



SYDNEY UNIVERSITY
CRICKET CLUB



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Cricket Club



CRICKET NSW



SEEKING YOUR HELP WITH THE SUCC INDIGENOUS YOUTH ACADEMY

THIS IS A GREAT STORY FOR SUCC – WITH YOUR HELP WE WILL MAKE IT A BETTER ONE!

On Sunday 9 February 2020, the city of Sydney was under siege from the worst storms in several decades. At the Martin Lambert Indoor Nets, the inaugural coaching and talent identification (C&TI) session of the SUCC Indigenous Youth Academy (Academy) went ahead despite the weather.

On Sunday 15 March 2020, the world was coming to grips with the declaration of a pandemic four days earlier. At the Martin Lambert Indoor Nets, the second C&TI session of the Academy went ahead despite the pandemic (albeit with appropriate health precautions in place).

A pessimist would perhaps have thought that we were being sent a message that it was simply not to be. However, we believe in, and are committed to, this initiative. We are now seeking your help.

When the pandemic permitted late in the 2020/2021 season, we rebooted the Academy with C&TI sessions in January and February 2021. Those sessions, as had been the case 12 months earlier, were characterised by a small group of enthusiastic Aboriginal boys and girls seeking to learn about our great game and improve their skills. They enjoyed net sessions with highly professional SUCC coaches supported by very committed assistants from the current SUCC playing ranks.

To give you a brief background, a few years ago, we tossed around ideas of how SUCC may be able to promote the game of cricket and give something to the community. In particular, we targeted support of Indigenous communities, women's cricket and country cricket. We're proud to say that while the main goal of the Academy is to give something to local Indigenous communities, the C&TI sessions have included both boys and girls from both Sydney and the country. Our target age group is 12-15 years and we look forward to the day that the first graduate of the Academy plays for SUCC in Green Shield or lower grades.

Our game plan remains to offer C&TI sessions both in the winter months and the cricket season. We are tapping into centres of influence in order to build up our attendance numbers to critical mass. We are incredibly grateful for the support we have received from the SUCC coaching staff and from the SUCC playing ranks (it's worth noting the younger SUCC players have been outstanding, with the last C&TI session supported by two members of the Green Shield team). The SUCC Board has been a strong supporter of the Academy in its early days, including the provision direct financial support.

It is difficult to conceive of an institution more appropriate than SUCC to support and drive this initiative. Cricket NSW have launched a Reconciliation Action Plan and they are aware, and very supportive, of our initiative with the Academy.

We have an excellent product which we offer without charge. If we can get the message out, the boys and girls and their families will join in.

So many of us have led lives enriched by friendships formed at SUCC. That is at the heart of this appeal – the joy of contributing to a moment which might light a fuse in a young cricketer which opens up a world of the kind we have enjoyed

Please think about how you can help us, whether through hands on support at future C&TI sessions or by contributing through a specific donation to the Foundation.

We will contact you in the near future to ask you to help us.

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