

## Twin wins put Point Cook in top spot

Point Cook has swooped on top spot in Victorian Turf Cricket Association division 3 after an impressive double shot of victories at the weekend.

The Warriors cruised to an 81-run victory over Sunshine Heights at Ainsworth Reserve on Saturday to set up a mouth-watering top-of-the-table clash with Sunshine in a second-round catch-up game on Sunday.

With first place up for grabs, Point Cook rose to the occasion, toppling Sunshine by four wickets on the road at a damp Dempster Park.

The Warriors' bowlers were irresistible, restricting Sunshine to a manageable 7-98 off 31 overs on a rain-affected day.

Tight bowling from Gurbaksh Khaira (2-15), James Doolan (2-20), Aaron Whear (1-9) and Sarwan Kumar (1-19) had the Warriors on top at the game's mid-point.

In the conditions, a target of 99 was not going to be easy, but the Warriors found a way.

After an early struggle saw them in trouble at 4-29, they steadied through James Peterson (35no) and Khaira (20). A late flurry from Whear (13no) and the Warriors had regained the ladder lead.

Seabrook had a mixed weekend. The Saints lost by five wickets away to Williamstown Imperials at Fearon Reserve on Saturday.

But they broke through for their first win of the season on Sunday, annihilating Footscray United by nine wickets at Bruce Comben Reserve. Set 62 for victory, Seabrook passed the target in 12.3 overs.

In division 2, Werribee Centrals beat two sides around them on the ladder to move from the lower reaches of the table into fourth.

On Saturday, Centrals had a relatively comfortable four-wicket win over Williamstown CYMS at Galvin Park.

In Sunday's catch-up game, Centrals took care of business against Altona Roosters, winning a low-scoring affair by 19 runs at Langshaw Reserve.

In a division 4 game in progress, Wyndhamvale posted 164 off 50.5 overs against Sunshine YCW at Wyndham Vale South Reserve. YCW was in trouble on 5-37 in reply after Falcons bowlers Adam Walls and David Buchanan took two wickets apiece.

**Lance Jenkinson**



Harpreet Sunny Singh scored a half century in Point Cook's win on Saturday. (Damjan Janevski)



### IN THE DOGHOUSE

■ The big name recruits continue to make John McLeod Reserve home after their AFL careers are over. Jack Redpath follows Ryan Houlihan, Brendan Fevola, Ryan Hargrave, Shannon Byrne and Brent Guerra to don the Lions' colours during the club's most successful era. Rumour had Jack's Bulldog teammate Shane Biggs joining him, but he has signed with North Heidelberg. Big Red will be awesome if his knee stands up to the vagaries of local footy grounds. He showed in his limited appearances for the Bulldogs what a dominant presence he is in attack. The Lions have added other quality players and will again start raging favourites for their seventh successive division one flag.

■ Redpath is the biggest name on the clearance page but not the most surprising. I was intrigued to see Nayef Hamad move to Werribee Districts, from Spotswood, and Daniel Bunworth leaving Wyndhamvale. Hamad is a listed Footscray VFL player and if that continues he will have divided commitments. Bunworth moves to Point Cook after coaching the Falcons for the past couple of years. He is the sort of player that will be very beneficial to the WRFL Bulldogs in their adjustment to division one.

■ The Werribee and Hoppers Crossing cricketers can be well pleased with the results of their recent Movember charity game, which raised \$4500. The Tigers took home the shield, giving them a 3-2 lead in the meetings. The Tigers are feasting on the back of some great batting from Matt Dean, who followed up his 113 with a match-winning 97 at the weekend. Brother Sean chimed in with 53 to make it a big weekend for the family and Travis starred for Footscray with an 80. On a sad note, former president and life member Lou Tardrew passed away last week following a short illness. Lou's efforts and passion for both the Werribee Cricket and Football clubs will be long remembered. Condolences to his wife Margaret, family and friends.

■ Apologies for naming Greg Kennedy in the Hoppers Crossing Sports Club Hall of Fame in last week's column when it was, in fact, Greg Mitchell. Kennedy might get there one day but for now, as senior playing coach of the Hoppers Crossing first XI, he has more pressing matters. Wasn't a watershed weekend for local clubs with Werribee winning, but Altona, Hoppers, Williamstown and Yarraville were all defeated.

**Kevin Hillier**

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Trent Pantalleresco had a day out for the Werribee Giants. (Shawn Smits)

## Giants pitch in for win

**By Lance Jenkinson**

Werribee Giants have made an emphatic statement with a series win over Newport Rams in the Baseball Victoria summer league division 2.

In an enthralling three-game series, the Giants won the final two games, including an epic 16-inning game two.

The Giants clinched the series with a 6-3 win away at KC White Reserve on Sunday.

Giants coach John Curnow described the final game as "a good-quality contest right the way through".

Werribee held a slender one-run lead for most of the game thanks to a stellar performance from Trent Pantalleresco.

He pitched seven strong innings and produced an early two-run home run that gave the Giants that lead.

After breaking out last season, Pantalleresco seems to have taken his game to another level this summer.

"He performed well last year and he's continuing on with that," Curnow said.

"He puts everything into every pitch. He throws hard, he's got a good slider and keeps all the hitters off balance.

"We made a couple of errors behind him, but he stood up when he had to and got hitters out for us."

Wes DeJong was also effective in both the batters box and on the mound for Werribee.

He pitched a scoreless inning in the eighth

and hit a crucial two-out single that drove in two runs to create a handy buffer.

That huge eighth inning for the Giants broke the game open.

"We got our lead-off on with a hit," Curnow said.

"Then one of our blokes went to drop a bunt, they tried to pick him off and the throw got away, so he got around to third.

"We were able to get another two on with walks and they got two outs, then Wes came up and got the clutch hit for us."

Closer Guillermo Salazar completed the job for Werribee in the ninth inning.

The Giants (11-1) will take on the Port Melbourne Mariners (5-7) in a three-game series before the Christmas break.

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