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Foundation - 1873

The story of the Colombo Colts Cricket Club (Colts C.C.) traces back to humble beginnings on August 26, 1873, with an inaugural meeting held in the small schoolroom of Mr. J.C. Jansz in Third Cross Street, Pettah. This iconic meeting brought together a group of passionate, young Burgher cricketers in Pettah, what was then a residential quarter of Colombo, now transformed into a bustling business district.

In a memorable speech during a Colombo Colts C.C. dinner in 1909, Mr. Horace de Kretser, a founding member, recalled this inaugural meeting that led to the establishment of a cricket club called the Juvenile C.C. The initial inspiration and leadership for forming the club came from twin brothers, Wilfred and Justin de Zilwa, with a mission to unite several smaller cricketing groups around Pettah and Small Pass into a single, cohesive club. These early enthusiasts founded what would become an iconic institution in Sri Lankan cricket history.

Among the original members of the Club inaugurated in 1873 were the brothers Charles, Edward, Horace and Edgar de Kretser, Wilfred and Justin de Zilwa, Harry Dabrera, Oliver Raffel, Gerald van Houten, A. B. Claessen, Vincent Vandort, F. J. Lemphers, Edward Ohlmüs, J. H. Franciscus and Walter and Reggie Garvin. Horace de Kretser was elected the first honorary secretary, while Wilfred van Twest assumed the role of club president.

At first, the new club adopted the name "Marylebone Cricket Club" in homage to the revered English club. However, this name had to be altered. As the story goes, in needing materials for the Club, a subscription paper was taken around the Fort offices by Wilfred van Twest. One of the earliest to be shown in this paper was the late Me. is ErM. Brown, carluder of the well-known Colombo firm at Lewes Brown & Co., Ltd. The veteran Englishman was quite irate upon discovering that Burgher youths had taken the name of England's most esteemed cricket club. He turned Wilfred van Twest out of his room with the remark that he would be pleased to give his Club financial help when they changed their name.

Taking Brown's feedback to heart, the members reconvened and chose the name "Colombo Colts Cricket Club" (Colts C.C.), drawing inspiration from the English term "colts" for young, aspiring players. Thus, the renowned Ceylonese cricket club was born, soon rising to challenge the cricketing dominance of the English in Ceylon.

The Colts found their early headquarters at the Racquet Court, which soon became a training ground for many of the island's budding cricket talents.

The first true rivals of the Colts C. C. were the Colombo Cricket Club (C.C.C.), Galle Cricket Club, and Kandy Oddfellows, one of whom was R. Horan, father of the renowned C. Horan of the Nondescripts. Early matches took place at iconic venues such as the Racquet Court and Gordon Gardens. While the Colts initially relied on their own resources and local fields, their strength lay in the players' raw talent and dedication. Notably, players like "Edo" Ohlmüs, whose powerful batting cleared treetops, and Charlie de Kretser, a feared underarm bowler, emerged as early standouts, inspiring a generation of cricketers.

Evolution and Reorganisation

By 1885, younger and more famous cricketers began replacing the older members of the Colts Club. Regular matches were held against teams like the Railway C.C. and the Fort Club, whose lineup included the notable player Louis Siedle. Games were held at the Racquet Court or the Gordon Gardens, where the first Royal vs. St. Thomas' match took place. The Racquet Court hosted two main clubs—Colts Club and Victoria C.C., the latter primarily composed of younger players who later joined the Colts as valuable recruits.

The Colts' expansion encountered obstacles as cricketing interests spread in Colombo, causing divisions within the cricketing community. A new rival club emerged, composed mainly of members who had for some reason or other become dissatisfied with the Colts Club. With three teams now competing for the same player base, each club struggled to sustain membership. To preserve the spirit of the sport, a historic meeting was called by prominent Burgher cricketers in 1886, leading to the unification of the three clubs under the name Colombo Colts Cricket Club.

The reorganisation of the Colts C. C. took place in July 1886. Key figures like Edwin and Walter van Geyzel, Colvin Kelaart, and Bonny and Freddy Thomasz were instrumental in bringing stability.

The first President of the re-organised Colombo Colts C. C. was the late Dr. T. F. Garvin, who was succeeded by the Hon. Mr. C. L. Ferdinands, who in turn was succeeded by Mr. F. Dornhorst, K.C. Mr. Wilfred van Twest had been the first President and Captain of the Club prior to 1880, and Mr. Horace de Kretser its Secretary; but when the Club was re-organised Colvin Kelaart was elected Captain, and after him came the late Ossie van Hoff and Dr. E. H. Ohlmüs. Once again Colvin Kelaart succeeded to the captaincy, which he held till 1896, when he was succeeded by the late Dr. Colvin van Geyzel, who was followed in turn by W. de Fransz and Dr. A. Raftel.

1886 - 1910

In 1886, after the re-organisation of the Colts, the C. C. C. were met and beaten, the hero of the side being Paddy Thomasz, who scored 57. The Club had an unbeaten record in 1886 and 1887. Among the Clubs defeated by the Colts in that period were the Dimbula C. C., the Dikoya C. C., the Colombo Club, the Kandapola C. C., which included P. F. Hadow, and other leading Clubs, including the Garrison.

In June 1887, the first European-Ceylonese match was played on Galle Face, and is referred to as the "Jubilee Match". E. H. Joseph and C. Wilkins, who in later years played for the N. C. C. against the Colts, were in 1887 members of the Colts eleven; and took part in the Jubilee Match. The members of the Colts team were presented with blazers (red and black) by the late S. T. Muttiah, as an old newspaper account has recorded the fact.

The year 1888 opened most successfully for the Colts, who defeated the Nuwara Eliya C. C. and A. B. C. D. and the Kelani Valley C. C. The Europeans, led by George Vanderspar, were beaten by 5 wickets. C. Kelaart clean bowled 10 batsmen in this game, and was the hero of his side. O. van Hoff behind the wickets and Michael Thomasz at the point were remarkable fieldsmen. These two, in the opinion of older cricketers, have never been surpassed by any Colts of later years. The strong point of the Colts at that time, and also in the next ten years, was their bowling and superlative fielding.

In 1888 the Colts were beaten for the first time by an Upcountry XI. The Colts' defeat was mainly due to the inability of C. Kelaart, their best bowler, to come off owing to a nasty accident he met with before the match.

In 1889 Tommy Kelaart made his debut for the Colts, and began a series of triumphs that culminated twenty-five years later. He was the most successful bowler the Club has ever had, and his record is in many ways a unique one, E. Christoffelsi, the fast bowler from Kalutara, was another valuable asset of the Colts in the years 1889 to 1893.

In 1890 the Colts were beaten for the first time by the C. C. C., and also by the A. B. C. D., the latter winning by only a single run. In the return games that year the Colts had their revenge by defeating both these Clubs with an innings to spare in each case.

The first century for the Colts was scored in that year by Percy Weinman, a tremendously hard hitter, who scored 102 against the Garrison. Another great hitter of that period was Banda Kelaart, who put up 143 runs for the 4th wicket with Weinman.

In 1891, Dr. Allan Raffel joined the Colts and made a great debut by helping T. Kelaart to dismiss the powerful C. C. C. team in the 2nd innings in half an hour for only 31 runs. The match was a remarkable one. The Colts closed their innings at 5 o'clock, and left the C. C. C.

185 to get a win in an hour. But the whole side collapsed for 31, twenty minutes before call of time. The C. C. C. team included M. H. Paine (Oxford), P. F. Hadow (Middle-sex and Harrow), Capt. Block, R. Gatehouse, F. Stephens, George Vanderspar, Col. Churchill and Col. Skinner. Raffel took " wickets for 24, and T. Kelaart & for 7. The first ball Raffel sent down to M. H. Paine was hit for 6. The next—a magnificent break-back-clean bowled the old Oxonian.

Of the fourteen defeats sustained by the Colts between 1886 and 1900 only seven were in first-class games.

The following teams had the honour of beating representative Colts Elevens:

- The Dikoya and Dimbula XI. at Radella in 1888 by an innings and 8 runs; the C. C. C. in 1890 by 27 runs; the A. B. C. D. in 1890 by 2 runs; Lord Hawke's XI. in 1892 by 120 runs
- The St. Patrick's C. C. in 1895 by 57 runs; S. M. Burrow's XI. in 1899 by 36 runs; and the Combined Colleges in 1900 by 37 runs. This is a wonderful record indeed, for in 157 matches played the full strength of the Colts was defeated only on seven occasions, and in most cases in closely contested games.
- The only really decisive victory gained over the Colts was by Lord Hawke's team, which included Sir F. Stanley Jackson (England's test match Captain of later years) and several first-class English County players like C. W. Wright, Heseltine and A. J. L. Hill.

When one learns that between the years 1888 and 1902 the Colts represented the Ceylonese ten in test matches against the strongest European teams and lost only one match, the strength of the Colts C. C. in the period is most emphatic. In the only defeat sustained in local test cricket, the Colts were beaten at Nuwara Eliya in bitterly cold weather early in January by a narrow margin of 36 runs.

In later years the honour of representing the Ceylonese against the Europeans was shared by the Colts and other leading Clubs, and in the course of time, other teams challenged successfully the supremacy of the one-time premier Club.

In 1898 the Colts celebrated their Silver Jubilee with a grand tamasha at the Public Hall, which later became known as the Empire Theatre. On that auspicious occasion, the Club was honoured by the presence of H. E. the Governor Sir West Ridgeway and Lady Ridgeway. Sir West Ridgeway, like other Governors after him, was a warm admirer of the old Club, and he proposed the toast of the Colts Club on that occasion.

25th Anniversary Celebrations - 1898

On Thursday, the 23rd of August, 1898, at the Public Hall (later known as Empire Theatre), the Colts C. C. celebrated their 25th Anniversary by a well-attended "At Home", at which were present Their Excellencies Sir West and Lady Ridgeway. The report of the function says :- "Their Excellencies, accompanied by Capt. Charles Ward Jackson, were received at the entrance by Dr. C. T. van Geysel and Mr. W. de Fransz. Lady Ridgeway was received by Mrs. Dornhorst, wife of the President of the Club, and Mrs. Hector van Cuylenberg, wife of the President of the Bloomfield Club. The company included several Government officials and representatives of the various rival Clubs. The illuminations at night were on a splendid scale. The whole of the gardens was a fairy scene in miniature. There was a promenade concert, in which the following took part:- Miss H. Gratiaen (now Mrs. S. C. Sansoni), Miss Keith, Mr. Sam Cave, Mr. B. Dornhorst (jr.), Mrs. G. A. Joseph, Capt. Ward Jackson, Mr. A. C. Solomonsz, Miss Beling (afterwards Mrs. C. T. van Geysel), Mr. C. M. Fernando, Miss B. Marshall (now Mrs. T. K. Carron), Mr. Frank Modder, Mrs. H. G. Thomasz, Mrs. Herman Loos and Mr. M. Gerryn.

"Capt. Ward Jackson sang a parody on Soldiers of the Queen, with appropriate allusions to the doings of the Colts. After the concert and the departure of Their Excellencies there was dancing till 9 o'clock, when the function came to a close."

The following extract is from the "Ceylon Examiner" of August 24th, 1898:-

"The popularity of the Colts C. C. was proved yesterday by the large and distinguished gathering present. It is no exaggeration to say that the Colts Club, besides being the Premier Club of the Island, is the most popular Club, and deservedly so. The manner in which the event was celebrated was very fitting and reflects the highest credit on the managing committee and the others who in any way helped to make the celebration the success. It was. The 'Colts' is a household word in the Island, and their 25th Anniversary will, we are sure, not easily be forgotten by the public.

Besides the cups presented to the club by the Bloomfield C.C. and the Nondescripts Club several cheques have been presented. One cheque for Rs. 224 was received from Mrs. H. C. Thomasz, subscribed for by the Ceylonese ladies of Colombo: another for Rs. 80 from the Railway officers, another from Dr. H. G. Thomasz for Rs. 260, subscribed by the people of Matara, Jaffna, Hatton, Kalutara, Anuradhapura, Panadure, Avisavella and Nuwara Eliya, and Doctors E. Roberts, O. Wright and Messrs. Justin Weinman and W. C. Dias. Telegrams conveying congratulations were received from Galle, Kurunegala, Kandy, Kegalle, Pt. Pedro, Gampola, Matara, Jaffna and Kalutara."

1900s

In its early days, and up to 1900, the ambition of the best young Ceylonese cricketers was to play for the Colts. Till 1898 the Colts team was composed entirely of Burgher cricketers, but in that year the greatest Sinhalese and Ceylonese right-hand batsman, C. E. Perera, then a schoolboy at Wesley, was drafted into the ranks of the Colts, and he celebrated his debut by scoring 71 not out a new record against the powerful European XI. got together by Capt. Charles Ward Jackson, A. D. C. to the Governor Sir West Ridgeway. Later other Sinhalese cricketers of eminence, like E. Weerasuriya, Andrew de Silva, Frank L. Goonewardena, W. C. Botejue, C. A. Perera and S. de Silva, and the greatest Malay cricketer of all time, A. C. Amath, became members of the Colts, and won distinction for themselves and the old Club.

The Colts were never more powerful as a team than they were between the years 1896 and 1910. In that period there flourished such great cricketers as Dr. Allan Raffel, Tommy Kelaart, Dr. E. H. Ohlmüs, E. Weinman, J. C. McHeyzer, W. de Fransz, Lawrie Thomasz, Claude Orr, C. E. Perera, Dr. J. A. Scharenguivel, the brothers S. P., E. A. and D. Joseph, W. de Rozayro, Alfred Holsinger, J. Ludovici, A. T. Pollocks, E. Weera-suriya, A. C. Amath, V. s. de Kretser, W. C. Botejue and Andrew de Silva. No Ceylon cricket club, past and present, ever put into the field so formidable an eleven as the one that defeated Capt. Ward Jackson's European team.

1910 - 1927

The Colts Club has had its vicissitudes like all great clubs. It has had its great times, and since 1918 occasional lean times; but after an existence of nearly seven decades the old Club is still going strong, and only last year inflicted a defeat on the Sinhalese S. C., the Club Champion of the past two years.

In 1923 the Colts attained their Golden Jubilee, and this occasion was also worthily celebrated in their new home at Havelock Park, where the guest of honour was Sir William Manning, Governor of Ceylon. One of the events commemorating that historic occasion was a cricket match between a team of Colts vétérans and a team of the veterans of other clubs, including well-known old players like Col. T. Y. Wright, Col. E. H. Joseph, E. B. Elliott, H. H. Heinemann, O. G. de Alwis, Dr. Gerald de Saram, Fred van Rooyen, J. C. Weinman, O. S. Wickwar and G. B. Gunasekera.

Many of the twenty-two who figured in that Jubilee match have since passed away, namely, J. C. Weinman, Paddy and Michael Thomasz, Colvin Kelaart, D. B. Gunasekera, Dr. S. P. Joseph and Cyril Foenander, also Sir William Manning, who was the central figure in a group photograph taken on August 23, 1923. The two umpires, Dr. Garvin Mack and A. C. Solomonszy have also passed away.

A new generation of Colts has sprung up, and it is well for them to ponder over the achievements of their predecessors who made the Club so highly respected both in Ceylon and beyond its shores.

It was mentioned early in this chapter that the Racquet Court in the Pettah was the cradle of the Colts C. C. and of Ceylonese cricket. Where once was the famous Racquet Court (the playground of the youth of the Pettah, San Sebastian and Wolvendaal) now stand the Chalmers' Granaries. Many of the older generations of Ceylon cricket lovers can still visualize the Racquet Court of the eighties and nineties when the Lotus Pond was a boundary on the western side, along which ran the railway lines that so many big hitters loved to clear with their strokes for six. The wicket itself was a natural turf one of a kind that would not be appreciated by the present generation of batsmen, who are so used to perfect pitches. A score of twenty-five was worth more than some of the best half-centuries scored in the past quarter century, while a half-century was a very unusual achievement, and a century almost a phenomenal feat. Batsmen had to fight really hard to get their runs against bowlers who revelled on those wickets.

Cricket pavilions were then possessed only by the C. C. C. and the Sports Club, and the Colts pitched a tent on big occasions on the northern side of the ground, where later, in 1905, the Khan pavilion was erected.

In 1921 the Colts C. C. migrated to Havelock Town, having been given the lease of their present ground in Havelock Park. There they laid out and gradually improved their new ground, and a new pavilion was erected, thanks to the generosity of the Khan family.

Among the visitors to the Colts' pavilion since 1924 none have been more distinguished than the late Lord Hawke, former President of the M. C.C. and of Yorkshire, and Captain of England, and Cambridge, and Sir Francis Lacey, a former Secretary of the Marylebone C. C. Both these old cricketers had heard of the splendid record of the Colts. In fact, Lord Hawke recalled the days when his team had played against the Colts C. C. at the Barrack Square in 1892. After his return to England, Lord Hawke sent out a life-size portrait of himself to the writer of this history, with a request that it be suitably framed with a brass plate on it and presented with his compliments to the Colts Club. The portrait of that great old cricketer now adorns the walls of the pavilion.

Diamond Jubilee Celebration - 1933

In 1933 the Colts Club celebrated its Diamond Jubilee in a modest manner with a reunion of its members and a social.

GROUP PHOTO

60TH ANNIVERSARY 1933

Seated (L to R) - J. R. Murray, A. C. Amath, V. S. de Kretset, Dr. S. P. Joseph, Dr. Allan Rafeel, A. T. Pollocks, C. W. Van Geysel, S. P. Foenander, B. de Kretser.

Standing (1st Row): A. E. Assauw, A. M. Caldera, D. W. L. Lieversz, L. V. Jayaweera, E. H. Joseph, L. A. Joseph, S. Oorloff

Standing (2nd Row): H.L. Kretser, A. Meadows, W. Aiyadurai, G. L. Lieversz, P. A. Swan, F. Melder, D. V. L. de Silva

1927 - 1973

From its earliest beginnings, the Colts Cricket Club established itself not merely as a cricketing institution in Colombo, but as a proud contributor to the broader landscape of Ceylonese cricket. Between 1927 and 1973, the Club nurtured players who would go on to represent the island at various levels, from the Ceylon Cricket Association (CCA) and Board President's XIs to provincial teams, and even in the prestigious Gopalan Trophy encounters against Madras. Their participation in these matches symbolized not only the strength of the Colts, but also the Club's role in providing the backbone of talent that carried Ceylonese cricket into the international sphere.

The story of this period is not only about individuals taking the field in representative matches, but also about collective triumphs, most memorably in the Donovan Andree Tournament of the early 1970s. In these decades, Colts cemented their reputation as both a nursery of talent and a competitive force in domestic cricket.

Colts and the Ceylon Cricket Association (1927–1973)

The Ceylon Cricket Association (CCA), as the country's governing body, fielded representative teams against international and regional opposition. Colts Cricket Club played a vital role in supplying players for these sides. As early as 1948, W. Jayatilleke represented CCA in its first match against the touring Holkar Cricket Association. Later that same year, H.S. Orloff, another Colt, took the field against the same opposition. H.C. Aldons also proudly carried the Club's banner in this era.

By the 1960s, Colts were still strongly represented in the CCA teams. In 1961, the Club's versatile bowler A. Fuard was selected to play against the formidable "Mirror XI" from the West Indies, an occasion which gave local cricket invaluable exposure to international flair

and competitiveness. These selections reflected the consistency with which Colts cricketers had maintained their reputation as players of national caliber across decades.

1948	W. Jayatileke (in last match)	Vs Holkar C A.
1948	H. S. Orloff	C.C.A. Vs Holkar CA
	H. C. Aldons	
1961	A. Fuard	A. Fuard

Colts in Board President's Teams (1961–1972)

The Board President's XI fixtures, contested against visiting foreign sides, were important showcases for Ceylonese talent. Colts players featured prominently. N. Samarasekera was first called up in 1961 for a match against the State Bank of India, before turning out once more in 1967 against Hyderabad Blues. His reliability made him a regular presence in these representative sides.

A. Fuard, equally distinguished, represented the Board President's XI twice in 1968, first against the State Bank of India and then against Joe Lister's touring team. His bowling added strength to the Ceylonese attack. J. Robertson was later called up in 1970 to face the Combined Indian Union, while Samarasekera once again wore the Board's colors in 1972 against the Malaysian Cricket Association.

These inclusions show how frequently the Colts contributed to Ceylonese cricket at the highest available level, ensuring that their players were always part of the island's best elevens when testing themselves against international opponents.

1961	N. Samarasekera	Board President's XI Vs	State Bank of India
1967	N. Samarasekera	Board President's XI Vs	Hyderabad Blues
1968	A. Fuard	Board President's XI Vs	State Bank of India
1968	A. Fuard	Board President's XI Vs	Joe Lister's Team
1970	J. Robertson	Board President's XI Vs	Combined Indian Un.
1972	N. Samarasekera	Board President's XI Vs	Malaysian C A.

FOR BOARD PRESIDENT'S TEAMS

1949	O. W. Kern	for Ceylon XI Vs Pakistan.
	E. B. Nathanielsz	
1964	A. Fuard	for Board President's XI. Vs Pakistan
	W. de Rosaylo j	
1965	A. Fuard	for Board President's XI Vs M.C.C.
	D. W. L. Lieversz	

Note - Dr. Allen Raffel (Colts C.C.) Captained the Combined Colleges XVIII against Rev. Waddy's Team of New South Wales Cricketers in 1914.

Colts Against Touring International Teams

Even outside CCA and Board President's fixtures, Colts players frequently appeared for provincial and combined sides against international visitors.

The earliest instance dates back to 1892, when Dr. A. Raffel of Colts played for All-Colombo against Madras. By 1914, the Kelaart brothers, J. and T., joined S. de Silva and W. de Rosayro in representing the Ceylonese against Rev. E.F. Waddy's New South Wales cricketers in the Central Provinces. These early fixtures highlight the Club's longstanding role in inter-regional cricket.

Later, in 1969, N. Samarasekera represented Central Provinces against the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), a match of high prestige given MCC's role as the global custodian of the game. He would go on to represent Ceylon again in 1973, further extending the Colts' tradition of service in representative cricket.

Special note must also be made of Dr. Allen Raffel, one of the most influential early Colts. In 1914, he captained the Combined Colleges XVIII against Rev. Waddy's New South Wales side, demonstrating both leadership and cricketing ability.

1892	A. Raffel	for All Colombo Vs Madras.
	J. Kelaart	
	T. Kelaart	

1914	S. de Silva	for Ceylonese Vs Rev. E. F. Waddy's N.S.W. Cricketers for Central Provinces C A V
	W. de Rosaylo j	
1969	N. Samarasekera	for Central Provinces C A Vs. M.C.C.
1973	N. Samarasekera	

Colts in the Gopalan Trophy (1953–1973)

One of the pinnacles of representative cricket during this era was the Gopalan Trophy, contested annually between Ceylon and Madras. The fixture was eagerly anticipated, seen as a test of the island's progress in the sport. Colts contributed a steady stream of players to these teams.

B. Claessen played in 1954 and 1955, while G.P. Schoorman made his mark in 1955. P. Kelly featured in 1955 and again in 1960, alongside the versatile A. Fuard who represented Ceylon in 1957 and 1960. The 1960s saw further representation: D.P. de Silva in 1962, D.W.L. Lieversz in 1964, and N. Samarasekera on several occasions (1967, 1968, and 1972). By 1971, J. Robertson was the latest Colt to appear in the fixture.

Even when not in the playing eleven, Colts remained close to the Gopalan Trophy setup. For instance, D.P. de Silva toured Madras in 1960 and 1962 but did not take the field in the main matches. Nonetheless, his selection underlined the trust selectors placed in Colts players during this period.

B. Claessen	1954, 1955.
G. P. Schoorman	1955
P. Kelly	1955, 1960.
A. Fuard	1957, 1960,
N. Samarasekera	1967, 1968, 1972.
D. P. de Silva	1962
D. W. L. Lieversz (Unr)	1964
J. Robertson	1971

Colts in Dr. Rockwood's Ceylonese Teams (1926)

In the 1920s, Colts also contributed to Dr. John Rockwood's representative XIs. A.E. Schoorman and B. de Kretser both featured in matches against W.E. Lucas' Bombay teams in 1926. This was yet another example of how the Club's players were woven into the fabric of representative cricket well before Ceylon had official international status.

1926	A. E. Schoorman	for Dr. Rockwood's Ceylonese XI Vs W. E. Lucas' Bombay Team.
	B. de Kretser	
1926	B. de Kretser	for Dr. Rockwood's Ceylon XI Vs W. E. Lucas' Bombay Team.

THE DONOVAN ANDREE TOURNAMENT TRIUMPHS

The early 1970s saw Colts rise to unprecedented glory in domestic cricket. The Donovan Andree Tournament, one of the most prestigious competitions on the island, became the stage for the Club's most memorable achievements.

1971-72: First Major Tournament Victory

For the first time in the Colts Cricket Club's history, a major Board's tournament was won in the season 1971-1972, when the Club annexed the 'DONOVAN ANDREE trophy, skippered by Ranjit Samarasekera

The Colts triumph in that season was remarkable when one remembers, that they commenced the season in an inauspicious manner, losing to the Nondescripts Cricket Club in their opening game, and then rain held them to a no-decision in the next game against the Catamarans Sports Club. But they never looked back from the moment they trounced the then current Champions, Singhalese Sports Club. They were set the stupendous goal of obtaining outright victories in the remaining last four games, this they very nearly did.

One factor that could be attributed to the success of that side, was significantly the superb team work that prevailed throughout that season. The side responded to Ranjit's captaincy in no uncertain manner, giving him their unstinted support. The dedication, enthusiasm and efforts of all the players concerned was something rarely seen in Club Cricket these days.

Their season was not an easy one. During the middle of the season they lost the services of youngsters of the calibre of Beverley Paul and Lashman Doolwela, all-rounders Wendell and

Richard Kelaart, and also missed the services of the most prolific scorer Johnny Martin for as much as half the season.

Some of the games were very tough and the side had to call on all its resources to survive. Even the outright victories at the expense of the weaker teams never came easy. All this made the season all the more enjoyable, and brought out the best in every player.

Youth and experience blended beautifully in this team, with the youngsters doing the bulk of the scoring and the more experienced hands bagging the wickets.

The team's chief run-getters were, Lester Pereira, Johnny Martin, Eardley Lieversz, Richard Alles, Ranjit Samarasekera and Nalin Perera. The bowling was dominated by pacemen, Gary de Silva, Nalin Perera, Ranjit Samarasekera, Laxshamn Doolwela and spinners Neville Fernando, Tissa Jayaweera and R. Satchithanandan. Some excellent display of close-in fielding throughout the season was witnessed by Ranjit Samarasekera, Johnny Martin and Russell Rajaratnam.

This success was certainly a personal triumph for Ranjit Samarasekera. It was under his captaincy that the Colts were runners-up in the 'DAILY NEWS' trophy tournament of 1968-1969, that enabled the Colts to participate in the 'DONOVAN ANDREE' tournament.

1971 – 72: COLTS vs BLOOMFIELD

Three outright wins from four matches were required by the Colts in order to secure the Donovan Andree Trophy, a feat that was widely regarded as formidable. The upcoming fixtures were scheduled against BRC, Bloomfield, Kandy, and Catamarans. Optimism was felt regarding the chances of outright wins against BRC and Kandy, as both matches were to be played away on matting wickets. Greater caution was exercised concerning the games against Bloomfield and Catamarans, which were to be contested on Colts' home turf.

A strategy was devised prior to the commencement of the games. If the toss was won, the opponents would be sent in to bat first and efforts would be made to dismiss them cheaply in the first innings. Runs were to be accumulated rapidly before sending the opposition back in for a second innings, in order to create a strong chance of an outright victory. In cases where Colts were required to bat first, quick scoring was to be pursued, followed by an early declaration to ensure the bowlers would be in action by late evening.

In the first match against BRC, the plan was executed successfully and an outright victory was registered comfortably. After this win, two outright wins were now required from the remaining three matches.

During the match against Bloomfield, the toss was won and Bloomfield was asked to bat first. The opposition was soon reduced to a struggling position by effective on-the-spot seam bowling, delivered by the ever-determined Gary de Silva, supported by sharp and enthusiastic fielding. Bloomfield was dismissed for only 106 runs by the end of the first day, while Colts were in a strong position at 40 for one.

On the following day, a further 177 runs for five wickets were scored by Colts before a declaration was made at lunch, providing a lead of 71 runs. Contributions were made by every batsman, with young Johnny Martin top-scoring with a fluent 71, his square cuts particularly praised. The achievement of an outright victory was considered highly possible at that stage.

However, a remarkable recovery was staged by Bloomfield in their second innings, during which 196 runs for eight wickets were scored before a token declaration was made at 5.15 p.m. The opposition's resurgence was aided by occasional lapses in Colts' fielding, and the opportunity for an outright victory was therefore lost.

Chasing 126 runs in 35 minutes, approximately two overs, was recognized as an almost impossible task. Nonetheless, the Colts approached the challenge with fearless intent. Johnny Martin scored a rapid 48 in 32 minutes and was ably supported by captain Ranjit Samarasekera, who struck 24 runs in seven minutes.

By the final over, the score stood at 120 for eight, with a six required from the last ball to achieve victory. The batsman was unable to clear the ropes, and Colts were thus limited to a thrilling first-innings win.

Although the outright win had not been achieved, the performance was celebrated for its bravery and skill. The remaining two matches now required outright victories in order for the Colts to claim the title. The challenge was acknowledged as daunting, but if achieved, the Colts would be indisputably confirmed as champions.

1972–73: Centenary Champions

Cheers for the Colombo Colts Cricket Club century! And, what better way for the Club to celebrate its centenary year than to be 'DONOVAN ANDREE' Champions again.

It is truly a glimpse back to the triumphant era of the Club when it won a major tournament for the first time in recent years by annexing the 'DONOVAN ANDREE' Trophy in the 1971-1972 season led by Ranjit 'Menike' Samarasekera, and repeating their success the very next year - their hundredth in local cricket.

There could have been few predictions that excluded the Colts from retaining the title but the looming presence of the Galle Cricket Club made the championship a very tense two horse race. And for the Colts it was a closely run thing indeed.

However, the Club's victory, by whatever slender margin, was very well deserved in view of the way the cricketers rallied after the Club had suffered two setbacks early in the tournament. In only their second game the Colts conceded full points to Galle Cricket Club and in the very next game went down on the first innings to Nomads Cricket Club. This meant that they had to win all their remaining matches to still be in the running for the title. They did so, and in what a vivid manner.

It was refreshing to see the fighting spirit of a side which never really had a brilliant batsman or bowler to fall upon; just steady performances. But in all other facets of the game they were admirably equipped. The classic factors governing their success was outstanding teamwork and the ability to bounce back from a hopeless retreat to that of a victory march.

This resilience was clearly evident in the game against the Catamarans Sports Club. After being 48 runs in arrears on the first innings the Colts cricketers staged a superb revival to dismiss their opponents for 72 runs and then knock off the required runs to claim an outright victory.

At this stage the race was neck and neck with the Colts still needing to clear their stiffest hurdle in their penultimate encounter. It was in this game, against the Singhalese Sports Club, that the Club's batting department really showed it's strength.

Chasing a fairly awkward target of 261 runs, the side started wretchedly being three wickets down for only 35 runs. Then a stepping stone to victory was built in the shape of a valiant stand of 107 runs between SHANTI JAYAWEERA and BEVERLEY PAUL. This heroic partnership was followed by some inspired middle-order batting which helped the Club topple their formidable opponents.

The credit for the Club's success is well distributed.

Skipper TISSA JAYAWEERA'S contribution was large and he ended up as the most outstanding allrounder scoring three half-centuries in his aggregate of 334 runs and collecting 31 wickets.

Stroke-makers, SHANTI JAYAWEERA and LESTER PEREIRA played a big role as batsmen, producing some really life-saving innings. RUSSELL RAJARATNAM proved to be a steady opening batsman, also coming up with a creditable performance behind the

The Colts' harvest of runs was further supplemented by some useful scores from BEVER-EY PAUL, WILLIE CALDERA WILL AKSHMAN DOOLWELA; while youngster LARRY AULUSZ made a pleasing debut with an unbeaten half-century.

WILLIE CALDERA also shone with his right arm offies while TREVOR RAJARATNAM could have had much better success than his 14 wickets indicate.

Medium-pacer GARY DE SILVA had a long stint at the bowling crease. He moved the ball disconcertingly to enhance his reputation as a match-winning bowler. NALIN PERERA was also effective with his seamers while NEVILLE FERNANDO bowled exceptionally well in the only game he played against the Nondescripts Cricket Club.

Then there are the other players like DARREL D'SILVA, BRIAN SENEVIRATNE and ANIL MUDALIGE who could be justifiably proud of having chipped in to help the Club to the championship.

But the man who would probably feel the greatest sense of achievement is MIKE CHANMUGAM, the Club's dynamic Coach and tactician.

Centenary Celebration

The year 1973 marked a proud and historic milestone for the Colts Cricket Club as it stepped into its centenary year. To commemorate this remarkable occasion, an elaborate programme of sporting and social events was organised, spanning from late July to early September, bringing together members, players, patrons, and well-wishers in a true spirit of celebration.

The festivities commenced on Sunday, 29th July 1973, with the official inauguration of the Centenary Celebrations, graced by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Sri Lanka. This grand opening set the tone for weeks of spirited competition and fellowship across multiple sporting disciplines.

Cricket, the heart and pride of the Club, featured prominently in the programme. On Saturday, 4th August, the President's Invitation Schools XI faced the Colts Donovan Andree Team in an exciting 50-over match that commenced at 10.30 a.m. The following day, Sunday, 5th August, witnessed a lively 'Double Wicket' Tournament, generously sponsored by Vaitilingan & Co. The momentum continued with another thrilling encounter on Saturday, 11th August, when the Board of Control President, Mr. Robert Senanayake's XI, took on the Colts President's XI in a 50-over battle. The weekend of 12th August was dedicated to the Colombo Clubs Tournament, culminating in its eagerly awaited final on Friday, 17th August, which drew a large and enthusiastic crowd.

Alongside cricket, several other sports highlighted the Club's commitment to athletic diversity. Table Tennis took the spotlight on Wednesday, 8th August, with exhibition matches presented by Sri Lanka's finest champions, while Netball competitions were held between Monday, 13th August and Friday, 17th August, showcasing the sporting spirit of participating teams.

The celebrations were not confined to the field alone. A Centenary Dinner was hosted at the Club Pavilion on Saturday, 25th August, bringing together members, families, and distinguished guests in an evening of camaraderie. The very next week, on Friday, 30th August, spectators enjoyed an impressive Billiards exhibition by Sri Lanka's leading players, followed by a grand Prize Giving Ceremony to honour outstanding performances.

Adding glamour to the festivities, the much-anticipated Centenary Ball was held on Saturday, 1st September. This glittering evening featured captivating music by Harold Seneviratne & his Combo alongside the ever-popular Moonstones, providing an unforgettable night of dance, rhythm, and fellowship.

The programme concluded with Hockey on Sunday, 9th September, with a Seven-a-Side Tournament for Colombo Clubs, competing for the prestigious Colts Centenary Trophy.

1970 – 1996

The Club continued with its run of successes annexing the Division II Championship in the 1971/1972 Season. The team captained by Ranjit Samarasekera and under the guidance and direction of Michael Chanmugam, a master tactician and one of the all time greats as a Cricket Coach, brought the Donovan Andree Trophy home - the very first - sion when a major Trophy was annexed by the Club since the introduction of Tournament Cricket in Sri Lanka.

The Club winning the Donovan Andree Trophy the following year under the captaincy of Ranjit Samarasekera - a fitting contribution indeed to our celebration of our Cententuray

Season 1974/1975 saw the return of the Donovan Andree Trophy to the Club. The team under the captaincy of Lakshman Doolwella exhibited grit and determination which had been the hallmarks of the Colts to defeat their much-fancied opponents and to emerge as the Champions of the Division II Tournament.

The end of the Season 1974/1975 saw the beginning of the decline in the fortunes of the Club. Our Cricketers who represented the Club in all three Divisions of Tournament Cricket failed to make a mark in any of the major Tournaments.

Regulars who had their customary seats drowning their sorrows at the Bar found themselves deprived of their haven when the roof beams in the Pavilion, decayed with the passage of time, gave way and the roof had to be temporarily held in place with three supporting bamboos referred to by disgruntled members as the President, Secretary and the Treasurer of the Club! Desperate situations call for desperate measures to be taken and despite the lack of financial resources a firm decision was taken to refurbish the Pavilion. The Club has always, relied on income from its Bar to meet its commitments and to subsidise the expenditure on Cricket.

Income from the Bar dwindled to a trickle with the collapse of the Pavilion roof in 1978 and the consequent lack of facilities for members. The very survival of the Club was at stake and it was at that juncture that stalwarts of the Club such as M: W. Rajasingham, Desmond Van Cuylenberg, M. N. Hameed to name a few with their generous support and assistance restored the Pavilion roof and facilities for members. Desmond Van Cuylenberg, a Life Member and an accomplished architect provided us with the architectural design, and the designs for the ceiling. M. W. Rajasingham an Honorary Life Member of the Club and its Treasurer, a stalwart Who has always been available with his generous support and assistance in our times of need contributed the steel purlings and frame work for the roof, the roofing material together with a generous financial contribution. M. N. "Turkey" Hameed contributed both material and labor for the construction of an internal wall, which unfortunately had to be brought down, as it did not pass our architect's theodolite test of the perpendicular! Lucky Heendeniya contributed the structure of our modern score board with Singer (Sri Lanka) Ltd. a few years later providing the equipment, refurbishing and maintaining the Score Board at considerable cost as its contribution to the Club.

While the Pavilion was being refurbished our efforts turned to the promotion of Ladies Cricket and in 1978 the first ever Ladies Cricket Team in Sri Lanka captained by Niloufer Philips Arasakumar was formed. This team of enthusiastic ladies coached by Gary de Silva and Trevor Rajaratnam steadily progressed from strength to strength. The first ever Ladies Cricket Match with a foreign team was held on our Grounds when our team met the visiting team of the Tamilnadu Women's Cricket Association for the Rajasingham Trophy donated by our evergreen stalwart M.

W. Rajasingham.

1976 saw a slow resurgence in our fortunes in the Cricket arena. Our Division I "B" team became the Rahuman Hathy Trophy Champions under Beverly Paul in the inaugural year of this Tournament and the "A" team led by Kumar Ramanathan brought home the Six-a-Side Championship Trophy organised by the BRC. Our team led by Gamini Goonesena emerged as the Runner-up in the Super Six-a-side Cricket Tournament in 1979 organised by the Colts and sponsored by the House Rowlands. His Excellency J. R. Jayawardena President of Sri Lanka and our Patron at the time as well as members of the Diplomatic Corps graced the occasion with their presence.

Our Division I team led by Beverly Paul brought home the Rahuman Hathy Trophy for the second time in the 1981/1982 season. Our successes in these Tournaments provided the necessary motivation for our Division I team to re-establish itself and the 1985/86 Season saw the second occasion on which the Colts had fought their way up the ladder in the Division I Tournament to end the season as the Runner-up for the Trophy - the first occasion being the 1961/62 season when our team led by W. Premaratne lost the Championship by 1/100th of a point in the points table in the Division I championship.

The season 1991/92 saw the Colts achieve the pinnacle in Tournament Cricket when our team led by H. D. Hettiwatte became the Champions of Cricket winning the Division I Trophy. In 1992 we were the Runner up in the Limited Overs Tournament and in 1996 Colts won the Under 24 Cricket Championship.

In 1996 our Captain of the previous year Chaminda Mendis batted his way in to the record books in this country. Division I cricket was granted first class status in 1988/89 and in our Division I match against Rio Sports Club, Ambalangoda played on our Grounds on 7th January 1996 Chaminda with a century in the first innings and a double century in the second became the first to achieve such a feat in first class cricket in this country. Chaminda probably created a second record by being on the field throughout the entirety of the 3 days of the match except - for a short break of 10 minutes.

Statistics published elsewhere in this Souvenir demonstrate the contribution made by the Club and its Cricketers towards the development of the standard of Cricket in this country. We are proud to record the fact that 8 of our cricketers including Chaminda Vaas and Romesh Kaluwitharana at the present day have won national recognition and represented Sri Lanka at the International level. Our achievements since 1973 the Club's Centenary Year would not have been possible but for the dedicated services in coaching given us in an honorary capacity by two of our stalwarts Michael Chanmugam and Ranjit Samarasekera whose contributions to the Club were recognised by the membership by their election unanimously as Honorary Life Members of the Club.

Michael Chanmugam an old Peterite who had captained his Alma Mater at Cricket joined this Club as a Student Member in the late forties. He represented the Club in Cricket and was a member of the Club Touring Team to Madras in 1948. Mike continued to represent the Club and in 1958 led our team in the Division I Tournament.

Mike was away from the Club for a few years serving as an Officer in the Royal Ceylon Navy and after his return assumed the position of Coach-cum-Chairman of our Cricket Selection Committee in 1967-a position which he continued to hold without any remuneration and with out a break till 1984.

He was in his day, the most knowledgeable of cricket techniques in this Country and a master tactician par excellence. He had the knack of spotting talent and thereafter moulding the Cricketers to give of their best.

He was a strict disciplinarian but was never slow to impart. of his knowledge to even the most junior Cricketer, whether he was a member of the Colts or of any other Club. He had the ability to detect the smallest shortcoming in a batsman or a bowler and te correct such shortcomings. His advice was sought by many Cricketers even by National Cricketers who had no affiliations whatsoever with the Club and it would not be incorrect to state that the success achieved by most of them was due in no small measure to the advice and guidance they received without any expectation of reward or recognition from Mike Chanmugam.

Mike is no more with us. The debt of gratitude owed him by the Club in general and the Cricketers who were fortunate enough to be guided and moulded by him in particular can never be repaid.

Kanjith Samarasekera, a Double Eagle in Cricket and Athletics in his student days at St. Anthony's College, Katugastota took over from Mike Chanmugam as Coach and Chairman of our Selection Committee in the Season 1984/85.

Ranjith's association with the Colts commenced in the mid sixties. He led our Division II team to win the Donovan Andree Tournament Trophy for the first time in 1972. He captained our Division I team in 1973 and 1974 and continued to represent the Club in Tournament Cricket till 1990.

Ranjith and the Cricketers of his day had been coached and guided throughout their cricketing career at the Club by Mike Chanmugam. In 1985 Ranjith took over from Mike as Coach and Chairman of our Selection Committee and building on the foundations set by Mike produced a team which ended the 1985/86 Season as Runner-up in the Division I Tournament. His continuing efforts as Coach and his sense of commitment towards the Club resulted in our Division I team carrying away the Division Tr ya aning recd be justifiably proud the man behind the Team when it won the crown in National Cricket for the first time in over 50 years since inauguration of the Division I Tournament in 1938.

Ranjith stepped down as our Coach and Chairman of the Selection Committee at the end of 1995 Season and Carlton Bernardus was elected in his stead. Carlton played a significant role in the Colts annexing the Under 24 Championship in 1996. Colts are Semi Finalists in the Under 23 Tournament as at the time of this brief resume and should in all probability be the Under 23 Champions once again by the time this resume is read.

The Bar was air-conditioned in 1996 and Mr. Ana Punchihewa, Managing Director of Pure Beverages Company Limited arranged for his Company to set up a Modern Bar.

On the Cricket scene Mr. K. Mathivanan, Chairman of East-West Marketing (Pvt) Ltd has very generously sponsored our Cricketers from 1994 to date. He has in addition sponsored several Tournaments organised by the Club, constructed and donated a permanent

SightScreen and has been generous in his donations towards meeting the expenditure of other Club events. Mr. Thilanga Sumathipala has always been quick to respond whenever finances were necessary for the maintenance of our Grounds. Mr. Upali Dharmadasa, Managing Director of the Nawalka Group of Companies and Mr. Sumal Perera, Chairman of the Access Group of Companies arranged for their respective Organisations to contribute towards the expenditure connected with the construction of the second permanent Sightscreen. The Access Group of Companies has also undertaken to provide the Club with a financial package over a 5-year period for the development of Cricket. Mr. Nalaka de Silva, Chairman of Nalaka Tyre Merchant donated the steel fence on the periphery of our grounds.

To these Gentlemen, their Organisations, members and others too numerous to mention who have assisted and supported the Club in its times of need the membership is ever grateful.

125th Anniversary Celebration

For Colombo Colts Cricket Club, the year 1998 marked far more than a numerical milestone. It was the celebration of 125 years of cricketing heritage—125 years of discipline, camaraderie, sporting courage, and a deep commitment to nurturing talent. Through 125 years, the club had grown into a respected force through the loyalty and dedication of its members, coaches, and players. As the anniversary approached, the club stood proud of its legacy, determined to honour its past in a manner befitting its history.

That fitting tribute arrived dramatically on Boxing Day, December 26, under the glowing floodlights of the Khettharama Stadium, where Colts CC produced one of the most memorable victories in its long journey. Facing the star-studded SSC, led by Sri Lanka captain Arjuna Ranatunga and strengthened by several national players, the Colts team knew the task ahead was formidable. Yet, true to the club's values, they approached the challenge with unity, grit, and the quiet confidence that comes from hard work.

Choosing to bat first on a sluggish pitch, Colts CC immediately set the tone. Openers R. Kaluwitharana and Dulip Samaraweera launched a spirited assault, stitching together 123 electrifying runs in 20 overs. Their strokeplay dismantled the SSC pace attack, leaving the seasoned bowlers struggling to regain control. Young Sanjeewa Kulatunga, a fearless stroke-maker from Kurunegala, added a fiery 35, including two towering sixes that thrilled the few who witnessed the spectacle.

As the innings progressed, skipper Chaminda Vaas and Eric Upashantha built an unbeaten seventh-wicket partnership of 63, pushing the final total to an imposing 277 runs—a score that demanded an extraordinary chase.

If the batting inspired, the bowling was simply commanding. Vaas, leading with characteristic skill and composure, kept SSC under constant pressure. A breathtaking catch by Chaminda Mendis removed the dangerous Marvan Atapattu, while the spin duo Dinuka Hettiarachchi and Sajith Fernando tightened the noose. Hettiarachchi’s masterful spell of 6 for 43 left SSC reeling, and Fernando’s controlled variations further dismantled the chase. SSC folded for 216, handing Colts CC a resounding 60-run victory—a triumph made sweeter by the quality of the opposition and the significance of the occasion.

For Gamini Goonesena, the club president during this historic year, the victory symbolized more than a trophy; it was a reaffirmation of the values instilled over generations. His words echoed the spirit of true sportsmanship—“Trophies matter, but the game matters more.” The sentiment reflected the deep-rooted philosophy that had shaped Colts CC for 125 years: that character, integrity, and team spirit are the foundations of greatness.

Coach Carlton Bernadus, small in stature but immense in influence, attributed the success to the team’s collective commitment, relentless training, and unwavering belief. The club’s administrators, members, and loyal supporters—people like M.W. Rajasingham—stood behind the team throughout, reminding everyone that achievements of this magnitude are never the work of individuals but of an entire community working in harmony.

The 125th anniversary thus became a moment not only of victory but of reflection—an opportunity to honour past champions, celebrate the present generation, and inspire future cricketers who would continue the Colts legacy. Though the final was played under lights before a smaller-than-expected crowd, its significance illuminated the club’s history like few other moments had. It was, quite simply, the perfect way to close a chapter of 125 remarkable years—an anniversary sealed with an unforgettable triumph over one of the country’s most formidable cricketing giants.

1996 – Present

Historic Championship and Leadership Transition

The long and respectable journey of Colts Cricket Club reached one of its most celebrated milestones in the late 20th century. In 1998, after 125 years of perseverance, the club captured the Premier Trophy for the very first time. That triumph etched the name of Colts into the record books and also became a symbolic turning point in the club's identity, leadership, and aspirations for the future.

This chapter documents the historic championship and the subsequent leadership transitions that reshaped the club's modern identity. It examines the impact of individual administrators, the interplay of financial and infrastructural challenges, and the broader role of Colts in Sri Lanka's cricketing framework.

The First Premier Trophy Victory – 1998

For decades, Colts was respected but had labored in the shadows of better-funded and more glamorous cricket clubs. That perception changed in 1998 when the team, powered by discipline and collective belief, defeated SSC in the final to claim the Premier Trophy.

When Colts emerged victorious, it was more than a trophy win and it was certainly no accident. It represented the culmination of years of steady, deliberate reforms carried out by successive leaders who believed in reshaping the club's identity. Central to this transformation was the presidency of Mr. Gamini Gunasena (1990–1998), whose tenure redefined Colts' cricketing priorities. Under his stewardship, strict disciplinary policies were introduced, elevating both the behavioral and professional standards of players. Working alongside him was Mr. Ranjith Samarasekara, a former player, vice president, and coach, whose keen eye for talent ensured a constant pipeline of skilled cricketers ready to rise to the challenge.

The effect of the trophy victory was immediate and visible reward for these long-term reforms. It elevated the club's standing, instilled a renewed sense of pride, and positioned Colts as a natural destination for ambitious young cricketers. In the years that followed, many of these players went on to wear the national jersey, carrying with them not only the pride of Sri Lanka but also the legacy of the Colts family.

Culture of Discipline

Winning the Premier Trophy was about much more than just cricketing skill. It was underpinned by an ethos of discipline. The Colts had long understood that discipline off the field was inseparable from performance on it. The strict disciplinary policy during this period

became a hallmark of that philosophy. Players, regardless of reputation, were expected to adhere to a code of conduct that elevated the reputation of the club.

This strictness, far from discouraging players, had the opposite effect. Talented youngsters such as Chaminda Vaas, Dulip Liyanage, Thilan Samaraweera, Romesh Kaluwitharana, Nuwan Kulasekara and later Angelo Mathews, found Colts to be the ideal environment to hone their craft. For many, the club became both a home and a steppingstone to national recognition.

In the years that followed, the emphasis on cricketing purity drew even more notable names: Thisara Perera, Dilruwan Perera, Akila Dananjaya, Kusal Janith Perera, Avishka Fernando, Dunith Wellalage, and Dilshan Madushanka, to name only a few. The pipeline from Colts to the Sri Lankan national team became one of the strongest in the country.

Financial Strategies and Challenges

Despite its cricketing progress, Colts did not enjoy the luxury of a large endowment during these days. Its survival and growth relied instead on a blend of ingenuity, resilience, and the personal dedication of its members. Infrastructure projects were often funded through the personal contributions of dedicated members, who repeatedly stepped in to keep cricket alive.

Yet, financial struggles also carried permanent costs. Due to underdevelopment in earlier decades, part of the club's land was acquired by the Colombo Municipal Council. This permanently reduced the scope for hosting Test matches, a loss still lamented by many. Still, the leadership chose to preserve what remained and ensure it was maintained at the highest possible standard.

Leadership and Administrations

The history of Colts during the late 20th and early 21st century can be understood through the sequence of its presidential leadership.

Mr. Gamini Gunasena (1990–1998):

Gunasena presided over a disciplined, cricket-first era that culminated in the historic 1998 Premier Trophy victory. His leadership laid the foundation for the club's transformation, emphasizing strict discipline, professional standards, and the nurturing of young talent.

Mr. M. W. Rajasingham (1999–2001):

Rajasingham's tenure focused on consolidation. He carried forward Gunasena's legacy while navigating financial constraints, ensuring that the club maintained its competitive edge and stability during a transitional period.

Mr. Mathivanan (2001–2013):

Mathivanan's presidency marked a phase of significant infrastructural expansion. Two major pavilions—the Home and Visitors'—were built, and the club ground was fenced to professional standards, transforming it from an open community park into a professional cricket facility. Sprinkler systems were installed to maintain the pitch, and the club made the bold decision to reserve its grounds exclusively for cricket. These steps were not easy. Personal funds, member contributions, and cricket board assistance were crucial.

Mr. Nishantha Ranathunga (2013–present):

At the 2013 Annual General Meeting, Ranathunga was unanimously elected president. A former SSC stalwart who had joined Colts during Gunasena's presidency, Ranathunga embodied both continuity and renewal, bringing experience, administrative vision, and a focus on balancing cricketing excellence with broader club development.

New Vision from 2013

From 2013 onwards, Colts Cricket Club embarked on a period of reimagination and renewal under the leadership of Mr. Nishantha Ranathunga. His presidency sought to balance cricketing excellence with the welfare and satisfaction of club members, combining strategic infrastructure development with strong governance reforms.

Infrastructure and Facilities Development

Ranathunga initiated a series of practical improvements aimed at enhancing both cricketing and social facilities. Sanitary amenities were upgraded, social spaces modernized, and an emphasis was placed on cleanliness, efficiency, and member comfort. These measures complemented ongoing cricket-focused initiatives such as pavilion construction, ground fencing, sprinkler installations, and a policy reserving the grounds exclusively for cricket—modeled after leading clubs like SSC—to prevent other sports or events from damaging the playing surface.

Perhaps the most ambitious project under his tenure was the 150th Anniversary Building. Funded through a combination of deposit growth, member advances, sponsorships—including contributions from prominent supporters such as Ashok Pathirage—and loans from institutions including NDB Bank, the project faced unprecedented challenges. COVID-19 caused significant disruptions, contractors failed to meet deadlines, and loan interest rates spiked from 9% to 24%. Despite these hurdles, the building was completed after two and a half years, standing as a testament to the resilience, resourcefulness, and commitment of the club and its leadership.

Innovation in Management and Finance

Ranathunga also recognized that financial survival required innovation. The introduction of finance subcommittees formalized management processes, creating accountability and transparency.

Innovative income generation through catering became a key contributor. Initially modest, this enterprise expanded to bring in significant commissions as the business scaled up. The club also leaned on sponsorships from individuals, whose support proved invaluable.

While loans and advances created occasional strain, Colts avoided defaults, maintained operations, and continued to deliver both cricket and member facilities.

Focus on Cricket and Sports Policy

The Colts has always declared cricket as its primary mission. The club has never attempted to spread itself too thin. Other sports, such as hockey and billiards, survive more as a nod to tradition and out of respect for a few dedicated members than as competitive priorities. Hockey, for example, is played off-site, preserving the cricket ground for its intended purpose.

This clarity of focus has proven wise. By dedicating resources exclusively to cricket infrastructure, Colts ensured its players had the best possible environment. It was this clarity that helped the club produce such a rich array of cricketers for the national stage.

Strategic Vision and Future Plans

The club's future vision is ambitious. It includes further adoption of technology to improve cost management, service efficiency and member services. Expanded infrastructure such as a swimming pool, gym, and indoor practice facilities, and continued boarding facilities to support young players from outstation areas.

Equally important is the club's belief in discipline and culture as cornerstones of cricketing success. While financial incentives may draw players temporarily, long-term excellence requires an environment that teaches values, accountability, and commitment—qualities that Colts have always strived to uphold.

As the club reflects on its 150-plus-year journey, one truth becomes evident: Colts has survived and thrived not because of unlimited resources, but because of leadership, resilience, and collective sacrifice.

Legacy and Continuity

The 1998 Premier Trophy victory stands as a defining breakthrough in the history of Colts Cricket Club. Yet its true significance lies not only in ending a 125-year wait for silverware, but in the way the club learned to adapt—navigating leadership transitions, financial struggles, and infrastructural challenges—while preserving its identity as a cradle of Sri Lanka's cricketing talent.

It is, at its heart, the story of a community that safeguarded the spirit of the game through both adversity and triumph. The win over SSC will always remain a historic marker, but the greater achievement has been the club's resilience: sustained through personal sacrifice, innovative financial strategies, and bold leadership decisions that kept the institution moving forward.

As Sri Lanka continues to produce world-class cricketers—many of whom trace their roots back to Colts—the club's role in shaping the future of the sport remains undeniable. Through every change, its ethos of discipline, dedication, and relentless pursuit of excellence has endured.

In essence, Colts represents more than 150 years of perseverance. For a club that waited more than a century to taste its first championship, patience and persistence have become second nature. Its survival through member contributions, its capacity to innovate financially, and its proven ability to produce world-class players are enduring testaments to its spirit.

With renewed vision and strengthened foundations, Colts now looks forward not only to further victories on the field but also to its place as a lasting cornerstone of Sri Lankan cricket for generations to come. The challenge ahead will be to sustain that cricketing excellence while maintaining relevance in an era increasingly defined by professionalism and commercialization—an evolution that will once again call upon the resilience, vision, and unity that have always defined the Colts Cricket Club.

Notable Colts Cricketers from Recent Years

- **Romesh Kaluwitharana** - Wicket-keeper–batsman in the 1996 World Cup winning side
- **Chaminda Mendis** - Prominent pace bowler in the late 1980s
- **Eric Upashantha** - Seam bowler with 13 years of service for Colts
- **Dulip Liyanage** - All-rounder who featured in Sri Lanka’s Test setup
- **Thilan Samaraweera** - Dependable middle-order batsman-level contributor
- **Dulip Samaraweera** - Solid opening batsman known for his technique and composure in the early 1990s.
- **Chaminda Vaas** - Sri Lanka’s premier fast-medium bowler and former ODI skipper
- **Nuwan Kulasekara** - Renowned swing bowler; ranked world’s #1 ODI bowler in 2009
- **Thisara Perera** - Explosive batting all-rounder and former limited-overs captain
- **Angelo Mathews** - All-rounder & former Sri Lanka captain
- **Dilruwan Perera** - Veteran off-spin all-rounder
- **Shehan Jayasuriya** - Middle-order batsman and part-time all-rounder
- **Akila Dananjaya** - Noted spin-bowling all-rounder
- **Roshen Silva** - Test batsman, debuted in 2017
- **Kusal Janith Perera** - Dynamic opening batsman in limited-overs formats
- **Avishka Fernando** - Power-hitting opener since 2016
- **Dhananjaya Lakshan** - Emerging off-spinning all-rounder; made ODI debut in June 2021
- **Dunith Wellalage** - Promising young left-arm spinner & batsman
- **Dilshan Madushanka** - Fast-bowling talent emerging in recent years

150th Anniversary Celebration

Colombo Colts Cricket Club proudly celebrated its landmark 150th anniversary in 2023 with a vibrant series of events that paid tribute to the club’s rich legacy and its outstanding contribution to Sri Lankan sports.

The celebrations commenced on 1 June with a press briefing chaired by Club President Nishanthe Ranathunga. The briefing brought together several distinguished personalities, including veteran Sri Lankan cricketer Chaminda Vass, General Secretary Maj. Gen. Shiran Abeysekera, Treasurer M. Ratnaharan, Patron Trevor Rajaratnam, Club Captain Dinesh Wickramanayake, Vice President Chaminda Mendis, Social Secretary Chaminda Rathnayake, along with members of the Executive Committee.



A major highlight of the anniversary was the electrifying Men's and Women's 6-A-Side Cricket Tournament, held on 10 and 11 June at the Colombo Cricket Club grounds. Featuring top cricketing teams from across the country, the tournament showcased the talent, passion, and sportsmanship that have defined Colombo Colts Cricket Club for over 150 years.





Honouring its long-standing association with cue sports, the club also organized a special Billiards Tournament, conducted over two weekends starting 21 July. Skilled cueists



competed in a display of finesse and precision, reflecting the club's commitment to nurturing a wide range of sporting disciplines.

Further enriching the celebrations, a Hockey Tournament was hosted on 5 and 6 August at Police Park, offering a platform for talented hockey players to compete and demonstrate their athletic prowess. This event highlighted the club's sporting diversity and its dedication to fostering excellence beyond cricket.



Another memorable milestone was Legends Night, held on 23 September, where cricketing icons who had represented the club through its illustrious journey were honoured. This exclusive gathering allowed fans and members to engage with legendary players and hear their stories. The event also saw the launch of a commemorative history book detailing 150 years of the club's extraordinary sporting legacy.

The year-long festivities culminated in a grand Gala Dinner on 21 October. The event, attended by cricket enthusiasts, dignitaries, and esteemed members, featured Head of the State His Excellency Ranil Wickremesinghe as the Chief Guest, along with the participation of Sports Minister Harin Fernando.



Under the leadership of Club President Nishantha Ranatunga and the Executive Committee, the evening commenced with a ceremonial plaque unveiling, commemorated in a photograph with the executive committee and the chief guest. In his welcome address, the President reflected on the club's history since its establishment in 1873,



acknowledging the pivotal role of past Presidents and executive committees in contributing to the club's success. He emphasized achievements in cricket and other sports, expressing gratitude for government support and underscoring the importance of investing in cricket infrastructure for ongoing success on the global stage.

The 1996 and 2014 World Cup-winning teams were celebrated with a heartwarming gesture of life membership extended to each member. Ranil Wickremasinghe presented tokens of appreciation to key players and members of the club in the presence of the Club President, General Secretary Shiran Abeysekera, and Treasurer M. Rathnaharan. The recipients included Colts 1st Class player and SL National player Chaminda Mendis, who also served as a National Cricket Selector, along with Chaminda Vaas, who played and captained the national team, and Anjelo Matthews, the current National Captain and player. Colts 1st Class player Hemantha Devapriya, who played for over a decade and was an SL National player, as well as Past Presidents K. Mathivanan and Gamini Goonasena, were acknowledged.



Esteemed long-term life members, including Patron Trevor Rajaratnam, Lester Fernando, Carlton Bernardus, Jagath Savanadasa, Richie Fernandopulle, Susilo De S Wijeratne, Late Michael Changmugam, Late Ranjith Samarasekera, and Tissa Abeywickrema, were also recognized. Former Colts, National Women's cricket players and captains, Vaneesa Bowen, Rasanjali De Alwis, Dinesha Perera, former Colts & Sri Lanka Women's Hockey Captain were acknowledged for their contributions.

President Ranil Wickremasinghe was conferred life membership at the event, expressing gratitude in his speech and extending heartfelt appreciation to the Colombo Colts Cricket Club for its remarkable contribution to the sport.



The evening was filled with entertainment and musical performances. With its rich legacy and commitment to the spirit of the game, the Colombo Colts Cricket Club looks forward to a future brimming with many more years of success and glory.





Throughout the anniversary period, the club also organized a variety of themed events at its newly built premises—offering members and their families an enjoyable blend of food, music, and entertainment, and creating cherished memories in honor of the club’s sesquicentennial milestone.

COLTS CRICKETERS WHO REPRESENTED CEYLON IN THE PRE-TEST ERA

	Vs	Years
E H Ohlums	Australia	1890
E Weiman	MCC	1894
J Kelaart	Vs Madras	1892
A Rafeel	Vs Madras	1892
E Christoffelsz	Vs Madras	1892
C Kelaart	Australia	1890
T Kelaart.	Australia	1890
E H Ohlums	Australia	1890
	MCC	1891
	Madras	1892
	MCC	1894
	MCC Amateurs	1908
J Kelaart	MCC	1891
	Madras	1892
M Thomasz	MCC	1891

F Weinman	Madras	1892
	Australia	1893
A Raffel	MCC	1892
	MCC	1894
J Ludovici	Australia	1896
D Joseph	MCC Amateurs	1908
W de Rozairo	MCC	1911
	Australia	1912
S de Silva	Rev Waddy's Team	1914
A T Pollocks	Rev Waddy's Team	1914
L V Jayaweera	New Zealand	1927
H C Inman	MCC	1928
B de Kretser	MCC	1932
	MCC	1934
	Australia	1934
	Indian. v. Occasionals	1930
	MCC	1936
	New Zealand	1937
H S Roberts	Sir Julien C.	1937
J Murray	Australia	1934
DWL Lieversz (Snr)	Patialas Aussies	1935
RAK Solomons	India	1940/41
EB Nathanielsz	Pakistan	1949
	Commonwealth	1951
	MCC	1952
B Claessen	Australia	1953
	MCC	1954
P Kelly	India	1956
GP Schoorman	India	1956
A Fuard	Australia	1961
	MCC	1962
	Australia	1964
	India	1964
	MCC	1962
ACM. Lafir	Pakistan	1964
DWL Lieversz (Jnr)	India	1964
	Australia	1964
	Pakistan	1973
R L Dias	India	1975
	MCC	1977
	West Indies	1978
	Australians	1981

**COLTS CRICKETERS WHO REPRESENTED SRI LANKA IN TESTS AND ONE DAY
INTERNATIONALS**

L Dias	20 Test / 580 ODIs	1982-1988
K E Upashanatha	2 ODIs	1995 - 1996
D P Samaraweera	7 Test/5 ODIs	1993 - 1994
D K Liyanage	8 Test/15 ODIs	1992 - 1997
N Ranatunga	2 ODIs	1992
MC Mendis	1 ODI	1994
Chaminda Vaas	26 Test/89 ODIs	1993 - Active
RS Kaluwitharana	24 Test/96 ODIs	1990 - Active

COLTS PLAYERS WHO HAVE REPRESENTED CEYLON IN ONE DAYERS IN THE PRE-TEST ERA

1890	E Christoffelsz	v	Australia
	J Kelaart	V	Australia
	E Ohlmus	V	Australia
	C Kelaart	V	Australia
1891	J Kelaart	V	MCC
	A Raffel	V	MCC
	M Thomasz	V	MCC

1893	E Weiman	V	Australia
1894	A Raffel	V	MCC
	E H Ohlmus	V	MCC
	J Kelaart	V	MCC
1896	I Ludovici	V	Australia
1908	D Joseph	V	MCC Amateurs
	T Kelaart	V	MCC Amateurs
1911	W de Rozayro	V	MCC
1912	W de Rozayro	V	Australia
1927	L V Jayaweera	V	New Zealand
1928	H C Inman	V	MCC
1932	B de Kretser	V	MCC
1934	B de Kretser	V	Australia
1934	J Murray	V	Australia
1936	B de Kretser	V	MCC
1937	B de Kretser	V	New Zealand

**COLTS CRICKETERS WHO HAVE REPRESENTED OTHER TEAMS
(Not the All Ceylon Teams)
AGAINST VISITING FOREIGN TEAMS**

1892	A Raffel	V	Madras
	J Kelaart	V	Madras
	T Kelaart	V	Madras
1914	S de Silva	V	EF Waddy's NSW Cricketers
	W de Rozairo	V	EF Waddy's NSW Cricketers
1969	N Samarasekera	V	MCC
1973	N Samarasekera	V	MCC

CEYLON CRICKET ASSOCIATION

1937	H S Roberts	V	Sir Julian C. XI
1948	W Jayatilleke		Holkar CA
1948	HS Orloff	V	Holkar CA
1948	H C Aldons		Holkar CA
1948	W Jayatilleke		Holkar CA
1949	E B Nathanielsz		Pakistan
1953	B Classesen		Pakistan

1961	A Fuard	V	West Indies. "Mirror" XI/Madras CA
1960	A C M Lafir		Madras CA

BOARD PRESIDENT'S XI

1949	O W Kern	V	Pakistan
1949	E B Nathanielsz	V	Pakistan
1956	PAT Kelly	V	Hyderabad Blues
1957	B Classen	V	Hyderabad Blues
1961	N Samarasekera	V	State Bank of India
v1964	A Fuard	V	Pakistan/MCC (65) / Joe Lister's X68) SBI (67)
1964	DWL Lieversz Unr)	V	Pakistan
1965	A Fuard	V	MCC
1965	DWL Lieversz	V	MCC
1967	N Samarasekera	V	Hyderabad Blues, SBI (67), Malaysian CA (72)
1968	A Fuard	V	State Bank of India
1970	J Robertson	V	Combined Ind. Universities
1972	N Samarasekera	V	Malaysian CA
1972	K. Ramanathan	V	NCC of India, Combined Ind. Univ (71), Pakistan U25 (73)
1977	R L Dias	V	D H Robins XI/Pakistan (76) West Indies (79)
1984	R L Dias	V	New Zealand

IN GOPALAN TROPHY MATCHES REPRESENTING THE CCA

1954 & 55	B Claessen	V	Madras CA
1955	G P Schoorman	V	Madras CA
1955 & 60	P Kelly	V	Madras CA
1957/60/61/62/64/69	A Fuard	V	Madras CA
1962/64	D P de Silva	V	Madras CA
1964/69	D W L Lieversz	V	Madras CA
1967/68/72	N Samarasekera	V	Madras CA
1971	J Robertson	V	Madras CA
1972	N Samarasekera	V	Madras CA
1973-76	Kumar Ramanathan	V	Madras CA
1975/76/79/83	RL Dias	V	Madras CA

TWO SETS OF BROTHERS WHO PLAYED FOR CEYLON

C Kelaart & T Kelaart in 1890

T Kelaart & J Kelaart in 1891

FATHER & SON REPRESENTING THE COUNTRY FROM COLOMBO COLTS CRICKET CLUB

DWL Lieversz (Snr) & DWL Lieversz (Jnr)

COLTS PRODUCE DOUBLE INTERNATIONALS

L V Jayaweera	1923 / 45	Cricket. vs New Zealand (1927) Boxing (Indian Championships)
DWL Lieversz (Jnr)	1962 / 64	Cricket (1964) vs Pakistan * India Athletics (Asian Games - 1962)

Notable Players of Colts Cricket Club

Charles de Kretser: the eldest of a famous brotherhood, popularly known as " Charlie" , was the champion under-arm fast bowler of his day. He was a terror on the old-time bumpy pitches; and if he failed to hit the sticks, he would bruise the batsman on his shins or knuckles. Wearing his black bowler and with a quizzical smile on his face, he was one of the most interesting personalities of his time, and like a figure out of one of Charles Dickens's novels. Fielding as long stop to him was Reggie Garvin, who in his old age used to take pride in displaying the scars on his skins, bearing evidence of Charlie de Kretser's catapult deliveries.

Eddie Christoffelsz: the fastest over-arm bowler of his day among the Ceylonese, and the term " demon " was justly applied to him. He left Colombo in 1892 with Mr. E. Vander-spar's Ceylon team which included Tommy Kelaart, and bowled so successfully in Singapore that he was offered a lucrative job in the F. M. S., and never returned to Ceylon.

Percy Weinman: a dashing batsman, who scored freely for the Colts in the eighties. He had the honour of scoring the first century ever obtained by a Colt, making a hundred against the Garrison XI. on the Barrack Square.

Michael Thomasz: " the prince of points" as he was called; was a great humorist, apart from being a stone-wall opening batsman and a smart fieldsman, who invariably caught out P. F. Hadow and the other leading European batsmen off Charlie Heyn's bowling. He was one of the famous Colts' team of the eighties, and also played against Lord Hawke's XI.

Patrick ("Paddy") Thomasz: a "Pocket Hercules" and possessed the most powerful pair of forearms I ever saw. He was a brother of Michael, and, unlike him, he was a hard hitting batsman. He too belonged to the " Invincible" Colts XI., and being an engine driver used to turn out in later years occasionally for the Railway C. C.

E. Weinman: the eldest of another famous family of Colts, was well known in his time as "Jacky". He had a reputation for being the most stylish batsman of his day, and one of the most prolific run-getters for the Colts in their big matches played with fair success in all the Tests between 1887 and 1896.

In later years he umpired frequently in big matches, and officiated in the first European-Ceylonese match in 1905 on the C. C. C. ground.

C. O., known as "Cow" Weinman, and A. ("Jillah") Weinman also played in the first eleven of the Colts, and were also good fieldsmen, like " Jacky". their elder brother.

Colvin Kelaart: the eldest of one of the most reputed cricketing families Ceylon has produced. He captained the Colts for many years with success and could bowl fast, keep wickets like a champion, and field anywhere. He was a hurricane hitter, with a peculiar manner of holding his bat. He and Charlie Heyn were a deadly pair of bowlers, so different in style. His sons are B. C., Carl, Edward and Mervyn, four of Ceylon's leading cricketers in the past quarter century; while his grandsons, E. C. Kelaart, D. H. Schokman and the Bartholomeusz brothers, are also well-known cricketers.

T. Kelaart: popularly known as "Tommy", was for over a period of 25 years dubbed " the demon" bowler of Ceylon; an old Royalist, who took 7 for 14 and 3 for 15 in his only appearance against St. Thomas' in 1889. Tommy Kelaart played for the Colts in 1890, and soon became famous as one of the Club's best bowlers. When only 19 years of age he took 9 wickets for 90 in one innings in a match against the Garrison. He never captured all ten wickets in one innings, but in all he took 9 wickets in an innings on six separate occasions, his best being 9 for 13 against the Kandy Sports Club.

Kelaart joined the Ceylon "cricket immortals" on October 27, 1891, when he clean bowled the great Dr. W. G. Grace on Galle Face in the match between Ceylon and Lord Sheffield's team. He also captured the wickets of George Lohmann and Gregor McGregor, two other England cricketers. Between the years 1889 and 1915 Tommy elaat captured 1,234 wickets at 5•9 runs per wicket for the Colts. This is a feat unparalleled in the annals of the game in Ceylon and India. In

all he bowled 4,786 overs, of which 1,821 were maidens in that space of six years. He was the first Ceylon bowler to capture over 100 wickets in one year, doing so in 1901 and again in 1904.

Bowling left hand with a short run and a beautiful easy action, Kelaart had a vicious leg break, just sufficient to beat the bat and hit the stumps. He always kept an irreproachable length, and varied his pace. He also sent down a deadly yorker. Playing against Lord Hawke's XI. he took 9 wickets for 71, among his victims being Sir Stanley Jackson, afterwards captain of England. In his first match with the Nondescripts in 1891 he took 13 wickets for 17 runs. In 1893, against a European XI. at Nuwara Eliya, he captured 6 wickets for only 7 runs and 6 wickets for 12. This record of 14 wickets for only 19 runs in a first-class match is hard to beat. For the Colts against the Nondescripts between 1891 and 1913 Kelaart took 230 wickets at 66 runs each. This is easily a record for the series of N. C. C.- Colts matches. Playing for the Colts vs. the Europeans he took 73 wickets at less than 8 runs each. In the course of his bowling career for the Colts over a period of 22 years Kelaart captured a little over 1,700 wickets.

J. C. McHeyzer: will always be remembered in the annals of Colts and Ceylon cricket as a magnificent hitter with a sound defence and a breezy style. He scored four centuries for the Colts, and several for Prince of Wales' College where he served as a schoolmaster. His record in European-Colts tests is a splendid one, while his feats in Royal-St. Thomas' matches will also be remembered for years to come. He kept wickets well in big matches, and in his time was an effective bowler. His genial, breezy manner endeared him to all his fellow cricketers, and he was one of the most popular cricketers with the hoi polloi. In later years he batted very successfully in the F. M. S.

Dr. Sidney P. Joseph: enjoyed an excellent record as a batsman since he first played for the Colts when fresh from the Royal College. He was a fast-scoring opening batsman, notably with A. T. Pallocks, and was noted for his "sneaking" of short runs. He was also a capital outfielder. He played in several tests, and after he retired from his position as Provincial Surgeon he served as Hony. Secretary of the Club.

W. B. de Saram: an old Thomian captain, played with fair success for the Colts under the leadership of Dr. C. T. van Geyzel. He was an attractive batsman even in his later years, and a first-rate fieldsman. His grandson, W. Jayetilleke, is one of the best young batsmen in the Colts Club today.

James de Kretser: one of the oldest members of the Colts Club, and a contemporary of J. C. Jansz, C. T. van Geyzel, Harry Ebert and other old timers, was at one time Hony. Secretary of the Colts, then in their prime.

E. A. Joseph: younger brother of Dr. S. P. Joseph, takes rank among the best all-rounders the Club ever had. He figured in several of the tests with Allie Raffel, Tommy Kelart and Fransz, and is credited with some notable feats in batting and bowling.

D. Joseph: the greatest slow right-hand bowler the Colts and since the time of Charlie Heyn, was a deadly spinner, whose annual crop of wickets was a large vase. He was also a hard hitting batsman who made many big scores for the Club, and a reliable fieldsman, especially in the slips.

He once captured over 200 wickets in one year, being the only Ceylonese bowler to perform this feat. He also performed the hat-trick in Bombay.

Walter Parys: a familiar figure with his straw boater will be remembered by the older members of the Colts Club. For many years he did splendid work for the Colts as Hony. Secretary, in the days when the Racquet Court was the home of the Club. Walter Parvs is also remembered for his excellent work as an umpire. He accompanied the Ceylonese team to Bombay in 1905 and officiated as umpire.

A. C. Solomons: enjoyed a pig reputation for many years as umpire of the Colts. "Solo", with his Elwood hat, big cigar and deep basso voice, was an institution with the Club, and his fund of cricket yarns was inexhaustible. At smoking concerts, or socials after a match, no Colt was more in demand than "Solo" who, seated at the piano, would play his own accompaniments. "The Lost Chord" was one of his favourites.

J. S. Bartholomeusz: one of the keenest cricketers the Colts ever had. He became Hony. Secretary of the Colts after Walter Parys, and was noted for his enthusiasm for cricket, even while in the Straits. He used to be a useful cricketer in his time, and in later years greatly enjoyed himself officiating as an umpire.

A. C. van Cuylenburg: another of the old brigade who used to be fair all-rounder in the days when the Club had its headquarters at the Racquet Court.

F. W. Ernst: a keen cricketer in his day, being one of the fastest bowlers prior to the coming of Alfred Holsinger. Later he did very good work for the Bloomfield.

Alfred Holsinger: the fastest bowler the Colts have ever had. He had the loveliest action imaginable, and after winning renown in Ceylon in the nineties he went to England to qualify as a professional cricketer. He eventually played for Lincolnshire in the Minor Counties Championship, and was a very effective bowler and successful batsman. He also played for Ryde Club, in the Isle of Wight, and in Welsh Club cricket before settling down in retirement somewhere in Yorkshire.

C. de Kretser: at one time Honourary Secretary of the Colts, and one of its opening batsmen. He had previously been a "stonewall" in the Royal College eleven.

Claude Orr: another capital all rounder, whose slow leg breaks of enormous breadth did a lot of damage. He belonged to the "golden age" of Colts cricket. His batting was characterized by lusty hitting all around the wicket.

Dr. J. A. Scharenguivel: now 63 years of age, was one of Ceylon's cricket prodigies, who made good in big matches. As a member of the St. Thomas XI. he was chosen to play for the Colts in first-class cricket, and in his debut he scored a half century against the D. M. C. C. on Galle Face. Having "won his spurs" in that match he was honoured with a place in the Colts XI. against Capt. C. Ward Jackson's European XI. in a historic match played on Galle Face. His hectic hitting in the second innings is still remembered by old timers. Scharenguivel left for Scotland soon after that,

and distinguished himself there in Scottish county cricket. He also played against the Australians in 1905, and was invited to play for Lancashire.

N. A. Patternott: stood over 6 feet in height, was another excellent fast bowler like Alfred Holsinger. They both flourished at the same time. He did well with bat and ball for the Colts against Ward Jackson's XI., helping C. E. Perera in a memorable partnership for the 9th wicket. His early passing away robbed the Colts of a great cricketer.

Fred Toussaint: a very enthusiastic Colt, who met with fair success with bat and ball in the nineties. He headed the Colts bowling averages in 1896.

W. de Rosayro: generally regarded as the greatest wicketkeeper the Colts have ever had, and the Club has produced several splendid stumpers in the past 70 years. Rosayro was sound and stylish, and stood up pluckily to the fastest bowling. As a batsman too he ranks among the best that the Club has had. His score of 158 vs. the Sports Club in 1906 on Galle Face is the highest ever compiled by a Colt. He headed the Club batting averages in 1906 with 30.09, and in 1909 with 25.00. As an outfielder too he was first rate, and as a change bowler he brought off some capital performances, notably against the D. M.C. C. He played without a break in local tests from 1898 to 1910, and set up a 1312, 1913 a wicket-keeper, He played again in local tests in 1912, 1913 and 1914. He also represented Ceylon against Australia in 1912, and against the M. C. C.

Dr. Allan Raffel: the present Patron of the Colts C. Cs must be ranked among the six greatest cricketers the Club has ever had. As a left-hand bowler he shared many a triumph with Tommy Kelaart, and between 1890 and 1895 he was irresistible even against powerful visiting teams. At the Royal College, Dr. Raffel won the highest cricketing honours as captain and as a batsman and bowler. Joining the Colts while still in his teens, he proved himself a very deadly bowler, dashing batsman and brilliant fielder. His most memorable bowling performance in Ceylon cricket was recorded for the All-Ceylon team against A. E. Stoddart's England team at the Barrack Square in 1894, when he captured 14 wickets for 87 in the two innings, numbering among his victims such celebrated batsmen as A. E. Stoddart, A. C. McLaren, F. J. G. Ford, W. Brockwell, J. T. Brown, R. Peel, W. H. Lockwood and J. T. Briggs. Many of Dr. Raffel's best batting and bowling feats will be found among the records of the Club. While studying medicine in Scotland Dr. Raffel played with success for the famous Carlton Club. For several years after his return from Scotland Dr. Raffel captained the Colts with marked success and has been a most popular personality in the Club. Some years ago Dr. Raffel was elected President of the Ceylon Cricket Association. He is now Patron of the Colts C. C., having succeeded the late Sir T. F. Garvin.

C. E. Perera: who had the honour of playing in the first eleven of the Colts when still a school-boy, was a product of Wesley College, and generally admitted to be the finest right-hand batsman produced by Ceylon. He was captain of Wesley when he was included in the famous Colts XI. that beat Capt. C. Ward Jackson's XI. on Galle Face in 1898. On that occasion, he made a memorable debut, scoring 71 not out at a time when the Colts were in a tight corner. He played in several other tests for the Colts, and always batted well. One of his greatest displays was given in 1901 against the Boers XI. at Victoria Park, when he scored 90 not out, in a total of 146. He scored 120 not out against Matale in 1901, and also hit up 106 not out and 115 against the Sports Club. Between 1898 and 1907, when he passed away before he was thirty years of age, C. E. Perera was one of the most

consistent scorers for the Colts. He enhanced his reputation when he went with the first Ceylonese team, mainly composed of members of the Colts, to Bombay. His brilliant batting and fielding thrilled the Indian crowds. Batting in a very elegant style, C. E. Perera had a very wide range of strokes all around the wicket, and was always an attractive attacking batsman. He also excelled as a fieldsman and was a useful change bowler.

J. " Banda" Kelaart: younger brother of Colvin, excelled as a punishing batsman and a magnificent fieldsman at cover-point. His highest score for the Colts was 76 against the Planters of Kandapola in 1888. He was very quick on his feet, and no wicket-keeper, not even L. H. Gay, was able to stump him when he used to jump out of his crease to attack the bowling. Even when he missed the ball he flinched. Often got back inside batsman out from cover-point. He often got an eye. Often did he throw a batsman out from cover-point.

W. de Fransz: a really clever cricketer who captained the Colts with marked success, brilliant fast with bat and ball. The cosy cricketer, he was a dillies fast-footed hitter of the A. B. Lyons type, and his off drives and square cutting had tremendous force behind them. A rideable slow spin bowler with rather a low delivery he was very useful his day. He could field smartly at point. In later years he shone as an astute captain of the Colts and Customs XI.

Dr. E. H. ("Eddy") Ohlmus: one of the keenest cricketers of his time. He was not only a capable batsman and reliable wicket-keeper, but he was a sound student of the game and a successful skipper. While studying medicine at Edinburgh University he batted with much success for the University as well as for Carlton Club. Neat and natty in style, he excelled as a late and square cutter, and was a consistent scorer for the Colts in the days when a score of 25 was rarer than centuries today.

Charlie Heyn: known as "ship" to his intimate friends, was a wiry cricketer, with an easy round-arm action unlike anything seen today. He captured plenty of wickets on the treacherous turf wickets of his day, and the records will show that he is credited with more than one outstanding feat.

C. Wilkins: who afterwards played for the Nondescripts, was a famous old Thomian cricketer. He did well with bat and ball for the Colts in the late eighties. He was an Inspector of Police.

O. van Hoff: the J. C. Blackham of his day. This distinguished old Royalist kept wickets like a champion, and was also a stylish batsman. For a time he was captain of the Colts in its palmiest days.

Thomas Joseph: a popular member of the Colts in the late eighties and early nineties. Always very smartly dressed; he served as a clerk at Queen's House, and was a persona grata with Sir West Ridgeway when he was Governor of Ceylon.

Dr. Edgar de Kretser: younger brother of "Charlie", was of the Colts, Oswald and Willette Kreter, though never pro of their very enthusiastic cricketer, who was for a time captain in front as batsmen or bowlers, did much for the game, and were loyal Colts. John and Julian de Kretser, who

also belonged to the same family, were also keen cricketers; and the youngest of the brotherhood, "Gerry", was a really fine batsman and excellent wicket-keeper.

Wally de Kretser: like his brothers, was also a keen member of the Colts in his day.

Dr. C. T. van Geyzel: joined the Colts after having been a successful captain of the Royal College team. In England he played with success for Middlesex Hospital; and on his return to Ceylon he captained the Colts and hit up 57 on his first appearance against the Colombo Sports Club. On that occasion Colvin van Geyzel set up a Colts and Ceylon record when he and his nephew, Dr. Allan Raffel (118), put on 156 for the 8th wicket. This still remains unbeaten. Dr. van Geyzel captained the Colts in more than one test match, and later he became a Vice-President of the Club. His sons, F. C. W. and C. T., are among Ceylon's best batsmen produced in this century; but both played for the Nondescripts, and not for their father's old Club.

Lawrie Thomasz: must be ranked among the greatest ten batsmen the Club has ever had. In point of style and effect he was first rate, scoring several centuries in Ceylon cricket. He was also one of the "invincible" Colts of the nineties, and played against Lord Hawke's XI. and against the picked European teams. His cutting, both square and late, and his off driving were delightful to watch. He was also a top-notch as a fieldsman, and could keep wickets at a pinch and bowl a slow tempting leg break. A great wag, he was one of the most popular cricketers of his generation.

Dan Robertson: one of the three surviving Colts who played against Lord Hawke's XI. in 1892, was a well-known old Thomian captain. A capable left-arm bowler and sound right-hand batsman, he made his mark in Galle cricket.

Walter van Geyzel: a member of the Ceylonese XI. that played against the Europeans in 1887. He was a sound and reliable right-hand batsman. He officiated as umpire for the Colts in many important matches.

J. Ludovici flourished: a left-hand bowler between 1898 and 1910, playing a big part in the Colts' victories over the Europeans and other teams. In local tests he met with much success on several occasions as a bowler, and was also a useful batsman and smart slip fieldsman. In recent years he joined the Nondescripts, and has bowled very successfully for that Club.

A. T. Pollocks: the J. T. Tyldesley of the Colts. Resembling the famous Lancastrian in appearance, Tiddy Pollocks was a really great opening batsman, with his sound defence and varied scoring strokes. His century score against the N. C. C. was one of his greatest feats, seeing that he went in first and carried his bat out on a wicket that would terrorise batsmen of today. In 1913 Pollocks scored the first century ever recorded by a Colt against the Sinhalese S. C. The only other Colts' cricketer to equal Pollocks' record is R. A. K. Solomons, who did so this year. Pollocks is the only Colts batsman who has scored centuries both against the N. C. C. and S. S. C. He headed the Colts batting with 37.08 in 1913. He was also a really fine out fieldman. He visited Bombay with the Ceylon team in 1905. He has to his credit four centuries for the Colts in first class cricket.

E. Weerasuriya: must be described as one of the most elegant right-hand batsmen the 1 Colleye, nalu fle joined the Coits soon after leaving the Royal College, and fulfilled the great promise he had held out at School. For many years he was one of the Colts' stalwarts.

Andrew de Silva: joined the Colts fresh from his triumphs in the St. Joseph's College eleven. He too was an exceptionally fine right-hand batsman and brilliant fieldsman. Unfortunately his official duties kept him out of big cricket. He scored more than one-half century for the Colts in days when centuries ere few and far between.

Stanislaus de Silva: "Tiny" as he was called, was a younger brother of Andrew. He was also a stylish opening batsman who scored freely in big cricket, and once hit up half a century for Ceylon vs. Waddy's XI.

A. C. Amath: another of the great array of Colts batsmen recruited from the Colleges in the first decade of this century. This greatest batsman that the Malays ever produced perfomen some of his finest batting and bowling feats for the Colts. He once had the honour of scoring a century for the Malay C. C. against the Colts, being the first Ceylonese to do so in a first cas match against the premier Club. Amath visited India with the first Ceylonese team, and batted with much success. He captained one Ceylonese us. Rev. Waddy's Australian XI. in 1914, in the only maonse with vidays Ause abaten. For many years Amath has proved himsel a surs evere beaten in the schools and also a very efficient umpire.

A. S. Peglotte: an uncommonly useful all-round cricketer, and a hard working fieldsman. He flourished in the days when the Racquet Court was the scene of many Colts' triumphs.

A. Jayewardena: a cousin of the late C. E. Perera, was one of the opening batsmen in the Colts team for a couple of years. He had a nice style, and was very sound.

F. L. Goonewardena: a very enthusiastic and loyal Colt till the time of his death. This well-known old Thomian used to go in first for the Colts in Club matches, and once did so against the Europeans.

Allan Baillie: gave the promise of developing into an excellent all-round cricketer in the early nineties, but an untimely death deprived the Colts of a very hard hitting batsman and a fast round-arm bowler. He was an uncle of Dr. V. R. Schokman, President of the C. C. A. a few years ago.

O. Holsinger: younger brother of Alfred, was one of the biggest hitters the Colts have had since J. C. McHeyzer in his prime. He was also an effective fast bowler and good field.

M. A. Jaldeen: a left-hand batsman and bowler, performed well for the Colts for a number of years both with bat and ball.

D. A. Wijewardena: one of the best cricketers developed by Richmond College in the days of Principal Darrell. Later he made his mark in the Bloomfield ranks, and then succeeded W. de Rosayro as wicket-keeper-batsman in the Colts team.

H. O. W. Mayo: a cricketer who did valuable service to the Colts C. C. for several years as its Honourary Secretary, being an enthusiastic supporter of the Club in all its activities. His sons, C. D. Mayo and B. Mayo, were useful members of the first eleven, the former proving himself a successful all-rounder.

Bertram de Kretser: a cricketer who carried on the best traditions of the de Kretser family for many years, and was a very effective left-arm bowler, a useful right-hand batsman and a popular captain. He would have gained representative honours many times but for the superior claims of Cecil Horan. As a slow left-arm spinner he was the best the Colts have had since Jim Ludovici. A glance at the chapter on bowling feats will show one what a capital record stands to the credit of this very modest but able cricketer.

V. S. de Kretser: fresh from his success in the Royal College eleven, performed very capably with bat and ball for the Colts in the short while that he belonged to the Club. His transfer to the B. R. C. deprived the Colts one of the greatest Ceylonese all-round cricketers of the past fifty years.

Lloyd de Kretser: for several years one of the most effective bowlers in the Colts team. His fastish bowling with only a short run up to the wickets proved very successful in first-class cricket.

L. V. Jayaweera: a cricketer who has to his credit a long list of bowling successes gained for the Colts in first-class cricket. With B. de Kretser at the other end, he reminded old-timers of the days when another pair of left-handers, T. Kelaart and A. Raffel, were the deadliest couple of bowlers in Ceylon. He was much faster than the average left-hand bowler, and on his day could still be irresistible.

R. A. Crutchley: in spite of the lack of opportunities owing to his duties in the Railway Dept., has done splendid work with bat and ball for the Colts. At St. Joseph's he showed great promise, which he realised in a measure while playing for the Colts. He is now captain of the Colts Club.

H. L. Bartholomeusz: maintained honourably the fine traditions for wicket-keeping set by old Colts like Collie Kelaar, Ossie van Hoff, J. C. McHeyzer, W. de Rosayro, D. A. Wijewardene and S. E. Christoffelsz.

D. W. Lieversz: one of the soundest and most attractive right-hand batsmen in the Colts Club in the past ten years. He has scored consistently well, and helped the Club to gain many victories in recent times. He has also been captain of the Club for several years, and in September 1939 led the Colts when they beat the Sinhalese S. C. in a very exciting finish.

Carl W. van Geyzel: son of a former President of the Club, the late Dr. C. W. van Geyzel, is one of the oldest playing members of the Colts. He has done some excellent work as a batsman and fieldsman, and has also captained the Club with success.

J. Murray: the old Trinity College cricketer, was one of the most punishing batsmen the Colts have had in the present century. He is credited with more centuries scored in first-class cricket for the Colts than any other member, except T. Pollocks. Murray scored 106 not out vs. the C. C. C. in

1927; 134 vs. Kandy S. C, in 1930; 136 not out vs. Kandy S. C. in 1931; and 10b not out vs. Galle in 1934. He excelled as a fieldsman, and was also quite a good slow medium bowler.

F. C. A. Speldewinde: at one time the most consistent maker of big scores in the Colts team. He hit up 100 not out vs. the Bloomfield in 1928; 101 not out vs. the Nugegoda S. C. in 1930; and 101 vs. the Police in 1931. He was also a capital fieldsman.

F. S. Speldewinde: one of the finest batsmen in the Colts team about the years 1921 to 1926. He was always an aggressive player who drove very cleanly. He created a record for the Colts in 1923 when he made the first hundred ever hit up against the C. C. C. by a Colt. He was also a capital fieldsman, and a very fair change slow bowler.

E. J. Melder: known as "Jubie" to his friends, was the most prolific scoring left-hand batsman the Colts ever had. One of his greatest feats was performed at Radella in 1912 for the Colts to bat when his side was faring poorly, and, though he had not had more than two hours' sleep on the previous night, he batted magnificently to score 110 not out. That was the first century ever scored by a Colts cricketer against an Up-country A1. drawn from the D. M. C. C. or D. A. C. C. In 1929 Carl van Geysel emulated Melder's example at Radella. Melder represented the Ceylonese in many local tests, and also toured India with the Ceylon team of 1921. led by D. L. de Saram. He was a champion all-round athlete in his earlier days, and was a first-rate fieldsman.

W. E. LaBrooy: a useful all-rounder in the Colts team, which he captained for five years.

H. G. Inman: the old Trinitian, performed capably with the ball in many matches played by the Colts when he was a member of the first eleven. He was also fairly successful as a batsman.

V. Wille: proved to be an effective fast bowler in the Colts first eleven for many months when he used to play cricket regularly His younger brother, H. Wille, a talented slow left-arm bowler, has since his leaving the Colts bowled successfully for the N. C. C.

A. E. Assauw: one of the most successful right-arm bowlers the Colts have had in the past ten years.

H. S. Roberts: gained his " spurs" in first-class cricket while playing for the Colts, like G. S. Hubert of the Tamils before he went over to the Sinhalese S. C.

P. A. Swan: at one time one of the most successful left-hand bowlers in the Colts first eleven. He more than realised the early promise he held out at St. Benedict's.

A. G. Bowen: an old St. Anthony's cricketer, used to score consistently well for the Colts in the days when he turned out regularly for the old Club.

D. S. Vandort: an old Wesley boy, was another of the many first-class left-arm bowlers developed by the Colts after leaving school. But he did not figure long in the Colts team.

C. A. Perera: younger brother of the famous " C. E." was a tower of strength to the Colts before he began playing regularly for the Sinhalese S. C.

A. E. Schoorman: who used to trinity Colle ery effectively for the Colts at one time, was an old Trinity College boy. He was also a reliable batsman.

E. H. Joseph: nephew of the brothers S. P., E. A. and D. Joseph, was an excellent al-round cricketer, who proved a very useful member of the Colts for several years.

W. Jayatilleke: an old Thomian captain, is the grandson of the late W. B. de Saram, who played with Dr. Raffel, T. Kelaart and other giants. He has shown good form with the bat, and is one of the best of the younger brigade.

J. W. Aiyadurai: an old captain of Trinity, has been one of its best all-rounders in the past six years.

His best batting feat for the Club was his scoring 81 against the Police in less than half an hour. He has also bowled effectively on occasions, and fielded well.

R. A. K. Solomons: the most brilliant left-hand batsman the Club has had since the days of Dr. Scharenguivel. He has. recently scored three centuries for the Colts in one year in first-class matches. His century against the S. C. C. is only the second ever obtained by a Colt against that Club, the first being credited to A. T. Pollocks.

V. Alexander: the most effective right-arm spin bowler of the other younger members of the Colts Club E. F. E. de Kretser must be mentioned as an attractive left-hander, who has made several useful scores.

C. M. Lourensz: at one time the best wicket-keeper in the Club, and a steady batsman.

E. G. Lieversz: like his elder brother, has done useful work for the Colts as a batsman.

A. Patton: record, though not brilliant, has been consistently good with bat and ball. He used to be a very hard hitter.

G. C. B. Weinman: has several useful bowling feats to his credit in Colts cricket.

Sam Muller: for several years Honourary Secretary of the Colts Club, and in his time took a very lively interest in the Club.

W' E. Jansz (" Bob "): younger brother of J. C. Jansz, was for many years an official of the Club, and one of its warmest supporters.

A. M. Caldera: rendered excellent service to the Club for many years, both as a player and as a member of the Committee. His " hurricane" hitting has on several occasions completely altered the aspect of the game and brought victory to his side.

A. V. Fernando: has shown much aptitude for the game, and has been an efficient umpire.

C. W. Schoorman: the present Hony. Secretary of the Club, has also been a useful playing member, his forte being fast bowling. He is also a hard hitting batsman.

H. R. V. Elders: has done a great deal of sound work for the Club as Hony. Secretary and Treasurer.

Alden van Geyzel: another of the older members of the Club who did their best work for the Club when the Racquet Court was its headquarters.

V. Logan-Smith: has not only been a useful member of the Second XI., but he has been a hard working Bar Secretary.

P. S. de Kretser: grandson of one of the original members of the Club, has been one of the " live-wires" of the Colts in the past decade. Too much credit cannot be given to him for the hard work he has done in helping to bring out "The History of the Colts C. C.". He and D. W. Lieversz have been responsible greatly for raising the funds necessary for the publication of this book.

T. C. van Rooyen: an old Royalist, made many useful scores for the Colts, and also hit up a century in one of these innings. He was also a fair change bowler, and a very fine fieldsman.

J. M. Koelmeyer: another keen member of the Colts Club and has to his credit several useful scores, likewise S. M. Wickremasinghe, who had a creditable batting record for the Club over twenty years ago.

W. C. Botejue: one of the best all-rounders in Ceylon cricket in the first decade of this century. He was an effective fast bowler and a consistent scorer. He once scored 101 not out for the Colts against the Sports Club on Galle Face. He was even more successful as a bowler both for the Colts and the S. C. C.

Dr. D. Dadabhoy: who played in the Royal College XI. in 1900, when the Thomians were beaten time by Wilkets, was one of the best school wicket-keepers of his time. He turned out for the Colts on occasion, and for a time was a very efficient Hony. Secretary of the Club.

G. Wimalasuriya: an old schoolmaster of the Royal College, must not be forgotten, even though he never entered into double figures in any match. He practised regularly at the nets at the Racquet Court, and was one of the most remarkable " stonewalls" I have seen.

Harry Samarasinghe: who has also passed away, did good work for the Colts as wicket-keeper and opening batsman.

R. S. Wijesinghe: the old Royalist, enjoys the rare distinction of being the only Sinhalese cricketer who has ever been Hony. Secretary and Treasurer of the Colts C. C. He succeeded J. Ludovici as Hony. Secretary, and filled that post for a year. He also acted as captain on more than one occasion.

As a batsman he used to go in first with A. T. Pollocks and established many a good stand. He was quite a useful all-round cricketer in the ranks of the Colts.

W. F. Mottau: like F. W. Ebert, played in second eleven matches for the Club. He was a left-arm bowler. Both Mottau and Ebert used to represent the Secretariat XI. with C. Kelaart, H. L. Crawford, G. J. A. Skeen and C. H. Mantara.

John Gooneratne: an effective left-arm bowler and hard hitter, was also an old Colt who gave the Club much assistance on their up-country tours when he was connected with Adam's Peak Hotel. He married a Miss Thomasz, a member of the famous cricketing family of Kalutara, and is still a regular spectator at all big matches.

O. C. Thomasz: known as " Little O.", was an ardent supporter of the Colts for many years before he left for Maay where he still evinces a keen interest in the old Club. For a time he was Assistant Secretary of the Club.

Among keen old Colts who have passed away were Major A. R. Bartholomeusz, Owen Nicholas, O. V. Rode and F. W. Ebert, the last named having been a, fairly successful member of the second eleven in his time.

C. E. Perera: An old boy of Wesley College, he was a fantastic batsman. As a schoolboy when he represented the Ceylonese against the Europeans he scored a magnificent 71 not out. With his performances he forced his way into the Colts XI before he left school. He was an elegant player, with a touch of class and ideal temperament for the game.

Some records in his career were:

1900
Partnership of 204 for the 4th Wkt
(CE Perera 115 & L Thomasz 102) v Colombo SC

1900
Partnership of 193 for the 1st Wkt
(CE Perera 100* & JA Symons 98)
V Colombo SC

1901
V Matale SC
120

Dr. JA Scharenguivel: An old boy of St. Thomas College, he was a wonderful allrounder, batting and bowling left-handed, and joined the Colts immediately after leaving school. He studied medicine at Aberdeen University but missed an opportunity of playing for Lancashire due to his father's illness in the Far East. He shone in cricket whilst in Singapore. He could go down as one of the best all-round players of his time.

Dr. Allan Raffel: He was a great left-handed bowler, a useful batsman and a wonderful slip fieldsman. Unfortunately, he met with an accident which cut short his cricket career. His most notable feat was his capturing 14 wickets for just 87 runs in the match against Stoddart's XI in 1894. He also played much club cricket for Carlton Clun in Scotland. He

captained the Colts for a number of years, and formed a superb combination with T Kelaart to become one of the best duos ever as bowlers to play first-class cricket in Ceylon during that period.

W. de Rosayro: A superb wicket-keeper in his time, and a superb batsman too. Scored very heavily for the club. He first represented the club from 1898 and continued to play for the next two decades.

JC McHeyzer: Colts considered him as one of the top ten batsmen in that era. He stood out as one of the best batsmen scoring very heavily for his club, every season. He was a very useful bowler too. He holds several records for the Colts in batting.

T Pollocks: One of the best batsmen Colts ever had and was involved in many records for his club. It is recorded that one of his best knocks was against Nondescripts when he carried his bat through the innings with a stubborn knock of 121* on a very poor wicket against some of the best bowlers in the 1909 season. Pollocks also acquitted himself well whilst representing Ceylon in Bombay in 1905 and he also did play for the Railways CC and the Municipality SC. He represented Ceylon against the Australians in 1909 and against Rev Waddy's team in 1914. He was a superb allround fieldsman.

Abu Fuard: Played for Wesley College. He was a right-hand bat and an off-spinner. Had represented Ceylon against MCC, Australia, West Indies, Pakistan and India. On a number of occasions had opened the batting for Ceylon. One of the best allrounders produced by the country.

ACM Lafir: Played for St. Anthony's College, Kandy. A right-hand opening batsman. Opened for Ceylon in 1954 as a schoolboy against the MCC and scored 84 runs when he played against the MCC in 1962, which was the highest ever made against the MCC. Made the fastest hundred in 1968 (120 in 92 mts) in 1968 in the P. Sara tournament.

ROY LUKE DIAS

ROY DIAS PHOTO

BORN: 18 October 1952, Colombo.

Played for Sri Lanka in Tests & ODIs Right Hand Bat & Right Arm Bowler

PRESENTLY : The Coach of the Sri Lankan team

Made his Test Debut against England at Colombo (PSS), Only Test which was the inaugural test in 1981/82

LAST TEST: Sri Lanka v New Zealand at Colombo (CCG), 1st Test 1986/87

Career Statistics

IN TESTS

Batting	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50
	20	36	1	1285	109	36.71	3	
Bowling	O	M	R	W	Ave	Best	5	10
	4	0	17	0	-	-	-	-

ODI DEBUT: Sri Lanka v New Zealand at Nottingham, World Cup, 1979

LAST ODI: Sri Lanka v England at Pune, World Cup, 1987/88

IN ONE-DAY INTERNATIONALS

Batting	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	Ct	St
	58	55	5	1573	121	31.46	2	11	16	
Bowling	O	M	R	W	Ave	Best	4w	5w		
	9.2	0	70	3	23.33	3-25	-	-		

WARNAKULASURIYA PATABENDIGE USANTHA JOSEPH CHAMINDA VAAS

CHAMINDA VAAS PHOTO

BORN: 27 January 1974, Colombo.
 Played for Sri Lanka in Tests & ODIs
 Left Hand Bat & Left Arm Fast Medium

Chaminda Vaas has been an integral part of Sri Lanka's upsurge in Test and one-day cricket of late. His incisive left arm pace bowling, which has invited comparisons with Wasim Akram, has given the attack the extra bite it had been missing previously. He was the first Sri Lankan to take 10 wickets in a Test match, and at 24, Vaas clearly has much to give to the future of Sri Lankan and world cricket. He is amongst the top ten in the pace bowling category in the World. It is sad to note that he is injury prone and missed out on some very vital matches for Sri Lanka.

He has been representing his club since the age of 13.

GROUP PHOTO

DIVISION I SARA TROPHY CHAMPIONS - 1991/1992

Standing (L to R): R. Logaraja (Ground Staff), D. Samaraweera, V. Perera, M. Perera, H. De Silva, D. Liyanage, S. Wijesekera, E. Jayatilleke, S. Fernando (Cricket Secretary)

Seated (L to R): C. Bernadus (Gen. Secretary) O. Wanigasekera, C. Mendis, G. Goonesena (President), H. D. Hettiwatte (Captain), R. Samarasekera (Coach), N. Ranatunge, S. Ranatunge, M. W. Rajasingham (Treasurer)

Made his Test Debut against Pakistan at Kandy; in the 3rd Test, in 1994/95

Career Statistics (In Tests & ODIs)

TEST MATCHES

Batting	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	Ct	St
	26	39	5	580	57	17.05	-	2	10	-
Bowling	O	M	R	W	Ave	Best	5	10	SR	Econ
	925.5	202	2409	83	29.02	6-87	4	1	66.9	2.60

ONE DAY INTERNATIONALS

Made his ODI Debut against India at Rajkot, in the 1st ODI, in 1993/94

Batting	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	ct	st
	91	47	18	393	33	13.50	-	-	15	-
Bowling	O	M	R	W	Ave	Best	4w	5w		

	714.1	73	2901	113	25.60	4-20	3	-		
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ROMESH SHANTHA KALUWITHARANA

ROMESH SHANTHA KALUWITHARANA PHOTO

BORN: 24 November 1969, Colombo
Plays for Sri Lanka in Tests and ODIs
Right Hand Bat & Wicket-Keeper

The diminutive right-handed wicket-keeper batsman sometimes described as "Little" Kalu sparked in the International scene during Sri Lanka's controversial tour of 1995 to Australia. Although he scored a scintillating century on debut against Australia in 1992, at the SSC, he had been unable to command a regular place in the side. However, his tremendous success, both as a wicketkeeper and opener, on this tour and the subsequent performances in the Wills World Cup 96 has virtually ensured his continued presence. His exuberant, dashing style has won the hearts of many spectators around the world and has now gone up a step ahead as a brilliant wicket-keeper in the recent past. After a demotion in the batting order, he has come back to the role of opener once again and has really done very well.

Made his Test Debut against Australia at Colombo (SSG), in the 1st Test, in 1992/93 and made a debut 132*

Career Statistics

Made his Test debut against Australia at the SSC in 1992

M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100s	50s	Ct	St
24	39	2	1191	132*	32.19	2	7	47	11

Made his ODI Debut against India at Margao, in the 3rd ODI, in 1990/91

M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100s	50s	Ct	St
98	94	6	1594	100*	18.10	1	8	65	41

DIVISION I - LAKSPRAY TROPHY - RUNNERS UP 1986/1987

Standing (L to R) - S. De Silva, G. Wickramasinghe, R. Farcy, S. Seneviratne, D. Gunawardane, P. Fernando, P. De Mel, R. Wickramaratne, S. Kamalasuriya, S. Fernando

Seated (L to R) : A. R. Farcy (Cricket Sec.), O. Wanigasekera, G. Goonesena, W. T. P. Goonetilleke (President), W. Fernando (Capt.), R. Samarasekera (Coach), C. Bernardus (V. Capt.), L. Perera, M. W. Rajasingham (Treasurer)

KALUTARAGE ERIC AMILA UPASHANTHA

BORN: 10 June 1972, Kurunegala
Represented Sri Lanka in ODIs,
Right Hand Bat & Right Am Fast Medium

Made his ODI Debut for Sri Lanka v Pakistan at Rawalpindi, 3rd ODI, 1995/96 and the last ODI was against West Indies at Perth in the World Series 1995/96

Career Statistics

ONE-DAY INTERNATIONALS

Batting	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	Ct
	3	2	1	11	8*	11.00	-	2	1
Bowling	O	M	R	W	Ave	Best	4W	5W	
	19	1	91	3	30.33	2-24	-	-	

DULIP PRASANNA SAMARAWEERA

BORN : 12 February 1972, Colombo
 Played for Sri Lanka in Tests & ODIs,
 Right Hand Bat & Right Arm Off Break & Wicket-Keeper

Made his Test Debut against West Indies at Moratuwa, in the one-off Test, in 1993/94

Career Statistics

IN TESTS

M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100s	50s	Ct
7	14	0	211	42	15.07	-	-	5

Made his ODI Debut against West Indies at Sharjah, Champions Trophy, 1993/94

ONE DAY INTERNATIONAL

M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100s	50s	Ct
5	4	0	91	49	22.75	-	-	3

DULIP KAPILA LIYANAGE

BORN: 6 June 1972, Kalutara
 Played for Sri Lanka in Tests & ODIs,
 Left Hand Bat & Right Arm Fast Medium

Career Statistics

Made his Test Debut against Australia at Colombo (RPS), in the 2nd Test in 1992/93

IN TESTS

Batting	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	Ct	St
	8	8	0	66	23	8.25	-	-	-	-
Bowling	O	M	R	W	Ave	Best	4W	5W		
	211.5	45	622	17	36.58	4-56	-	-		

Made his ODI Debut against New Zealand at Colombo (RPS), in the 1st ODI, in 1992/93

ONE DAY INTERNATIONALS

Batting	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	Ct	St
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	15	10	2	142	43	17.75	-	-	6	-
Bowling	O	M	R	W	Ave	Best	4W	5W		
	101	5	487	9	54.11	3-49	-	-		

COLTS DIVISION I - CRICKET TEAM 1996/1997

Standing (L to R): S. Fernando, T. Sampath, B. Perera, T. Samaraweera, S. Alexander, D. Liyanage, E. Upashantha, J. Kulatunga, S. Janaka, T. Asiri, S. Thebuwana.

Seated (L to R): D. Samaraweera, R. Kaluwitarana, T. Rajaratnam (v. President), C. Mendis (v. Capt.), G. Goonesena (President), N. Ranatunga (Capt.), K. Mathivanan (Sponsor), S. Ramalingam (Cricket Sec.) C. Vaas.

NISHANTHA RANATUNGA

BORN: 22 January 1966, Gampaha

Played for Sri Lanka in ODis,

Right Hand Bat & Right Arm Medium Fast

Made his ODI Debut against Zimbabwe at Sharjah, Wills Trophy, 1992/93

Career Statistics

IN ONE DAY INTERNATIONAL

Batting	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	Ct	St
	2	1	0	0	0	0.00	-	-	-	-
Bowling	O	M	R	W	Ave	Best	4W	5W		
	17	0	82	1	82.00	1-33	-	-		

MANIMELDURA CHAMINDA MENDIS

BORN : 28 December 1968, Galle

Played in ODis for Sri Lanka

Right Hand Bat & Right Arm Off Break

Made his debut in ODI New Zealand at Auckland, in the 3rd ODI, in 1994/95.

Career Statistics

IN ONE DAY INTERNATIONALS

Batting	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	SR	100	50	Ct	St
	1	1	1	3	3*	-	150	-	-	2	-
Bowling	O	M	R	W	Ave	Best		4W	5W		
	0	0	82	1	82.00	1-33		-	-		

COLTS CRICKET CLUB PIONEERED WOMEN'S CRICKET

It was way back in 1978 that the club started Women's Cricket at the Club. The Club can take pride in that it was the first Club in Sri Lanka which opened the doors to the Ladies. Today the Club can boast of having one of the best teams in Women's Cricket in the Country.

Colts can take pride in it's Captain of the Ladies Team Vanessa Bowen being the First to captain a Sri Lankan team and that too at the Women's World Cup held in India in
NESSA
BOWEN

COLTS HOCKEY HISTORY

Colts Hockey: A Proud Tradition Since 1955

Hockey at the **Colombo Colts Cricket Club** has a distinguished history that dates back to **1955**, marking the beginning of a journey defined by dedication, achievement, and service to the sport.

The Club entered organised hockey competition with the formation of the **Colombo Hockey Association**, participating in tournaments conducted under its auspices from the very inception of Colts hockey. From those early years, Colts established itself as a competitive and respected presence within the local hockey fraternity.

Major Tournament Achievements

Pioneer Shield – “B” Division League (from 1956)

- **Champions:** 2013
- **Runners-Up:** 1970, 1977, 2007

Pioneer Cup – “A” Division Knockout (from 1956)

- **Champions:** 2014, 2015

Bacon Cup – “B” Division Knockout (from 1956)

- **Champions:** 2000, 2002, 2004, 2023
- **Runners-Up:** 1968, 1969, 1986

Andriesz Shield (from 1956)

- **Champions:** 2014

Women’s Hockey Achievements

The introduction of women’s hockey marked a significant expansion of the Club’s sporting legacy, with remarkable success achieved over the years.

Women's League (from 1995)

- **Champions:**
2000, 2003, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2018, 2019, 2020
- **Runners-Up:** 2017

Women's Knockout Tournament (from 2009)

- **Champions:**
2009, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020
- **Runners-Up:** 2014, 2015

9-A-Side Hockey Tournament

Category	Champions	Runners-Up
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Women	2019, 2020, 2022	2022
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Men	2022	2021
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Leadership Beyond the Club

Colts hockey has contributed not only on the field but also through exemplary administrative leadership at both domestic and national levels.

Office Bearers – Colombo Hockey Association

- **J. M. Chellappa**
Treasurer (1979–1988)
- **Malik Zahir**
Vice President (1996–1997)
Secretary (1999–2001)
President (2002–2006)
- **T. I. Jamaldeen**
Assistant Secretary (1996–1998, 2001)
Secretary (2002–2004)
- **M. W. Rajasingham**
President (2000–2001)
- **M. Rathnahan**
Treasurer (2005–2007, 2009, 2011)

- Vice President (2010–2012)
- President (2013–2015)
- **Dinesha Perera**
Assistant Secretary (2008)
- **K. Jeyaratnam**
Vice President (2009)
Secretary (2013–2015)
- **Vindhya Jayasooriya**
Assistant Secretary (2021–2022)
Assistant Treasurer (2022–2023)

Office Bearers – Sri Lanka Hockey Federation

Members of Colts have also rendered invaluable service at the national level through the **Sri Lanka Hockey Federation**.

- **J. M. Chellappa**
Treasurer (1992–1993)
- **K. Jeyaratnam**
Treasurer (1998–2000, 2003–2005, 2021)
Secretary (2001)
Assistant Secretary (2010)
Vice President (2009, 2011–2015, 2019)
- **Vindhya Jayasooriya**
Member, Working Committee (2021–2023)
- **H. G. D. Ayshmantha Lahiru** (*Men's Coach*)
Member, Coaches Committee (2022–2023)

Enduring Legacy

Over nearly seven decades, Colts Hockey has built a legacy rooted in competitive excellence, inclusivity, and leadership. From early league participation to national triumphs and administrative stewardship, the hockey tradition at Colombo Colts Cricket Club continues to reflect the Club's enduring commitment to sport and service.

A Living Legacy: The Billiards & Snooker Room

The Billiards & Snooker Room of the Colombo Colts Cricket Club has long been a space of fellowship, competition, and tradition—an enduring social heart of the Club across generations.

Throughout the day, the room has always been alive with activity. Members enjoyed spirited games of billiards and snooker while glancing out toward cricket matches unfolding on the grounds beyond. These moments, especially those experienced in the **Old Billiards Room**, remain among the most treasured memories of Club life—simple pleasures that defined an era now fondly remembered.

As time progressed and new generations of members emerged, the Club evolved while remaining rooted in its traditions. A defining feature of this continuity has been the **annual Pot Black Snooker Tournament for the President’s Challenge Trophy**, an event that has become a much-anticipated fixture on the Club calendar.

The year **2017** stands out as a landmark year in the history of the Billiards Room. On **15 June 2017**, the Club was privileged to host **World Billiards Champion Mr. Mike Russell**, who visited the Club and played an exhibition match against **National Champion Mr. K. H. Sirisoma**. This prestigious occasion brought international recognition and inspiration to the Club’s billiards and snooker fraternity.

The **2020 Pot Black Snooker Tournament** holds a unique place in history for two significant reasons. Firstly, it was conducted amidst the challenges of the **Covid-19 pandemic**, reflecting the resilience and determination of the Club and its members. Secondly, it marked the **final tournament held in the Old Club House Billiards Room**—a venue that had served as a second home to members for more than **four decades**. Countless memories, friendships, and moments of joy were forged within its walls, ensuring its legacy will endure.

The years **2022–2023** ushered in a new era. With the move to the **New Club House**, the Club proudly hosted the **first Pot Black Snooker Tournament for the President’s Challenge Trophy** in its new surroundings, symbolising both renewal and respect for tradition.

In **May 2023**, three significant billiards and snooker events were held. Among them was the **inaugural Inter-Club Challenge Trophy** contested against the **Automobile Association of Ceylon**. Five matches were played—**three snooker and two billiards**—with the Automobile Association of Ceylon securing **three wins**, while Colombo Colts Cricket Club claimed **two**.

The same year witnessed a truly historic milestone with the celebration of the Club’s **150th Anniversary**. To commemorate this occasion, a **two-day Doubles Snooker Tournament** was organised, inviting **twelve leading clubs** to participate:

- Automobile Association of Ceylon
- Sri Lanka Air Force Sports Club
- Otters Aquatic Club

- Moors Islamic Cultural Home (MICH)
- Burgher Recreation Club (BRC)
- Police Sports Club
- Sinhalese Sports Club (SSC)
- Havelock Sports Club
- Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA)
- Moors Sports Club
- Army Sports Club
- Colombo Colts Cricket Club

The final saw the **Sinhalese Sports Club** triumph over the **Automobile Association of Ceylon**, with SSC crowned **150th Anniversary Champions**, and AAC finishing as **Runners-Up**.

Gratitude is due to the unwavering support of the **Executive Committee and Club leadership**, including **President Mr. Nishatha Ranatunga, Club Captain Mr. Dinesh Wickramanayake, Mr. Dias Mutukuda (Billiards Captain)**, along with **Mr. K. Shakhthidasan** and **Mr. M. Rathnahan**, all of whom generously sponsored trophies for the Club's annual tournaments.

Special recognition is also accorded to **Mr. S. Balasuramaniyan**, the Club's dedicated marker, for his continued efforts in maintaining the Billiards Room to the highest standards.

These memories and milestones together reflect not just the history of a room, but the enduring spirit of camaraderie, sportsmanship, and tradition that defines the Colombo Colts Cricket Club.

PRESIDENTS OF THE COLOMBO COLTS CRICKET CLUB

NO	NAME OF THE PRESIDENT	PERIOD
01	Mr. Wilfred Van Twest	1873-1885
02	Dr. T.F.Garvin	1886-1891
03	Mr. C.L. Ferdinands	1892-1895
04	Mr. F. Dornhorst	1896-1920
05	Mr. C.J.A. Marshall	1921-1927
06	Dr. Allan Raffel	1928-1940
07	Mr. E.J. Livera	1941
08	Mr. F. Dadabhoy	1942-1945
09	Mr. A.E. Christoffelsz	1946-1961
10	Mr. D.W. L. Lieversz	1962-1969
11	Mr. E.B. Nathanielsz	1970-1974
12	Mr. A. Rathnayake	1975-1976
13	Mr. W.T.P. Goonatillake	1977-1982
14	Mr. M. Shanmugam	1983
15	Mr. W.T.P. Goonatillake	1984-1988
16	Mr. C.M. Vaas	1989
17	Mr. G.H.A. Goonasena	1990-1998
18	Mr. M.W.R. Rajasingham	1999-2001
19	Mr. K. Mathivanan	2002-2013
20	Mr. Nishantha Ranathunga	2013- to date

HONORARY GENERAL SECRETARIES OF THE COLOMBO COLTS CRICKET CLUB

NO	NAME OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY	PERIOD
01	Mr. Horace de Kretser	1873-1885
02	Mr. C. de Kretser	1886-1887
03	Mr. James de Kretser	1888-1895
04	Mr. W.S. Parys	1896-1903
05	Mr. J. Ludovici	1904
06	Mr. S. Wijesinghe	1905
07	Mr. J.S. Bartholomeusz	1906
08	Mr. D. Dadabhoy	1906-1914
09	Mr. H.O.W. Mayo	1915-1926
10	Mr. M. Saravanamuttu	1927-1928
11	Mr. Sam E Muller	1929-1932
12	Mr. H.R.V. Elders	1933-1936
13	Mr. D.W.L. Lieversz	1937
14	Mr. C.W. Schoorman	1938-1947
15	Mr. J Ariaratnam	1948-1949
16	Mr. D.L.W. Lieversz	1950
17	Mr. T.E. Jansz	1951
18	Mr. O.R. Kreltszheim	1952-1958
19	Mr. T.E. Jansz	1959-1962
20	Mr. V. Mahendrarajah	1964-1969
21	Mr. M. Rajadurai	1970-1971
22	Mr. V. Mahendrarajah	1971-1973
23	Mr. Rohan Samaranayake	1990-1991
24	Mr. Carlton Bernardus	1992-1994
25	Mr. S.De.S. Wijerathna	1995-1997
26	Mr. Malik Zahir	1998- 2003
27	Mr. S.De.S. Wijerathne	2004-2010

28	Mr. Rohantha De Fonseka	2011-2013
29	Mr. Carlton Bernardus	2014-2015
30	Mr. Malik Zahir	2016
31	Maj. Gen. Shiran Abeysekera	2017- to date

HONORARY TREASURERS OF THE COLOMBO COLTS CRICKET CLUB

NO	NAME OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY	PERIOD
01	Mr. Horace de Kretser	1873-1887
02	Mr. J.C. Jansz	1888-1895
03	Mr. G. Heyn	1896-1905
04	Mr. W.E. Jansz	1906-1924
05	Mr. Carl Vangeyzel	1925
06	Mr. A.T. Pollocks	1926
07	Mr. M. Saravanamuttu	1927-1928
08	Mr. A.T. Pollocks	1929
09	Mr. J. Murray	1930-1936
10	Mr. H.R.V. Elders	1937-1952
11	Mr. A.D.H. Vanderwert	1953-1956
12	Mr. P.H. de La Harpe	1957-1959
13	Mr. L.H. de Sielvie	1960
14	Mr. H.R.V. Elders	1961-1968
15	Mr. H.C.W. Achilles	1969
16	Mr. S. Thillainadarajah	1970-1971
17	Mr. K. Ganeshalingam	1971-1973
18	Mr. Dias Abeysinghe	1981-1984
19	Mr. M.W. Rajasingham	1985-1997
20	Mr. W.T.P. Goonethilake	1998-2001

21	Mr. S. Paramasivam	2002-2007
22	Mr. M. Rathnahan	2008-2012
23	Mr. S. Paramasivasm	2013
24	Mr. M. Rathnahan	2014
	Mr. Rathnahan	2006 todate

CRICKET CAPTAINS OF THE COLOMBO COLTS CRICKET CLUB

NO	NAME OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY	PERIOD
01	Mr. Wilfred Van Twest	1873-1885
02	Mr. Colin Kelaart	1886-1887
03	Mr. O. Van Hoff	1888-1889
04	Mr. C. Kelaart	1890-1894
05	Mr. E.H. Ohlmus	1895
06	Dr. C.T. Van Geyzel	1896-1897
07	Mr. W. De Fransz	1898
08	Dr. C.T. Van Geyzel	1899
09	Mr. W. De Fransz	1900
10	Dr. A Raffel	1901-1919
11	Mr. A.T. Pollocks	1920-1924
12	Mr. W.E. La Brooy	1925-1926
13	Mr. C.W. Van Geyzel	1927-1929
14	Mr. B. de Kretser	1930-1933
15	Mr. D.W.L. Lieversz	1934-1935
16	Mr. C.W. Van Geyzel	1936
17	Mr. D.W.L. Lieversz	1937-1940
18	Mr. R.A. Crutchley	1941
19	Mr. W. Jayathilleke	1942-1944

20	Mr. D.W.L. Lieversz	1945
21	Mr. G.C.B. Weinman	1946
22	Mr. W. Jayathilleke	1947
23	Mr. D.W.L. Lieversz	1948
24	Mr. W. Jayathilleke	1949-1950
25	Mr. E.B. Nathanielsz	1951
26	Mr. T.E. Jansz	1952
27	Mr. E.B. Nathanielsz	1953-1956
28	Mr. D.B.C. Mack	1957
29	Mr. M. Chanmugam	1958
30	Mr. P. Kelly	1959-1960
31	Mr. Brian De Silva	1961
32	Mr. W. Premarathne	1962
33	Mr. A. Fuard	1963
34	Mr. W. Premarathne	1964
35	Mr. R. Alles	1965-1967
36	Mr. D.J.D. Silva	1968
37	Mr. D.M. Maye	1969
38	Mr. Brian de Silva	1970-1971
39	Mr. Ranjith Samarasekera	1972-1974
40	Mr. B. Ruloch	1975
41	Mr. K. Ramanathan	1976
42	Mr. Mr. R. Dias	1977
43	Mr. G.H.A. Goonasena	1978-1979
44	Mr. B. Paul	1982
45	Mr. C. Bernardus	1983-1984
46	Mr. W. Fernando	1985-1988
47	Mr. R. Wickramarathne	1989
48	Mr. A. Liyanage	1990
49	Mr. H.D. Hettiwatte	1991-1992
50	Mr. N. Ranathunga	1993-1994
51	Mr. C. Mendis	1995
52	Mr. N. Ranathunga	1996-1997
53	Mr. Chaminda Vaas	1998-1999
54	Mr. D. Samaraweera	1999-2000
55	Mr. Chaminda Vaas	2000-2001

56	Mr. S. Fernando	2001-2002
57	Mr. Chaminda Mendis	2002-2003
58	Mr. J. Kulathunga	2003-2005
59	Mr. Romesh Kaluwitharana	2006
60	Mr. J. Kulathunga	2007
61	Mr. S. Kalavitigoda	2008
62	Mr. M. Warnapura	2009
63	Mr. Chaminda Vaas	2010
64	Mr. M. Warnapura	2011
65	Mr. M. Warnapura	2012
66	Mr. Weerakoon	2013
67	Mr. Anjelow Mathews	2013-2016
68	Mr. Dilruwan Perera	2016
69	Mr. Nuwan Kulasekara	2017
70	Mr. Dilruwan Perera	2018-2019
71	Mr. Kusal J. Perera	2020-2021
72	Mr. Sangeeth Cooray	2022
73	Mr. Sangeeth Cooray Mr. Akila Dhananjaya	2023
74	Mr. Sangeeth Cooray Mr. Akila Dhananjaya	2024
75		