

Matthew Windred – Instant Success

Few if any young cricketers have ever been able to start their NSW Premier Cricket careers with the dramatic instantaneous success that Matthew Windred enjoyed in his 2007/08 debut for the Parramatta District Cricket Club.



The busy, attacking right-handed batsman played his early cricket for the Guildford Leagues Cricket Club and appeared for Parramatta in the various Shell Shield representative cricket age groups.

Matt decided to *'try his hand'* in Premier Cricket in 2007/08, and was initially chosen in Fourth grade, but an illness forced him out of the opening round of the season. He was fit for the round 2 clash against Penrith and was selected to play Fifth grade.

Not deterred by the demotion he set about making his presence felt at the Parramatta District Cricket Club in a dynamic fashion.

In his first innings for the Club Matt got straight into action and peeled off an eye-catching **110** and in the process shared a bulky **175 run** 2nd wicket partnership with the A.W. Green Shield captain and future International Sean Abbott.

Promoted to Fourth grade for the next game against Campbelltown he *'didn't let the grass grow*

under his feet.' He batted brilliantly to compile a century in each innings – **109** in the 1st innings followed by a forceful **105** not out in the 2nd dig.

This performance meant that Matt had scored a **century** in his **first three innings** in NSW Premier Cricket – such a rare feat that it is probably unmatched in the competition's history.

Success in this outstanding debut season didn't stop there; after winning promotion to Third grade, he continued his impressive harvest of runs delivering 369 @ 46.13 – including another century (**119*** v. UNSW – this made it **four** hundreds in his initial grade season, a wonderful achievement. He closed the season out with two games in Second grade scoring 68 v. Hawkesbury.

Matt's outstanding batting form in 2007/08 that totalled – **762 runs @ 63.50** saw him win the following prestigious club awards:

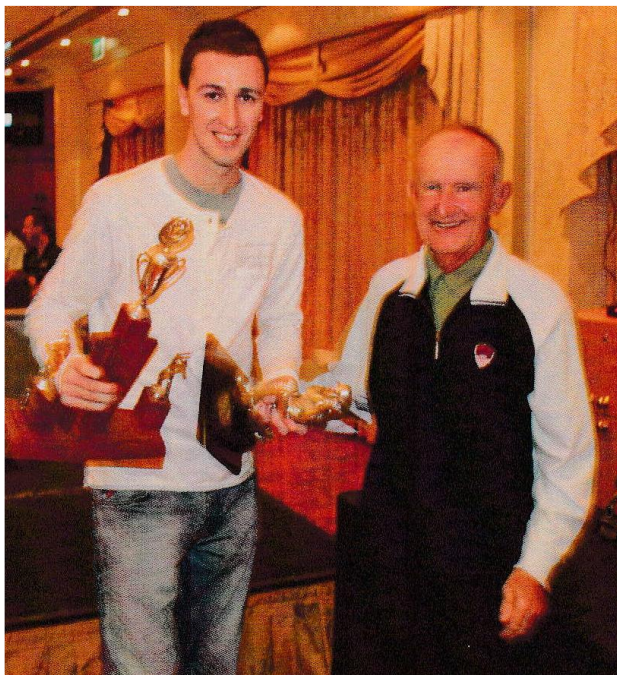
- **Cricketer of the Year** (Bill Anderson Memorial Trophy).
- **Doug Walters Trophy** (Most Runs for the season).

And his safe hands accepted 16 catches to win the **Catching Aggregate** Award (fieldsman).

Consistent batting displays in Second grade in the 2008/09 season – **461 runs @ 35.46** (H.S. – 56 v. Blacktown, 73 v. Bankstown, 82 v. Campbelltown) built further on his previous season's performances and earned him selection in First grade – Parramatta District Cricket Club – First grade Player Number: **567**.

Over the next two seasons Matt continued to churn out runs in Second Grade, 2009/10 was very fruitful and he struck **503 runs @ 31.44** (H.S. – 96 v. Wests, 87 v. Sydney University, 72 v. UNSW). A spirited **134** against UNSW in Second grade propelled him back into the top grade in 2010/11, but he again spent the 2011/12 season back in the seconds and performed solidly to record **478 runs @ 25.16** (H.S. – 96 v. Gordon, 63 v. Bankstown, 52 v. N.D., 50 v. St. George).

Matt Windred finally made his mark in First grade in 2012/13 when batted confidently to amass an impressive 569 runs @ 29.65 (H.S. – 91 v. Easts, 55 v. Manly, 53 v. St. George, 50 v. Sutherland). In the match against Eastern Suburbs, he shared a mammoth **203 run 5th wicket partnership** with Michael Wood.



After a frustrating, injury plagued 2013/14 season he *'brought down the curtain'* on an excellent career with the Parramatta District Cricket Club at the close of that season.

Matt was a popular teammate; his happy disposition and ready smile made him plenty of friends at the club.

In the picture opposite Club stalwart Johnny Aitken presented Matt with the 2007/08 Cricketer of the Year Award.

His too brief career at Parramatta extended from 2007/08 to 2013/14.

Matt Windred – Parramatta District Cricket Club Statistics.

Grade	Runs	H.S.	Ave.	Catches
P.G. Shield	199	36*	19.90	1
5th Grade	110	110	110.00	-
4th Grade	214	109	214.00	-
3rd grade	369	119	46.13	14
2nd grade	1,832	134	32.71	33
1st grade	963	91	24.69	18
Total Grade	3,488	134	33.22	65
<i>Total Club</i>	<i>3,687</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>32.08</i>	<i>66</i>

[By Tom Wood – Parramatta District Cricket Club Historian]

