



# The Ships' Log

Week 4 Issue, November 1 2022

## GAMES THIS WEEK

**A Grade vs Jeeralang-Boolarra @ Traf (bring arvo tea)**

**B Grade Bye**

**C Grade vs Centrals @ St Paul's**

**U16 vs Morwell @ Keegan St (Friday and Turf)**

**U14 BYE (second week)**

**U12 Next game vs Moe @ Traf (Monday, Nov 7)**

### News From Aboard The Ships

IN the words of Eminem: "I don't have any lines to go right here".

October was officially made a write-off last Saturday as yet another round was washed out.

With four consecutive washouts, October 2022 will unfortunately go down as the month that saw no cricket played.

A quartet of washouts is certainly unusual. Season 2010/11 saw four of the first five rounds washed out, but even then there wasn't four rain affected weekends in succession.

Adding to the intrigue of the region's weather is Sale-Maffra, an area less than an hour away from Traralgon, which has completed five full rounds.

Players and officials around the club will be hoping for a better run as we move into November to finally get the season underway.

Somewhat ironically, A Grade's first game for the season might actually be a home game at proper home.

B Grade will have to wait another week to play, owing to the bye, while C Grade makes the journey to Traralgon.

Junior cricketers will also be buzzing to get on the park. Like the seniors, they too have either not played or hardly played at all.

The 16s have a Friday assignment in Morwell on turf. The 14s and 12s are off for the long weekend.

Best wishes to all teams in their endeavours. Play hard, play well.

### Hail to the bus driver

Although there was no cricket, the first function for the season went ahead.

The Mystery Bus Trip headed east this time, taking off at a much earlier start time than ordinarily would have been the case last Saturday.

Thanks again to Mark Smith for his efforts steering, and more importantly, getting himself and the bus back in one piece.

The trip made its way to Glengarry, then onto Sale and back to Traralgon.

Well done to Zack Brown on his organisation. Trusting it was an enjoyable time on and off board.

### Cause for optimism

While a cricket-less season hasn't been ideal, there was at least one aspect from the weekend that perhaps pointed in the right direction - A Grade did have two umpires listed to officiate their game.

Umpire numbers looked in dire straits just a few days out from the season, with some talk of A Graders even having to do games themselves.

The problem of no umpires is exacerbated in the lower grades, where batting orders are often compromised based on who can stand out in the middle.

Hopefully the extended time from not playing has been enough to get a couple more on the books.

### World stage

Good to see the Zimbo's and Ireland enjoying some wins at the World Cup. Think everyone loves a good underdog story.

While they might only be minor players in the ICC, having come up against one Zimbabwean Test player in the last few years, a few Traf players have surely got an appreciation of just how good the pros are.

Love the Zimbabwean trillion dollar bill. Think its worth about \$10 Australian.

### Stranger than fiction

The washouts have led to frustration across the board, and also opened the door for at least one anomaly. Washouts count as games for the league, and you need to play five to qualify for finals. So, a lot of us are only one game away from qualifying without even playing a game yet. The potential for this rule to be manipulated is also there, by naming players in full confidence they were never going to show up. Not suggesting anyone would be that desperate to qualify someone for finals, but it could happen. Seen a few strange things in local sport already this year, none more so than in soccer when Moe United was booted out of the reserves cup for fielding an ineligible player. Monash, who made the protest, took their place in the final, and ended up winning.

### Caught my eye

Anyone else see the irony in Ben Cousins making a guest appearance at Ryan's last Friday?

### Coming to you from ISO

Unfortunately I (Liam Durkin) tested positive last Friday. After initially thinking it was a cold, a positive result quickly put paid to that and meant I was out of action for a few days. If anyone else has had it your experience might have been different to mine. I honestly had the biggest headache of my life, it felt like my brain was getting stabbed in four different places. While isolation is no longer a legal requirement, I had to withdraw from playing on Saturday. The last thing we need is the entire club going down with illness. I hate double standards as well, and the hypocrisy would be next level if I played a game of cricket with COVID after publicly saying grand finals should have been abandoned when they were at the start of the pandemic. Both these team photos are up on the wall in the clubrooms.

### Latest results

**A Grade, B Grade, C Grade - all washed out.**

**Under 16 - also washed out**

**Under 14 - Bye**

### **Under 12**

There was one age group that did play cricket for Trafalgar recently. The Under 12s ventured up to Mirboo North, where many new players had their first experience playing a game of cricket. While a win didn't come the Ships way, perhaps it will be the start of a lifelong journey in the game.

### Traf CC trivia

**First ever game:** the first match to involve cricketers from Trafalgar is believed to be a friendly played against Thorpdale on Saturday, December 8 1888.

**Inaugural el presidente:** the first recorded president of the Trafalgar Cricket Club was Dr Frederick Lloyd, who served from 1893-94 to 1895-96.

**Here, there and everywhere:** the Ships have played in a number of leagues across its history, namely: Warragul and District Cricket Association, Central Gippsland CA, Latrobe Valley and District Cricket League, Moe and District CA, Trafalgar and District CA, West Gippsland CA and Thorpdale and District CA.

**A place to call home:** the current Trafalgar Cricket Club clubrooms have been in place since the early 2000s. The rooms were purchased from Fowler and Sons and also had a life in the old town of Yallourn previously.

**Quartets:** the most consecutive premierships won by the club in a single grade is four. The third XI won the Warragul and District premiership in every season between 2004-05 and 2007-08.

**From forfeit to flag:** the 2007-08 season started with a forfeit and ended with a flag for Trafalgar in the thirds. The team won every game after Christmas on their way to the title.

**Finding form:** in the 2015-16 B Grade season, Trafalgar had won just four games after round 15. The team then won four of its last five games to pinch a place in the finals.

**Main rivals:** although they no longer compete against each other, historically Trafalgar's fiercest rival is Drouin, with the hostility stretching back to at least the 1940s. Yarragon is also the traditional rival.

