

Kabir Rana – A Crafty Off-Spinner



Kabir Rana is an emerging player who is finding his feet in NSW Premier Cricket with Parramatta District Cricket Club. He is a traditional orthodox right-arm off-spin bowler but to date hasn't shown any pretensions to being a batsman.

He commenced his playing days with Parramatta in 2023/24 and made a positive 'first-up' impression with a strong season in the Grand-Finalist Fifth grade team.

During the season he was a key component of the team's attack, he trundled away accurately providing long, tight spells of probing off-spin, indeed he owned the team's highest work rate (226 overs) at an excellent economy rate of 1.98 runs per over. His Grand-Final performance against Manly was a classic example of this attribute – 44.4 overs capturing 3/62.

His first season with the Club was very productive, Kabir snared **35 wickets @ 12.77** (including 3/24 v. Mosman, 3/18 v. Sutherland, 4/15 v. North Sydney, 3/21 v. St. George, 3/21 v. Penrith, **5/15** v. UNSW, 3/62 v. Manly [GF]) in Fifth grade and 3 wickets @ 32.00 in a few Fourth grade appearances. He also enjoyed a moment in the Sun with a rare batting effort – a 45 ball 60 runs against North Sydney.

Spin bowlers take time to mature and develop their trade, and in his time with Parramatta Kabir has steadily worked hard at building consistency and knowledge of his craft, season on season, to improve both his profile within the club and set a platform for possible future higher grade promotion.



After his fine opening season, the next advance in his career at Parramatta occurred in 2024/25 where he enjoyed another fruitful season with the ball. He was again very competitive and bowled with pinpoint accuracy and control to be the team's leading wicket-taker with a handy **28 wickets @ 13.71** – standout efforts being **5/9** v. Bankstown, **5/59** v. St. George, 4/18 v. Easts, 3/31 v. Fairfield. Again, he sent down the side's highest number of overs, and his dependability and ability to stifle the scoring rate of opposing batsmen saw team skipper Yusof Brown turn to him often as his 'go to man.'



Brown said of Rana in the Parramatta annual report: *"Our top wicket-taker, Kabir had a cracking year with the ball, taking 28 wickets @ 13.71. Even on the flattest decks, he would be able to make something happen. It was easy to turn to Kabir when we needed something to happen, and opposition batters often could not score from his on-the-spot bowling."*

Promising early form in Fourth grade in 2025/26, 15 wickets @ 18.73 highlighted by hauls of 6/35 v. Hawkesbury, 3/9 v. Sutherland and 4/22 v. North Sydney saw Kabir promoted to Third grade for the last nine rounds of the season. He settled in and bowled steadily whilst finding his way in this level of cricket claiming 11 wickets @ 28.36 (B.B. – 3/20 v. Blacktown). At this stage in his cricketing education Third grade is the ideal spot for him to continue his development and prove whether he is equipped to challenge for the higher grades.

At the close of the 2025/26 season Kabir Rana accumulated a praiseworthy **93 wickets @ 16.74** (B.B. – **6/35**) a solid platform from which to project his future career in Parramatta colours. His batting numbers stand at 129 runs @ 6.14 (H.S. – 60 v. North Sydney).

[By Tom Wood – Parramatta District Cricket Club Historian]