

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

### **To the members of Northern Cricket Union of Ireland**

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 March 2024.

#### **Legal and Administrative Information**

Legal and administrative information, including a list of the directors who served during the period covered, are shown on page 2.

#### **Officers**

<b>President</b>	Mr B Walsh
<b>Vice President</b>	Mr B J Milford
<b>Chairperson</b>	Mr P J E McMorran (retired 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2023) Mr M R Humphreys (appointed 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2023)
<b>Vice-Chairperson</b>	Mr M R Humphreys (retired 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2023) Mr A J Cowden (appointed 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2023)
<b>Chief Executive</b>	Mr P Grimes

#### **Structure, Governance and Management**

The Northern Cricket Union of Ireland is a charitable company limited by guarantee, directed by a board comprising the Trustees.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

The charity's objective is to promote and improve cricket generally in the North of Ireland among males and females, able-bodied and disabled, through:

- Promoting the playing of cricket and supporting the development of cricket clubs; and
- Running men's, women's, boys' and girls' league and cup competitions for clubs and schools; and
- Organising interprovincial teams in a range of age-groups and providing coaching and fitness training for the associated regional development squads.

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

To the members of Northern Cricket Union of Ireland (CONTINUED)

### ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The 2023 representative season was marked by the achievement of the Senior Men's Northern Knights team who won the double of both the Rario IP50 and T20 interprovincial competitions. Congratulations go to the entire squad, ably led by Mark Adair and Neil Rock and coached by Simon Johnston.

The Dragons team in the Super Series, which featured nine women players from the NCU, finished as runners-up in the Interprovincial competition.

Mark Adair was selected for the ICC Men's T20I Team of the Year for 2023 and became the second fastest bowler in history to take 100 wickets in this format. Amy Hunter became the first Irish woman to score centuries in both T20I and ODI cricket whilst Matthew Humphreys made his international debut in all three formats.

Domestically, Instonians won the Premier League whilst Waringstown won both the Gallagher Men's Challenge Cup and the LVS T20 Cup. The highlight of the Challenge Cup final was a magnificent 150 from Morgan Topping. Remarkably, Morgan also made a century in the Bob Kerr Irish Senior Cup final, albeit in a losing cause.

CSNI continued to dominate the women's game, winning both the Premier League and the Gallagher Women's Challenge Cup. The rapid development of the women's and girls' game in the NCU was illustrated by the feat of Lisburn, winning All Ireland titles at both under 13 and under 17 level.

The Union wishes to acknowledge with thanks the support we received from all the Clubs who make their grounds available to host Cup Finals, representative matches, international games and practice sessions. Without their support the NCU and Cricket Ireland could not fulfil an ever-expanding fixture list.

The NCU continues to implement its Strategy for the 2021-2023 period. This year saw the ongoing roll out of NV Play and Gameday with live match scoring, live streaming of matches, automation of match results and the on-line registration of players. Participation levels have increased, with new clubs and new teams throughout the Union area. Success has been achieved at representative level, reflected in international player recognition. The Club Forums have afforded a vehicle to players, club members and volunteers to assist the Board and staff in identifying priorities and in shaping the game's future.

This past year has seen us welcome Ian Butler (Talent Pathway Lead), Craig Irvine (Clubs and Schools Development Officer), Ruhan Pretorius (Cricket Connects Officer) and Carson McCullough (Community Cricket Coach) onto our staff and we thank them all for their contribution to our business since their arrival.

We would like to thank the directors who have retired in the last year, Kailash Chada, Richard Johnson, both of whom have brought their considerable financial skills to the Board over the last number of years. Our gratitude also goes to our outgoing chair, Peter McMorran, who represented the Union with calmness, good judgement and charm throughout his time in office. We welcome Dorinnia Carville, Darshan Kumar and Neil Parker to the Board and thank them for their commitment to the good governance of the game in this region.

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

To the members of Northern Cricket Union of Ireland (CONTINUED)

### FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for the period ended 31 March 2024 are provided in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 7 of the financial statements. A summary of the assets and liabilities as at 31 March 2024 are provided in the Balance Sheet on pages 8 and 9. The financial statements should be read in conjunction with their related notes, which appear on pages 10 to 21.

The results for the year reflect a total deficit of £984. The Total Funds being carried forward is £73,416.

The Trustees have reviewed the activities of the Northern Cricket Union and believe that the Union has sufficient resources to allow it to continue to operate and have therefore prepared the accounts on a going concern basis and deem this appropriate. In making this assessment, the Trustees have considered the likely trading conditions for a period of 12 months from the date of our approval of these accounts.

### PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The Board plans to identify new income streams through commercial partnerships in order to further the Union's strategic objectives.

The next year will also see the implementation of a new strategy for the game in Ireland. Developed collaboratively by Cricket Ireland and the Unions, this strategy will shape our game for the 2024-2027 period. In the operational delivery of this strategy, the Northern Cricket Union will seek to continue its evolution and provide support to our member clubs as we continue to grow the game.



**Michael Humphreys**  
Chairperson



**Andrew Cowden**  
Vice Chairperson

**Date: 3 October 2024**