



# The Finger

Newsletter of the ACT Cricket Association Umpires & Scorers Council

[www.actumpires.com](http://www.actumpires.com)

APRIL 2011

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## AND NOW THE END IS NEAR: SELF-ASSESSMENT FOR UMPIRES

This is a valedictory edition of *The Finger*, examining the performances of seasons passed. The end of a season brings a time for self-assessment. This is now mandatory under our newly adopted Key Performance Indicator (KPI) 6.1, *Number of self assessment forms submitted*. New umpires and others finding this a challenge might find some guidance in the uninhibited approach to performance assessment taken by that closet cricket tragic, Frank Sinatra<sup>1</sup>. Imagine the following being declaimed at a post-match meeting in the voice of, say, Billy Bowden, Steve Bucknor or, even, oneself.

And now the end is near  
And so I face the final curtain  
My friend I'll say it clear  
I'll state my case of which I'm certain

I've lived a life that's full  
I traveled each and every highway  
And more, much more than this  
I did it my way

Regrets I've had a few  
But then again too few to mention  
I did what I had to do  
And saw it through without exemption

I planned each charted course  
Each careful step along the byway  
And more, much more than this  
I did it my way

Yes there were times I'm sure you knew  
When I bit off more than I could chew  
But through it all when there was doubt  
I ate it up and spit it out, I faced it all  
And I stood tall and did it my way

I've loved, I've laughed and cried  
I've had my fill, my share of losing  
And now as tears subside  
I find it all so amusing

To think I did all that  
And may I say not in a shy way  
Oh no, oh no, not me  
I did it my way

For what is a man what has he got  
If not himself then he has not  
To say the things he truly feels  
And not the words of one who kneels  
The record shows I took the blows  
And did it my way

Yes, it was my way

Travelling CA's pathways may never seem the same again.

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<sup>1</sup> Of course, Ol' Blue Eyes only delivered the advice; it was drafted by S Carter, P Anka, C Francois & G Thibaut.

## COUNCIL NOTES

### 1. Council Annual Awards

The Council's Annual and other Awards were presented by Chairman, Ken Brazel, as part of the Annual Dinner at Legends Restaurant in Manuka on Monday 21 March.

#### Annual Awards

Founders' Medal ('Clubman of the Year'):	Derek Gould
McCarty Medal (Best First Grade Umpire):	Yohan Ramasundara
Lawrence Medal (Best Second Grade Umpire) <sup>2</sup> :	Ron Reinhard
Gould Medal (Best First Year Umpire):	Don Harding

#### International Appointment Awards

Umpires:	Andrew Shelley (three) Simon Lightbody (two)
Scorers:	Catherine Polglase (three) Darren Mattison (two) Liam Baker Anne Sutherland Rammanee Shivakkumar

#### Recognition Awards<sup>3</sup> (\* Life Members of the Council)

##### First Grade Matches

>150:	Kev McCarty* Derek Gould* Brian Lawrence* Bill Ruse* Terry Keel
>100:	Graeme Clifton Andrew Shelley Dave Harris* Ken Brazel
> 50:	Yohan Ramasundara Barry Thomas Alex Fyfe Simon Lightbody

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<sup>2</sup> There was no award for 'Best Other Grades Umpire' in 2010-11, as there were insufficient eligible umpires after the season's decline in the number of umpires standing on a regular basis.

<sup>3</sup> This is the first year in which these Awards have been presented in this form: some first grade match certificates were presented in previous seasons. Some data remains to be checked ahead of additional awards.

### Total Days Standing

>800:	Derek Gould* (842) Kev McCarty* (829)
>500:	Brian Lawrence* (586) Bryan Climas* (531) Terry Keel (519) Bill Ruse*(517) Peter Wyche (512) Andrew Kopras* (503)
>400:	Graeme Clifton (409)
>300:	Nick Ewbank Peter Shepherd* Andrew Shelley Ken Brazel Andy Turner
>200:	Barry Thomas Yohan Ramasundara Dave Harris* Ron Reinhard Greg Rouse Alex Fyfe

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## 2. New Edition of Tom Smith

Advice about sourcing the new edition of *Tom Smith* appeared in the March edition of *The Finger*. Derek Gould has since provided a copy of advice from a UK-based on-line cricket book seller that publication has been put back until late July. So, there's nothing for it but to watch the football for the first half of the winter (once the cricket World Cup is *eventually* decided).

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## ACTCA NOTES

### 1. Semi- and Finals Results

ANU defeated Tuggeranong in the re-played Glenda Hall Shield final.

Queanbeyan again met Tuggeranong in the third of the season's men's first grade competition finals. Queanbeyan defended their two day premiership and added it to this season's one day Konica Cup, leaving Tuggeranong with the T/20 championship.

Perhaps a sign of the impact of the many days of play lost in a wet season, only in fourth and fifth grade did the side on top of its table at the end of the 'home and away rounds' manage to win their respective premiership (and Norths made the fourth grade final by virtue of being the higher placed side in a drawn semi-final). The third grade

premiership went to the side finishing fourth, and second grade to the side finishing third. It wasn't a good season to finish second, as only two out of the five such teams played in their grand final, and only in first grade did they take away the premiership.

Five of the eight grade clubs were represented in the grand finals, and four different clubs shared the five premierships, with only Queanbeyan (in first and fifth grades) winning more than one title. Three clubs (Queanbeyan, Norths and Tuggeranong) had multiple finalists, and each of those clubs had at least one victory to celebrate.

So it's all over for another year: congratulations to the winners, commiserations to the rest, and for all of those who had so much fun that they'll be back to do it all again next year, we'll meet again then!

### **Glenda Hall Shield**

**Final:** **ANU** defeated Tuggeranong, Chisholm 2, 20 March  
Umpires: Tim Boyton & Tom Logan;

### Men's Two Day Competition

Semi-Finals, 18 (first & second grade), 19 & 20 (first to fourth grades) March

**First grade:** **Tuggeranong (1)** defeated Eastlake (4), Manuka  
Graeme Clifton & Terry Keel;

**Queanbeyan (2)** defeated Norths (3), Stirling  
Simon Lightbody & Yohan Ramasundara

**Second grade:** **Norths (1)** defeated Weston Creek (4), KTMO  
Ken Brazel & Damian Eason;

**Tuggeranong (3)** defeated Queanbeyan (2), Freebody 1  
Stuart Grocock & Andy Turner;

**Third grade:** **ANU (4)** defeated Ginninderra (1), Kippax 2  
Dean Bithell & Shannon Bushell;

**Norths (2)** defeated Wests/UC (3), Reid  
Andrew Shelley & Barry Thomas;

**Fourth grade:** **Norths (1)** drew with Wests/UC (4), Phillip  
Peter Baker & Don Harding;

**Queanbeyan (3)** defeated ANU (2), Chisholm 1  
Ron Reinhard & Chris Cahill;

**Fifth grade:** **Queanbeyan (1)** defeated Tuggeranong (4), Town Park  
Tom Logan;

**Wests/UC (3)** defeated Eastlake (2), Kingston  
Justin Lazic & Tim McNamara.

Finals, 25 (first & second grade), 26 & 27 (first to fourth grades) March

**First grade:** **Queanbeyan (2)** defeated Tuggeranong (1), Manuka Terry Keel & Yohan Ramasundara;

**Second grade:** **Tuggeranong (3)** defeated Norths (1), Chisholm 1 Damian Eason & Simon Lightbody;

**Third grade:** **ANU (4)** defeated Norths (2), Freebody 1 Graeme Clifton & Andrew Shelley;

**Fourth grade:** **Norths (1)** defeated Queanbeyan (3), Kingston Shannon Bushell & Andy Turner;

**Fifth grade:** **Queanbeyan (1)** defeated Wests/UC (3), Town Park Dean Bithell & Stuart Grocock.

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## 2. Cricket ACT Grade Cricket Awards

The DB Robin Medal Evening was held at Manuka Oval's Bradman Pavilion on Wednesday 30 March. A complete copy of the "Season's Honors List" is available at:

<http://www.cricketact.com/images/Grade%20Cricket/The%20DB%20Robin%20Medal%202010-11%20Award%20Winners.pdf>;

The highlights include:

SJ Moore Medal (female best & fairest): Laura Wright (Tuggeranong)

DB Robin Medal (male best & fairest); Mark Higgs (Queanbeyan)

Lorne Lees Medal (men's second grade): Peter Colborne (Qbn)

Keith Carnall Medal (men's third grade): Andrew Crossman (Eastlake)

Dene Moore Medal (men's fourth grade): Syed Jaffry (Wests/UC)

Bill Tickner Medal (men's fifth grade): Denis Axelby (Norths)

Grade Team of the Year: Sam Miller, John Nicoll, Adam Tett, Mark Higgs, Chris Russo, Randall Starr, Aaron Ayre, Adam Ritchard, Ben Oakley, Andrew Barnett, Lachie Christian, Matt Winter.

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## Quotes of the Month: Wheelwrights and Footmen

*The umpire's word is final. At least it was until technology determined it was not. .... Yet [umpires] do not wish to go the way of wheelwrights and footmen. They do not want to become obsolete. They know they cannot stand in the way of all-embracing progress. Ivo Tennant, Empowered or Undermined? Cricinfo Innovation Series, 22 March 2011. Perhaps the Council's next 'pre-season exam' could include a question about the characteristics that distinguish "all embracing progress" from "all embracing change"?*

*This also means the on-field umpire has got it right 71.87% of the time, which is a reasonable percentage considering these are usually marginal decisions. Due to the imperfect technology, more than one incorrect decision hasn't been corrected despite the replays, but overall these numbers offer an idea of how the system has been used so far. The table ... shows that the reviews asked for by batsmen have yielded greater success than those summoned by the fielding team, which is as you'd expect since batsmen usually know when they've been wrongly given out. One out of every three reviews asked by a batsman has been overturned, while that ratio is about one in four for the fielding side. S. Rajesh, The Decision Review System in Numbers, Cricinfo ICC Cricket World Cup 2011/Features, 8 March 2011. Is this the evidence that broadcast cricket is like Big Brother: its audience appeal lies in watching the consequences of errors of judgment?*

*"He once joked "if Ricky and the boys slip up eventually I might get the chance to do a [World Cup] final"....." Simon Taufel, quoted in the ESPN Cricinfo staff article, Taufel and Dar to Umpire World Cup Final, 31 March 2011, Cricinfo ICC Cricket World Cup 2011/News. The Australian cricket team finally get around to doing the right thing by Simon Taufel's career.*

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## TENDULKAR AND THE WISDOM OF WALKING

What sped through his mind in the seconds before he was given not out against West Indies? Did he decide to go out of pragmatism or nobility?

Rob Steen

It is possible, just, that this World Cup will produce a more cherishable moment than [Sachin Tendulkar's](#) decision to walk against West Indies on Sunday. That said, short of Ricky Ponting offering to ghost-write Aleem Dar's autobiography in exchange for a signed copy of the MCC's *Spirit of Cricket*, it is fiendishly difficult to see how. Let's be clear about this. Walking is cricket's trickiest ethical dilemma. Always has been, always will be. It marks the intersection of professionalism and honesty, where pragmatism collides with principle. That it should rear its two-faced head again at this tournament is assuredly no coincidence, but more of that later. By way of measuring the delicate nature of this part-time custom, let's rewind to [Cape Town, 1965](#).

On the opening day of the third Test, Eddie Barlow, the bulldog atop South Africa's order, survives a vehement England appeal for a catch at short leg, stands his ground, with the tourists convinced that the umpire has erred, and marches on to a century. Still livid, the fielders refuse, pointedly, to applaud, then over-compensate, equally pointedly, when Barlow's partner, Tony Pithey, reaches 50. Mike Smith's side are castigated for

making their dissent so plain; one writer claims they descended "to a deplorable level". Smith duly apologises to Barlow, but the furore is merely warming up.

When England bat, Ken Barrington, on 44, nudges to short leg, on the bounce. Spinning around, the team joker makes as if to walk off, then returns, grinning. The crowd gets the joke. Shortly afterwards, Barrington edges to the keeper, Denis Lindsay. At first it looks as if he is about to walk, but he stays put. Again, the umpire was John Warner. "I knew I was out," Barrington would recall, "but then I remembered all the chat in the papers about leaving decisions to the umpires."

Apparently every bit as confused as Barrington, Warner doesn't flinch. For a few interminable seconds, time and picture freeze, whereupon Barrington walks. "I felt I just couldn't stay there," he later explained. "It was a matter of principle and sportsmanship." Cue applause from fielders and spectators alike, and a fusillade of criticism from journalists - many of them English - who felt Barrington had tarried too long. Unusually, outrage was caused because Barrington *did* walk.

The *Rand Daily Mail* wondered whether it was "an ostentatious act which bordered on gamesmanship" and urged Barrington to apologise to Warner for subjecting him to "ridicule and contempt". To the Fleet Street *Daily Mail*, the action "smacked of 'we chaps know how to play the game even if you lot don't'." Barrington apologised. "I can blame my hesitation only on my own indecision," he would reflect. "I got terribly involved in the rights and wrongs of walking."

**DON'T KID YOURSELF** that walking is one of those noble practices that only died out with the advent of global professionalism. WG Grace famously stayed put even when his timbers had been shivered. Between the world wars, claimed Gubby Allen, "few batsmen ever walked unless given out".

That period may have accounted for 90% of Wally Hammond's career, but as England's first post-war captain he made Bill Edrich feel so queasy about not walking in an Ashes Test that Edrich promptly surrendered his wicket. Come the 1960s, according to Mike Brearley, non-walkers were considered cheats. In his disarmingly robust diary, *Another Day, Another Match*, the Gloucestershire seamer Brian Brain confirmed as much: "When I started in county cricket [in 1959], the ones who didn't walk could be counted on the fingers of one hand and they'd be given a huge rocket from their captains if they stood their ground when they knew they were out... [In 1980] I didn't see one batsman walk." All three, though, were referring to county cricket. In Australia it has never been the done thing, the honourable thing, nor even a credible act - hence the disbelief and dressing-room disgruntlement that greeted Adam Gilchrist's [celebrated decision](#) to off himself in the 2003 World Cup semi-final.

Nor, for that matter, was walking admired unreservedly in the shires. After all, reasoned Sir Derek Birley in his seminal myth-frying book *The Willow Wand*, here was a decidedly dodgy, shamelessly class-based and erratically practised custom instigated by amateur captains, who "set their honour code above the authority of the humble umpires" (and Hammond, note, had to turn amateur to captain his country). Unconstrained by social hierarchies or convention, Australians felt no compunction to follow suit. "[It] can be assumed as more likely to take place when a batsman has just made a century than after he has made three successive ducks," theorised Birley with a certain slyness. "It has, in fact, a slightly unreal 'holier than thou' aura."

It was refreshing, therefore, to hear Nick Knight, the England opener-turned-affable Sky Sports pundit, admit on Sunday to having been "a convenient walker... a selective

walker". He walked if average/form permitted. The late Sir Colin Cowdrey was another "selective" walker. While remembered by many, quite properly, with admiration and fondness, bowlers deplored his wayward ethical compass.

Knight's confession came in the wake of Tendulkar's unprompted exit, which went conspicuously un-analysed by the Sky experts (and many others besides). Maybe they were being diplomatic. To question any batsman's motives in such circumstances would fling open a can of worms; to question those of the only active sporting icon with an unstained reputation could lever the lid off a bucket of cobras. The question, nevertheless, is too pressing, too relevant to the game's future, *not* to be asked.

Let's unpack the loaded context. The din in the MA Chidambaram Stadium was shrill and deafening; umpire Steve Davis would have been hard-pushed to hear any edge, let alone an inside tickle. Nor, even after multiple TV replays, was it clear that Ravi Rampaul's inducker had kissed Tendulkar's bat. Small wonder the appeal triggered a stately shake of the head from Davis, who looks more like the Buddha's younger, fitter brother with each passing match, and seems to have inherited the family wisdom.

One assumes Tendulkar knew he'd nicked it, but when the appeal was rejected he didn't go all Hamlet on us like Barrington; he was decisive, off in a flash. Yet what, one couldn't help but wonder, had sped through his mind during the interregnum separating shot and Davis' slo-mo shake? Was he mulling Ricky Ponting's extraordinary look of innocence after being adjudged caught-behind against Pakistan 24 hours earlier, a decision that my children's cat's grandmother could have made? Did Tendulkar feel Ponting should have walked? Does he believe the game's elders should be setting an example? Why not?

But might he also have been pondering the Decision Review System? Tendulkar has often expressed reservations about this latest contentious innovation (a major factor in the BCCI's distaste towards it, presumably); and now, lo and behold, the damned thing was in a position to put his image on the line. David Gower summed up one of the less-heralded by-products of the DRS with typical succinctness and delicacy after Michael Clarke walked during last November's Brisbane Ashes Test: "There's less incentive to stay." And after Clarke declined to walk in Adelaide, putting struggling team before ego and/or gallantry, he was palpably embarrassed and quick to tweet a public apology. Without the DRS, would he have been so remorseful?

The next question, to some, is the most damning: did Tendulkar act out of pragmatism rather than nobility? Did he weigh up the options? He must have known, had he stood his ground, that a review, even as early as the first over, would have been eminently likely. And what might that have unearthed? That ball had eluded edge? With no HotSpot on tap, why not? Or would it have showed that he, Sachin Tendulkar, the most pandemically respected sportsman of them all, an untouchable idol to billions, had tried, like that rogue Ponting, to get away with it?

This is not meant to decry Tendulkar; anything but. Since when is being human a sin? Like Barrington and Gilchrist, he waited for the umpire's ruling. Perhaps he and Gilchrist (if not Barrington) did so not to buy themselves time but out of respect for the adjudicator's sensitivities. None of this, though, should undermine the underlying message: if the DRS can make umpires look fallible, even incompetent, it can also make players look foolish at best, at worst dishonest. And if Tendulkar did act out of fear for what this brave new world might do to his reputation, we should not think any the

less of him. What we got was the right result, regardless of how it was arrived at. End fully justified means.

Soon after Ted Dexter was appointed chairman of the England selectors, in 1989, he claimed that the public, in addition to "heroic deeds", craved "chivalrous conduct". If this was a remarkable and fruitless thing to say then, such romanticism is even harder to come by now. All the same, is a PhD in naivety the only prerequisite for concluding that the DRS is awakening something much more desirable than chivalry - namely honesty?

Unfortunately there may be a sobering epilogue, and a deeply ironic one at that. Sunday's episode might persuade Tendulkar to harden his stance against the DRS, in which case, such is his sway, the game's strongest incentive for honesty could well die a premature death. Let's hope this was his Damascene moment.

Source: *Cricinfo Magazine* 24 March 2011. Rob Steen is a sportswriter and senior lecturer in sports journalism at the University of Brighton.

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## **WHAT GOES AROUND..... "COLLUSION IN 2008 SYDNEY TEST RACISM CASE"**

Daniel Brettig

Australia and India were culpable in collusion "contrary to the spirit of cricket" in the [2008 Sydney Test](#) "racism" incident, according to ICC appeals commissioner and New Zealand justice John Hansen, who heard the case at Adelaide's Federal Court building in January 2008. Hansen has been quoted by former ICC chief executive [Malcolm Speed](#) in his memoirs describing what he called "behind the scenes" discussions by the two boards in the incident that involved Australian allrounder [Andrew Symonds](#) and Indian offspinner [Harbhajan Singh](#).

Speed gives the affair his own legal-minded reading in *Sticky Wicket*, released in Australia this week, including private correspondence sent to him by Hansen in the aftermath.

Hansen went as far as to say that both boards contravened the spirit of the game, in eerie echo of Indian captain Anil Kumble's comments after the final day of the Sydney Test that started it all.

"Although both boards would deny it, BCCI and CA were having discussions behind the scenes to resolve matters," Hansen wrote. "Indeed, they presented me with an agreed statement of facts and a consent order that they expected me to rubber-stamp. In my view the consequences of such a course of action would have been disastrous for cricket.

"In any event, their actions undermined the independence of the Code of Conduct Commissioner, were unbecoming, and in my view, contrary to the spirit of cricket ... Given [that] the procedure arises from a voluntary code with input and agreement of all member associations, I consider the behaviour was improper ... having agreed to it, they ought to have confidence in it and respect it."

When contacted, a CA official said: "We are not about to trawl over old ground or make any further comment on the matter other than to say that CA did not at any stage agree to any lesser charge and, on the contrary, ensured that the agreed set of

facts was noted in order to ensure the judge could independently assess that matter in accordance with appropriate judicial procedures."

The BCCI said that the contents of Speed's books had no bearing on the board. "In any case he has been a critic of the Indian board in the past, too," an official said.

Harbhajan was found guilty of racist abuse of Symonds - now his Mumbai Indians team-mate in the IPL - during the Sydney Test and handed a three-Test ban by match referee Mike Procter. The charge was leveled by the on-field umpires, Steve Bucknor and Mark Benson, on a complaint from Ricky Ponting, Australia's captain that Harbhajan had called Symonds a monkey. Harbhajan's appeal was heard three weeks later by Hansen, who found the racism charge to be not proven. Harbhajan was instead charged with a Level 2.8 offence - abuse and insult not amounting to racism - to which he pleaded guilty and was fined 50 per cent of his match fees.

Reiterating his mortification that Harbhajan escaped a ban due to a colossal bungle by ICC legal counsel, who failed to lodge all the Indian spinner's past offences with Hansen, Speed nonetheless cites the meddling of CA and the BCCI as a highly unsavoury element of the saga.

"The process had been put in place precisely to manage the conduct of players and officials but the Australia and India Boards seemed happy enough to try to ignore it when it suited their ends," Speed wrote.

"Cricket Australia had faced a difficult decision. A major plank of their business was at risk. India exerted enormous pressure. CA sought a solution that would preserve their relationship with India and ultimately achieved it, protecting the ongoing tour as well.

"Hansen's rebuke also hits hard at the BCCI. It was a graphic example of the power of India over the modern game and the willingness of its administrators to use their financial muscle when national pride is at stake."

Speed also insists that the decision to remove Bucknor from umpiring duties for the remainder of the series, following his poor match in Sydney, had been made independently of any Indian pressure.

"Much has since been written about this decision, and the general consensus is that I reacted to pressure from India to remove Bucknor. To that I can say one word: No," he wrote.

"My rationale was simple pragmatism. In the days after the Test, I received one call from India, from former BCCI president Inderjit Singh Bindra, who asked me to stand down Bucknor in the interests of the game and relations between the two countries and the ICC.

"It was quite a short discussion and a very well-reasoned argument. There were no threats, no histrionics, no drama and no pressure. I assured Bindra that I would think about it. I then spoke to James Sutherland and asked for CA's view. He advised that CA did not have a view either way: if I thought it was necessary to stand him down, they could live with that. Conversely, if he umpired in Perth, they would raise no objection.

"If Benson had been scheduled to umpire in Perth, he would have been stood down too."

In Speed's eyes, the whole episode might have played out differently had Procter, the match referee, pursued a harder line when he had the chance during the first Test of

the series in Melbourne, when Yuvraj Singh was [charged with dissent](#) after lingering at the crease.

"I was at that match and was shocked by Procter's finding," Speed wrote. "I met him in Melbourne and pointed out the provisions of the Code, specifically drafted by (ICC general manager David) Richardson to aid referees that stated it was an offence to hang around after being dismissed, whether as a show of dissent or disappointment. Procter had forgotten about this part of the Code.

"This incident had been a chance to draw a line in the sand in the first match of what was almost certain to be a tense series, and to show the players of both sides that dissent would not be tolerated.

"The chance had been missed, the line of what was acceptable and what was not had been blurred, and with high stakes on offer, as is inevitable in a series between two leading and well-matched sides, it was hardly what was needed at that point in time."

Source: Cricinfo, Australia/News, 7 April 2011. Daniel Brettig is an assistant editor at ESPNcricinfo

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## **MISCHIEF OF FINALS MONTH**

### **1. Rolling Law 10**

Attentive readers will have noted that the March edition of *The Finger* included the annual exhortation for umpires to apply Law 10, regarding maintenance of the playing area and - particularly – the rolling of the pitch before commencement of days two and three of semi-finals and finals matches.

Stuart Grocock and Andy Turner were deeply contented, not to say somewhat self-satisfied, with their application of this Law as they gazed over Freebody 1 at about 1035 on the second day of play in the second grade semi-final between Queanbeyan and Tuggeranong: the pitch was being rolled (by Queanbeyan's Marty Frost) at an appropriate time and in accordance with the wishes of the batting captain (Tuggeranong). The umpires watched on contentedly as both teams completed their before-play warm ups.

Pride (and complacency) precedes a fall. Daydreams turned to nightmares as a practicing Tuggeranong batsman drove a ball on to the pitch table with just the right timing for the heavy roller to bury the ball in the match pitch.

Needless to say, there was a sizable indentation in the pitch following the extrication of the ball. The only good news was that the indentation was well outside the line of a right hander's off stump and well short of 'a good length', though this didn't remove all of the concern of the players, and especially Queanbeyan captain, Peter Colborne, whose side looked like they would be chasing (and did have to chase) well over 200 runs.

After much anxious consultation, including a telephone conversation between umpires and Queanbeyan's groundsman (who was preparing to play in a fourth

grade semi-final) a 'remedy'<sup>4</sup> was agreed and play commenced about twenty minutes late (with that 'lost time' added to the final session of the day's play).

Cricket being the game it is, it should go without saying that not a single delivery pitched *anywhere* near the 'damage' during the remaining four sessions of play!

Be wary of Law 10 in finals matches: if it doesn't get the umpires one way, it will get them another!

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## 2. Eccentric Records

Even more attentive readers may recall some discussion of cricket's preoccupation with ever more eccentric records, such as partnerships between unrelated batsmen sharing a birthday, in the January edition of *The Finger*. Our own finals may have trumped January's overseas examples.

Andy Turner did not stand in the finals series in 2009-10, following appointment with Bill Ruse to the first grade grand final of 2008-09, in which Weston Creek defeated Wests/UC. He stood with Shannon Bushell in this season's fourth grade grand final between Norths and Queanbeyan.

Some may recall that Wests' (now South Australia's) Nathan Lyon played much of the 2008-09 grand final with a hand in plaster, having severely split the webbing of his left hand when dropping a catch off Creek's Cade Brown. Norths' Stephen Moore (an active Sunday umpire for the Council in 2009-10) also split the webbing of his left hand when dropping a catch in this season's fourth grade grand final.

*Hence, two successive grand finals involving Andy Turner have seen the captain of the fielding side taken to hospital during the second session of the first day's play to have stitches in split webbing of the left hand, incurred when dropping a catch at mid wicket from a left handed batsman.*

Surely an enduring record: let's see someone get a hat trick of those! (Captains might reconsider fielding at mid wicket when AT is umpiring.)

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## ANNUAL MEETING: NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION AS OFFICE HOLDER

And now some looking forward. The Council's Annual Meeting is scheduled to commence at 6 pm on Monday 18 July 2011 at the Canberra Services Club, Manuka. As usual, an important function of the Meeting is to elect the Council's office holders. The Executive offices of Deputy Chair and Secretary are elected for two year terms; all other offices to be elected in 2011 are subject to annual elections<sup>5</sup>. A full list of the Council's current office holders is available at:

[http://www.actumpires.com/Office\\_holders\\_2010-2011\\_A.pdf](http://www.actumpires.com/Office_holders_2010-2011_A.pdf).

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<sup>4</sup> Filling the indentation with damp pug which was then covered with grass clippings; stamping the surface as flat and hard as possible with a hammer and feet but avoiding rolling, which may well have 'lifted' the damp pug; and agreeing that any ball that landed near the 'fill' would be called 'no ball' by either umpire.

<sup>5</sup> The Council's web master is an appointed, rather than elected, role.

The offices to be elected are listed below. Information about what is entailed in each role can be obtained from the current office holder, the Secretary, and/or reference to the Council Standing Minutes (although these are currently being reviewed and the Executive is considering the scope of at least some offices in light of priorities in the Council's work program): [http://www.actumpires.com/Standing\\_Minutes.html](http://www.actumpires.com/Standing_Minutes.html).

Maintaining a skilled and enthusiastic set of office holders is as essential to the overall performance of the Council as are the skills and commitment of its individual members. All members are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the roles of each office and to consider carefully which members are best qualified to fill these roles.

Members are encouraged to nominate for any vacant office(s) and/or to nominate any member they believe qualified for an office. Completed copies of the nomination form at page 15 should be returned to the Secretary at, or before, the Annual Meeting. Please note the requirement to demonstrate the agreement of the nominee to each nomination on the relevant form.

**NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION OF OFFICE HOLDERS AT COUNCIL 2011 ANNUAL MEETING**

<b>Office</b>	<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Nominated by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>
<b>Deputy Chairman</b>			
<b>Secretary</b>			
<b>Scorers' Rep</b>			
<b>High Performance Manager<sup>6</sup></b>			
<b>Recruitment &amp; Training Manager</b>			
<b>Members, Recruitment &amp; Training Panel (2)</b>			
<b>Appointments Manager</b>			
<b>Umpires Observer<sup>7</sup></b>			
<b>Member, Appointments Panel</b>			
<b>Expenses Officer</b>			
<b>General Liaison</b>			

<sup>6</sup> Also ex officio member of Appointments Panel. Para 32F of the ACTCA Constitution states: *The Board, in consultation with Cricket Australia and the Umpires and Scorers Council Executive, shall appoint annually a High Performance Manager. Until otherwise determined by the Board, the High Performance Manager shall be the Board's representative on the Umpires and Scorers Council Executive under sub-clause 32A(2)(a)(vi).* The Constitution is currently under review.

<sup>7</sup> Also ex officio member of Appointments Panel.

<b>Officer</b>			
<b>Equipment Officer</b>			
<b>Records Officer</b>			



## ACTCAU&SC

### Nomination Form for Election to a Council Office

#### A. Names

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ (name of nominator)  
**nominate** \_\_\_\_\_ (name of candidate)  
for the **position** of \_\_\_\_\_ (position title)

2. I \_\_\_\_\_ (name of seconder)  
**second** the nomination.

3. I \_\_\_\_\_ (name of candidate)  
**accept** the nomination.

#### B. Signatures

1. Signature of Person **nominating** \_\_\_\_\_

2. Signature of person **seconding** \_\_\_\_\_

3. Signature of person **nominated** \_\_\_\_\_

Date:     /     /201