



WHALES ANNOUNCE PARTNERSHIP WITH CARDIFF-BOOLAROO CC

Mosman Whales CC are excited to announce the formalising of a strategic cricketing partnership with leading Hunter Valley cricket club – Cardiff-Boolaroo. The major aim of the long-term alignment is to bring both cricketing communities together, opening benefits and opportunities for both clubs playing and membership base, well into the future.

Across the last few seasons CBCC players have represented Mosman in Green Shield, whilst at the same time Mosman players have reciprocated and represented CBCC in the U16 S G Moore Shield, as well as the seniors Newcastle T20 competition. With a pre-season trial match on the weekend between the two clubs blowing out the cobwebs, it was the perfect time to make the exciting announcement.



CBCC head coach **Mark Curry** is one of the best-known cricketers to emerge from the Hunter. Curry was delighted to formalise the arrangement that sees the opening of an important pathway for young, aspiring cricketers to seamlessly align with one of the most prominent Sydney Premier Cricket clubs – who only two seasons ago won both first and second grade titles in the same season. ‘We have one of the biggest junior programs in the Hunter and have been really lucky to produce some fabulous young players whom want to test themselves in the toughest cricketing environment. No grade cricket is tougher than Sydney and to be able to align with Mosman – a club rich in tradition, history and a great culture, was a no brainer’.

Mosman General Manager **Warwick Adlam** was on hand in Cardiff on the weekend and is delighted with the arrangement. ‘In the last couple of seasons, we have seen movement of players between the clubs. When the offer came for a pre-season trial and the opportunity to cement a direct link with this impressive club, we jumped at the opportunity. Their facilities at their Pasterfield complex are first class and we hope to see their talented youngsters come down the freeway to the Whales and become an integral part of the Mosman cricketing community and a home away from home’.



Both teams had a really solid trial hit out in the searing spring heat and there was plenty of talent on display in both sides. Cardiff-Boolaroo were unbeaten in the first grade Newcastle competition after Christmas but just missed out on a finals berth. They hope to go one better this season. With significant depth in 5 teams and some decent players joining the club, things look bright. Cardiff-Boolaroo have a proud history of engaging migrant communities and across the grade sides you will find many players from different backgrounds including Sri Lanka, India and Afghanistan. The club is really looking forward to experiencing cultural nights involving these communities whom bring exceptional passion to the game and to those around them.

Mosman also hope to build on last season which some call *the hangover*. Adlam surmised ‘Last season was a big challenge because it is hard to replicate the remarkable highs of the previous season, where we won the top two grades. There were plenty of positive signs though, our Green Shield side were minor premiers, 2nd grade finished 7 runs shy of back-to-back grand finals and 5th grade finished a win outside the top 6’. With a strong cohort of youngsters coming through backed up by the addition of Jack Nisbet, Nick Brown (UK) and a returning Matt Calder, 2023-24 promises to be an exciting season for the Whales.

In the meantime, the foundation has been established between Mosman and CBCC, with next years pre-season plans already on the table. Exciting times ahead for both clubs.
