round	Date
1	Sunday, 1 December 2024
2	Sunday, 8 December 2024
3	Sunday, 15 December 2024
4	Sunday, 22 December 2024
5	Sunday, 19 January 2025
6	Sunday, 2 February 2025
7	Sunday, 9 February 2025
8	Sunday, 16 February 2025
Quarter Final	Sunday, 23 February 2025
Semi Final	Sunday, 2 March 2025
Grand Final	Sunday, 9 March 2025

IDCA competitions:

- ✍ R1: 1st Dec 24
- ✍ R2: 8th Dec 24
- ✍ R3: 15th Dec 24
- ✍ R4: 2nd Feb 25
- ✍ R5: 9th Feb 25
- ✍ R6: 16th Feb 25
- ✍ GF: 23rd Feb 25



Rep cricket – a parent's perspective



Typical preparation regime

- Consider private coaching
 - ✦ Many players start early and train for 12+ months
- Play plenty of cricket
 - ✦ Join multiple teams
- Get fit
- **If you miss out on a selection, don't give up!**
 - ✦ Kids develop their skills and love for the game at different ages



Bowling - what to strive for

- Work on action at crease/follow through
- Fast bowler:
 - ✦ Good line and length
- Spin bowler:
 - ✦ Variations vs consistency (flat, fast, occasionally loopy)
- Get strong and fit and good at running
- No bowling off the wrong foot
- No bent arm
- Manage workloads carefully, don't overdo it



Batting - what to strive for

- Good technique:
 - ✍ Play straight rather than hit across the line
 - ✍ Show that you can leave balls/build an innings
 - ✍ Hold bat properly, take guard properly
 - ✍ Play shots all around the wicket
- No fuss when you get out



Fielding - what to strive for

- Walk in for every ball
- Regularly dive to save runs/attempt catches
- Learn how to throw properly
- Learn how to catch properly
- Attitude and intensity:
 - ✍ Team encouragement
 - ✍ Be super alert to every ball/moment



Parenting

- Be a scorer – electronic and book (e.g. half a game every 2 weeks)
- If you don't score, then make other significant contributions to the team:
 - ✍ Provide lunches/treats
 - ✍ Cook the BBQ
 - ✍ Provide shade structures
 - ✍ Help set up fields
 - ✍ Assist with covers (U14s & U15s)
- Be prepared to handle days when your child doesn't bat or bowl:
 - ✍ All players experience this from time-to-time
 - ✍ The team is first, personal stats and getting a go come second





Transitioning
to adult
cricket



Adult community (park) cricket



- A / B / C / D-grade cricket available across metropolitan Sydney, depending on skill levels of teams:
 - ✦ In 2024/25, Leichhardt Wanderers currently has a men's team in both B- and D-grade in the West Harbour Churches Cricket Association (combining the Inner West Harbour Cricket Association and Churches Cricket Association)
 - ✦ Play on Saturday afternoons, 1pm to 6pm
- Twilight Women's Cricket League (TWCL):
 - ✦ Six-week competitions: early-Nov to early-Dec / early-Feb to early-Mar
 - ✦ For 16yo+
 - ✦ Short format games, 12-overs per side (60-90 mins), on Monday nights
 - ✦ Venue: Jubilee Oval, Glebe
 - ✦ All equipment provided, modified ball (no helmets or pads needed)
 - ✦ Players can register individually (no connection to a club), form a team with friends or join a team

Sydney Shires cricket

- Run by the Sydney Cricket Association playing on turf wickets across Sydney
- Players as young as U15 are not unusual
- 1st grade to 5th grade
- Multiple competitions and game types
- May play on Saturday and/or Sunday, depending on game type
- Follow clubs on social media to find out trial details
- Local clubs: Balmain South Sydney, Burwood Briars, Auburn, Strathfield



Premier cricket



- AW Green Shield:
 - ✦ U16s, 50 over games
 - ✦ Played from mid-Dec to late-Jan (approx.)
 - ✦ Trials typically start in Feb/March; follow clubs on social media to find out details.
 - ✦ Invitations to trial follow a successful application
- Premier Cricket:
 - ✦ 5th grade to 1st grade
 - ✦ Mostly played on Saturdays
- Metropolitan Cup:
 - ✦ Unofficial 6th grade
 - ✦ Played on Saturdays and Sundays
- 1 to 3 U15 players are not unusual in Green Shield, 4th/5th grade Premier, Metro teams
- Local clubs: Sydney (no Metro cup), Western Suburbs (no Metro cup), Randwick Petersham, Sydney University, UNSW.

Additional information



- Useful websites - a wealth of information:
 - ✦ Inner West Harbour Cricket Association: www.iwhjcawebiste.com
 - ✦ NSW Youth Championships: www.nswyouthchampionships.com.au
 - ✦ Leichhardt Wanderers Cricket Club: www.leichhardtcricket.com
- Plus, more detail on youth pathways available from Cricket NSW:
 - ✦ www.cricketnsw.com.au/youth-male
 - ✦ www.cricketnsw.com.au/youth-female
- **IWHJCA Code of Conduct** available on both:
 - ✦ IWHJCA site - *Policies* page
 - ✦ LWCC site - *Cricket Hub*
- **We are here to support you!**
 - ✦ E-mail: leichhardtcricket@gmail.com

