

## Warrandyte CC

### Father and Son XI

In an effort to increase participation, Warrandyte CC formed a fourth XI comprising fathers and sons.

The idea of forming such a team arose at a Saturday morning junior match when a small group of dads discussed their kids' progression into senior cricket.

There was unanimous agreement amongst the dads that the team's focus would be on helping their kids develop as cricketers thereby enabling them to have a smooth transition into senior cricket.

With many of the kids continuing to play junior cricket in the morning, the kids and their fathers developed into a formidable combination making the H Grade finals.

Whilst making the finals was a most pleasing result, of equal significance were some other benefits that accrued including:

- Cricket became more of a family affair involving mums, dads and their kids
- People were attracted to the club through its family oriented atmosphere
- All of the kids received a fair go noticeably increasing their fun and enjoyment
- The kids were introduced to senior cricket in a non-threatening environment
- A unique club spirit developed
- Senior players got to know the kids better by training with them
- Senior players began to take an increased interest in Saturday morning junior cricket
- There has been an increased interest from previous season's juniors to graduate to senior ranks