

## Kashvi Gunawardane – A Maker of Runs



Kashvi Gunawardane is another of the rising young quality batsmen that the Parramatta District Cricket Club has in its talent stable all of whom are staking their claims for permanent future berths in the club's First grade team.

Kashvi is a slightly built left-handed batsman who usually opens the innings, he possesses the ability to score freely *'all around the ground'* from a sound array of attacking strokes despatched with a surprising degree of power. As is the custom with the modern approach to batting he likes to *'take the fight to the bowler from the get-go'* and when he's set and in free-flow his progress is hard to contain. Kashvi is also a lively and sharp fieldsman.

In his career to date with Parramatta he has demonstrated a capability essential for a batsman to advance in the grades – ***'the knack of making runs'***.

This point is well illustrated by his batting performances to date – in basically in four and a half seasons Kashvi has compiled **2,930 runs @ 34.88** in NSW Premier Cricket (excluding AWG /PG) – a guide to his consistency in producing runs.

His pathway to the Parramatta District Cricket Club in conventional fashion via A.W. Green Shield in 2018/19 and 2019/20 under the coaching of club stalwart Paul Calvert.

In the 2020/21 season he made a promising start to his formal grade cricket featuring in both Fifth and Fourth grade and piecing together **317 runs @ 26.44** (H.S. – 89).

The following season things started to come together for Kash; after making a bright **61** runs in the opening Fifth grade match he was elevated to Fourth grade where he consolidated himself at the top of the order and as the team's leading run-maker (**315 runs @ 35.00** [H.S. – 94]) played a pivotal role in Parra reaching the **Fourth grade Grand Final** – in which he top-scored with a fine 45. He also played a couple of games in Third grade scoring 69 v. UNSW. His batting during this season put Kashvi on the Club Selectors' radar as a player to watch.

He also won the Club's long established **Sid Teale Award** for the 'Most Improved Under 21 Player.'

The 2022/23 season proved to be a seminal moment in Kashvi's cricket, he was key member of the Club's Third grade Premiership winning team astutely led by rising young captain Matt Giumelli, and at a personal level he batted brilliantly to establish a new Parramatta **Third grade** batting aggregate record of **600 runs @ 40.00** (including a blockbusting **169** v. Bankstown) – this was also the most runs scored by a batsman in the competition. In total his productive season yielded **724** runs (2<sup>nd</sup> – 4, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 600, 4<sup>th</sup> – 59, 5<sup>th</sup> – 61).

After an encouraging start in 2023/34 in Second grade (**291 runs @ 26.46** [H.S. – 80]) his form lapsed a little and he closed out the year in Third grade (114 runs @ 38.00 [H.S. – 71\*]).

Back to his best in 2024/25 Kashvi again '*delivered a hefty dose of runs.*' From the start he scored productively in Second grade rattling up an impressive **334 runs @ 37.11** (including 65 v. Gordon, 96 v. Hawkesbury, 78 v. UNSW) and at the time was amongst the heaviest scorers in the competition. But unfortunately, mid-season he was regulated back to Third grade? To his credit he knuckled down and applied himself to churning out runs, which he did in abundance – **319 runs @ 39.88** (H.S. – 155 v. Blacktown, 54 v. S.U. [QF]) to help another Matt Giumelli led team claim the Third Grade Premiership.

In the currently active 2025/26 season Kashvi has continued to go about the business of scoring runs and so far, he has knocked up **357 runs @ 51.00** (H.S. – 100\* v. S.U., 68 v. North Sydney). He also debuted in **First grade** as a fill-in for injured skipper Nick Bertus and looked comfortable in making 31 runs. Kashvi has plenty of fruitful seasons to come with the Parramatta Club.

Parramatta District Cricket Club – First Grade Player Number: **628**



[By Tom Wood – Parramatta District Cricket Club Historian]