Newsletter #1 2019/20

1. **News**

Welcome to season 2019/20 at the LPCC.

The vibe around the place is really positive as we finalise our preparations for the season ahead. Coaches Brent Zerafa and Bil Jenkin are rightfully optimistic about what’s ahead.

We enjoyed a fair amount of on-field success last season, with our 2nd XI and three Junior teams (U18, 16 & 12) winning the flag. Our 1st XI were runners up, with our 3rd XI and U14 sides making it to the semi-finalists.

Clearly there’s a lot of talent in the Lower Plenty youth and this is where we’re focussing in. the coming years as we strive to set up a sustainable model for success.

Make no mistake, it’s an exciting time at Lower. It will be interesting to watch our young talent this season – we feel we’re removing some blockers that some of them encountered in the past and we’re looking forward to seeing our ‘green shoots’ blossom.

Several senior players have moved on since last year but we’re delighted that several new players have arrived at the club to add to our talent and depth. We welcome the following to our senior ranks and trust that you’ll have a great time at Lower Plenty:

* James Scarmozzino
* Andy Peters
* Ru Jayasiri
* Geoff McIssac
* Carl Breitenbach
* Debashis Dash
* Rosh Perries
* Andrew Milesi

We’ll see more of our U14s and 16s enter the senior ranks this year (some with their dads) and it’s great to see some familiar faces returning. Our 4th XI is an entirely one-day competition this year, so we’re hopeful that we see some cameos from past-players who otherwise struggle to commit to back-to-back weekends. If anyone is after a hit – let us know…

There’s been plenty happening off the field. Among these:

* A new Club Strategy has been developed with goals and measures to help us with decisions regarding club direction
* Our website has been refreshed with a significant amount of LPCC records
* We’re making a monthly video series where we’ll hear a bit of LPCC history fromour Life Members
* Our social calendar has been invigorated and has been loaded on the website

We hope to see plenty of players, supporters, sponsors and parents around the club regularly throughout the season and at our social events. It’s gonna be a cracker!

1. **Junior report**

Junior Training has just gotten underway with the Under 12s and 14s having their first session tonight, 16s and 18s training tuesday and thursday and Under 10s commencing tomorrow 1st October. This Sunday there will be an apparel/equipment swap day from 10am - Midday with the last chance to get new apparel before the season starts and an opportunity to hand in any old or undersized clothing.

1. **Social events**

The club’s Social Committee has done a fantastic job in pulling together a broad and inclusive range of events this year. All of the social events can be found on the club website at www.lowerplentycricketclub.com

We hope to see a good turnout at theTrivia Night this Saturday night(5 October). Heath Jenkins is a great MC and the night is sure to be a lot of fun.

19 Oct is our big season launch - a Past Players’ day and Premiership reunions for 99/00 Barclay Reserve and 09/10 F Grade sides (we plan to host reunions each year for ‘decade’ reunions). Let’s make this a big one!

We’re hosting a Ladies Evening on 7 December, with a theme of ‘wellness’ and relaxation in the lead-up to Christmas. Details are being finalised, but we plan activities such as yoga, meditation and massage, along with some jewellery, clothing and woodwork stalls.

We’re doing more in the area of philanthropy as well with our continuing support of the Pat Cronin Foundation’s Walk to the Valley on 17 Nov (we’ll call out shortly for volunteers to help out on the day) and also our Pink Stumps Day on 8 Feb where we’ll hold a luncheon to raise funds in support of Breast Cancer Awareness.

We’re also bringing back the Double-wicket day! For those around on the Melbourne Cup weekend, there’ll be a day of fun and entertainment at the club as players of various abilities battle it out in a 2 over format to see who takes home the coveted (soon-to-be-named) trophy.

1. **Sponsors**

We’ve got a fantastic group of businesses and individuals who provide much needed financial support for the club. We want to thank the following and ask that club members and supporters use their services as much as possible.

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We’ll have a ‘Sponsor of the Week’ in future newsletters and on our Facebook group, to tell everyone more about these valued LPCC business partners.

**Personal Sponsors**

A new initiative this year is a player sponsorship whereby we’ll have our senior players’ photos displayed in the rooms with recognition of their personal sponsor. The cost is $100 per player. This initiative will significantly help the club and it’s good exposure for our young players.

1. **Social Apparel**

We’ll have a range of club apparel available very soon – social shirts, shorts, hoodies, beanies etc.

Playing shirts and caps are now in stock.

See Josh Ryan for orders or requests.

1. **In My Day**

This year we’ll be interviewing a Life Member each month as we endeavour to capture some LPCC by telling some stories about what the club was like ‘In My Day.’

Victim No.1 was a popular club person in Tony Mash.

These videos will be posted on Facebook and loaded on the club’s website.