

**ITEM                    MAYORAL MINUTE: CONGRATULATIONS TO BRIARS  
CRICKET CLUB AND SYDNEY CRICKET CLUB**

**Department        Executive Services**

**Author Initials: AT**

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**REPORT**

Our local sporting clubs are the lifeblood of our community. They not only provide the ability for residents young and old to stay fit these clubs sometimes bring moments of joy and heartbreak that bind teammates, families and supporters together for many years to come.

I am thrilled to be able to bring to Council’s attention the recent success of two historic local sporting clubs, the Sydney Cricket Club and Briars Cricket Club.

Since 1946-47 the Sydney Cricket Club first grade side has called Drummoyne Oval home, known as the Balmain District Club until 2007/08 when the club joined with The Sydney Cricket Ground Trust as a partnership to form the Sydney Cricket Club. Over this storied history the club had only claimed four first grade premierships and had not claimed a title since the formation of the Sydney Cricket Club.

Council will be delighted to learn that over the Easter weekend at a picturesque Drummoyne Oval, the Tigers finally claimed the Club’s maiden first class title, defeating Manly-Warringah thanks to a century from Beau McClintock and a dominant performance from the bowling lineup. The club required only two of the three days to win the grand final match up – leaving plenty of time to spare for celebrations.

The Sydney Cricket Club women’s teams also had reason to celebrate – claiming the Club Championship for 2020-21.

For Briars Cricket Club, the match was a much closer affair. The mighty Briars wrapped up a remarkable season with a heart-stopping win over Epping in the 1st grade Sydney Shires Grand Final at North Sydney Oval.

Chasing 138 in the first innings, Briars were teetering at 9-125 until the final batsmen Jack Kovacic and man of the match Sam Tregear bravely knocked off the 14 runs required. Epping batted again and made 142 but the Briars cruised home in the second innings making 1-139 to wrap up a 17th first grade premiership for the Club in its 103-year history.

In addition to their thrilling first grade win, Briars claimed a record-breaking ninth consecutive Club Championship.

In a COVID-affected season these historic victories would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of administrators and club volunteers so, alongside the triumphant players, Council wishes to congratulate all involved with both clubs for bringing these titles home to the City of Canada Bay.

To celebrate these victories, Council has invited players and club representatives to a Civic Reception at Drummoyne Oval’s Greg Davis Stand.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

The event is expected to cost \$5,000. Funding for this civic reception will be met within Council's civic events budget.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

1. THAT Council congratulate Briars Cricket Club and Sydney Cricket Club on their first grade premierships.